M·ACS

Validation Process

- Remote Access Agreement & Business Associate Agreement – Must be in place

- Validation Scheme
    - Total of 12 centers selected for the year.

- Scheduling Validation
    - Poll with available validation dates is released to the centers due for validation. Centers may select a validation date using a first come, first served process.
    - If a center does not schedule by the end of the year they lose points associated with validation.

- Validation Confirmation E-Mail with 2 additional documents
    - Email confirms date of validation.
    - Data Validation Remote IT Letter – to be given to IT (explains the validation process and provides the names/contact information for the validation staff). Validation staff will need to be granted remote access 1 week before and 1 week after the validation date.
    - Data Validation Process - document with outline of validation process.

- Case Selection
    - First run a "general" sort on all cases to place in bucket:
        - Any mortality.
        - Any length of stay > 14 days and no occurrence listed.
    - Then run a disease specific sort to place into the bucket.
        - Appendix:
            - Complicated appendix with no pre-op sepsis or severe sepsis.
            - Fecalith present on CT but no surgery to remove appendix performed.
            - Non-operative management of appendicitis, but no hospital IV antibiotics selected.
            - Any case with AAST score of 5.
        - Gallbladder:

- Any gallbladder case where cholecystectomy is performed and LOS > 10 days with no cholecystectomy specific occurrences (CBD injury, cystic duct leak, retained stone).
- Any gallbladder case with retained stone or cystic duct leak occurrence but no secondary ERCP performed.
- Any gallbladder case with AAST score of 3, 4, or 5.
  - Small Bowel:
    - SBO related to adhesions, but no prior abdominal procedures performed.
    - Gastrografin challenge negative and no operation for SBO.
    - Gastrografin challenge positive and surgery for SBO performed.
    - Operative SBO case with LOS > 20 days and no ileus occurrence recorded.
  - Exploratory Laparotomy:
    - Exploratory laparotomy with hypercapnic respiratory failure but no ICU admission.
    - Exploratory laparotomy with days on ventilator > 1 but no ICU admission.
    - Exploratory laparotomy with no antibiotics for intraabdominal sepsis given.
    - Any exploratory laparotomy case with anastomotic leak.
    - Any exploratory laparotomy with no pre-op abdominal x-ray or CT recorded.
  - Exclude cases with LOS > 30 days
  - o Randomized selection of 8 cases with 2 from each disease specific sort.
  - o Case list is uploaded to Dropbox.

- Validation
  - o One Week Prior to Validation the remote access is tested. If the remote access is not working buy the Friday before validation week, the validation is canceled, and the center will be rescheduled.
  - o Validation Day
    - EMR tutorial to start the day– center staff show validation staff where they find variables in their EMR and any hierarchy they use.
    - Validation staff reviews the 8 patients.
    - F/U remote meeting post validation.
  - o Validation Feedback Report – Uploaded to Dropbox about 4 weeks post validation date.
  - o Appeals – Centers have 7 days to upload an appeal to Dropbox. Appeal reviewed by validation staff and Validation Appeal Response is uploaded to Dropbox.

- Final Validation Report/Score – Uploaded validation report into Dropbox.