



ERGOSOLUTIONSNEWSLETTER

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Volume 1

The Solution to your Rehab Needs



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Ergo Solutions, LLC, the largest outsourcing company of inpatient Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech Language Pathology treatment in hospitals, nursing homes, and out-patient in the DC

ERGOSOLUTIONS
NEWSLETTER

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area is proud to introduce the first edition of

Ergo Solutions Newsletter.

Inside this edition

- LEAD STORY
Health Care Reform Preparing for Change
- ERGO HOT TOPICS /UPCOMING EVENT
- EMPLOYEE CORNER
- OWNERS CORNER
Highlighting Jason Henderson of Ergo Solutions





Health Care Reform Post Acute Care Preparing for Change

Preparing for Change

A new dawn in health care titled Health Care Reform is approaching. Change is coming and its coming at a rapid pace. Health Care Reform is reshaping the future for health care professionals. The new health care legislation will fashion our health care industry. Medicare and Medicaid programs will undergo a major overhaul. The legislation will reshape the way hospitals, post acute facilities, physicians, and insurers do business.

As health care providers we must monitor and stay observant and proactive with strategies and information as it applies to our entities. By doing so we as health care providers can prepare to make this legislation our friend and not our foe.

Read more on Page 2 .



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POINTS OF INTEREST AND HOT TOPICS

- OT MONTH Walk on the Capital
- Speech speaks out at Symposium
- JUNE APTA CONFERENCE

"Patient outcomes are impacted when Respiratory Therapists and Speech Therapists



work as a Team"
(Spinner, T.)

See Pg 3 under Ergo Events & Hot Topics



Change is coming and its coming at a fast pace. We must stay alert, observant, and proactive in regards to our health care professions and the shaping that's taking place.

Preparing for Change

Since the late 1990's rehabilitation professionals working in post acute have witnessed patients move across an ever changing continuum of care. Health Care Reform will introduce a new form of partnership between hospitals and post acute facilities called patient bundling. Post acute facilities will be faced with increasing levels of competition to establish/re-establish relationships with acute care settings. "The life blood of post acute facilities are hospital referrals" (Bailey, Susan CEO of SHW-Capitol Hill). In the wake of these changes post acute facilities must prepare for the best outcomes for

survival.

Long Term Acute Care Hospitals LTACHs

LTACHS will play a vital role in the post acute continuum of care. LTACHS will continue to provide a safety net for post continuum of care for acute and SNF settings. Though the 25 day average length of stay may be affected by legislation, the quality of Care and financial benefits will arise for partnerships between acute and LTACH settings where there is high level of synergy. The goal to aim for is pure excellence and quality care.

Skilled Nursing Facilities SNFs

Quality of Practice will be reflected by cost effectiveness and outcomes according to Health Care Reform standards. SNF professionals must remain at a competitive edge. Establishing a network that caters to acute care standards and facilitates safe discharge to avoid hospital readmissions. Improving community based transitions for long term care residents will also serve as a new quality of practice. The top priority will be as always, maximizing function. Outcome measures will serve as vital indicators for quality performance in both LTACH and SNF settings.

Preparing for Change cont'd

Post Acute Rehab

More now than ever before, the rehabilitation professionals input will be of much importance, Acute and post acute care administrative teams will depend on rehab professionals to guide these discharge transitions, prevent patient declines to deter hospital readmissions, and monitor outcomes such as ADLs and functional levels. Currently acute rehabilitation settings measure admission/discharge outcomes using the Functional Independence Measure

(FIM). Given the demands of HCR post acute providers will have to also include and demonstrate cost effectiveness and progress using outcome metrics. Change is coming and its coming at a fast pace. We must stay alert, observant, and proactive in regards to our health care professions and the shaping that's taking place. Suggested Strategies are:

- Improve Quality & Safety
- Improve Patient Tracking

- Improve Collaboration & Development of Standardized and Universal Outcome Metrics for Post Acute Settings
- Improve Input with Admissions Processes and Patient Criteria for Admissions
- Establish safe discharge protocols & Follow up programs

Patient bundling is designed to employ the hospital (banker) as an intermediate to guarantee full return on the investment.



The Patient Bundling Effect

Hospitals will receive bundled payments that cover not just the patient's hospitalization but the care from post-acute providers 30 days after the hospitalization. Hospitals with high readmission rates will be paid less if patients are readmitted within a 30 day period. CMS will have the authority to allow other legal entities to receive bundled payments such as post acute care providers as long as the hospital is

involved. Post acute providers that wish to take the lead in maximizing their benefits should begin with establishing relationships with hospitals, decreasing unnecessary readmissions to hospitals, and managing more effectively in their own setting. This will require greater on site presence of physicians and nurse practitioners as well as highly qualified nursing staff.

Patient bundling is designed to

employ the hospital (banker) as an intermediate to guarantee full return on the investment. Patient Bundling, if utilized properly will assist in improving quality of care, save costs for Medicaid and Medicare, and improve the way facilities monitor and utilize resources in an effective manner. In the near future patient bundling will surface as our friend or foe. Post acute settings hold the key to the outcome.



ERGO EVENTS & HOT TOPICS



APRIL OT MONTH EVENTS

SHW CAPITOL HILL STAFF CELEBRATED APRIL OT MONTH IN A CAPITOL HILL FASHION. WHAT BETTER OPPORTUNITY THAN TO MARCH ON WASHINGTON AND TALK TO OUR CONGRESS REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT HEALTH CARE BILLS IN FAVOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH. MAIN TOPIC OF DISCUSSION: HCR 1094 BILL THAT WILL ALLOW OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST THE CAPACITY TO INITIATE HOME HEALTH SERVICES.

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Specialty Hospital of Washington (SHW) sponsors Managing Pulmonary Patients in the 21st Century. The 4th Annual Symposium and Exhibition Venue was held Wednesday, May 11th 2011. Ergo Solutions was represented during this conference by Tanya L. Spinner, M.Ed., CCC-SLP. Ms. Spinner is currently the Rehab Director at SHW-Capitol Hill LTACH. Lecture Presentation Topic: Looks Like a Swallow...Everything Respiratory Therapy Should Know about Swallow was received well by the attendees. It is key to have Respiratory Therapists understand respiration in relationship to swallowing. "Patient outcomes are impacted when Respiratory Therapists and Speech Therapist work as a team"(Spinner T.)

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EMPLOYEE CORNER

JUNE 8th -11th APTA

CONFERENCE

NATIONAL HARBOR IN MARYLAND



HOT TOPIC ALERT !!!!

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The solution to your rehab needs



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Ergo Solutions is an innovative, full-service company that specializes in rehabilitative management and consultative services. We are dedicated to providing the highest quality of therapy to every patient we serve, and at every level of care. Our first goal is to perform a professional and thorough evaluation of the patients injury or disability. We then work as a team to ensure the development of an accurate and beneficial plan of treatment. As the largest rehabilitation outsourcing group in Washington, D.C., we expand the potential of rehab everywhere we go. Ergo Solutions is owned and operated by therapists with a diverse knowledge of the rehabilitation field. We are committed to providing high quality services with strict adherence to regulatory requirements.

"WHEREVER YOU GO, GO ERGO"

Owners Corner

The four dynamic owners of Ergo Solutions would like to thank the customers Ergo serve on a day to day basis. Each edition our newsletter will serve as a forum for one of the owners to share a word of encouragement and gratitude. This edition features Dr. Jason Henderson of Ergo Solutions.

Are you a leader? Are you influential and inspiring to others? Well if you answered yes then you may be who Ergo Solutions is looking for in leadership capacity. We are excited to share opportunities for therapists and therapy assistants. Please contact Human Resource, Richard Flanagan about positions within Ergo Solutions. From the executive board some helpful tidbits for aspiring leaders.

Being an Ergo Solution Leader we encourage....

1. Begin with praise and honest appreciation.
2. Call attention to people's mistakes indirectly.
3. Talk about your own mistakes before criticizing the other person.
4. Ask questions instead of giving direct orders.
5. Let the other person save face.
6. Praise every improvement.
7. Give the other person a fine reputation to live up to.
8. Use encouragement. Make the fault seem easy to correct.
9. Make the other person happy about doing what you suggest.

The follow is from the book "How to Win Friends and Influence People" by Dale Carnegie.

Take time to add a new book on your kindle, order it today. Thank you



Dr. Jason Henderson, DPT

L.O.L JUST FOR FUN



"When you're feeling overworked stop and smell the roses that we installed as an app on your smart-phone."