



A Tale of Integration

**The Highs and Lows of Expanding APP
Practice in the Hospital Setting**

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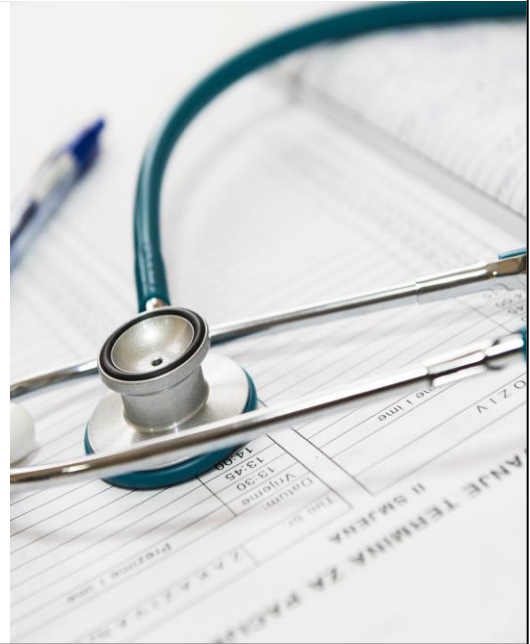
Disclosures

No Relevant commercial relationships to disclose

Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:

- 1 Describe how to expand APP use across multiple service lines in a hospital setting
- 2 Recognize the financial and productivity impacts of staffing model changes
- 3 Appreciate challenges likely to be faced when integrating APPs into service lines
- 4 Develop a plan to leverage APPs across multiple service lines and create flexible staffing



A top-down photograph of medical and office supplies on a light blue surface. A stethoscope is positioned in the upper left, a laptop is in the center, a pair of glasses is on the right, and a notepad with a pen is on the left. The text 'Adventist Shady Grove' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

Adventist Shady Grove

- **Non-Profit Community Based Acute Care Facility**
- **360 Staffed Beds**
- **Associated Free Standing Emergency Department**
- **Behavioral Health Unit**

An infographic titled "Service Lines" set against a background of medical supplies: a stethoscope, a laptop, a notebook, and glasses. Three colored boxes (blue, teal, and green) are arranged horizontally, each containing text about a different service line: EM (Emergency Medicine), HM (Hospital Medicine), and ICU (Intensive Care Unit).

Service Lines

EM

Main + FSED
70,000 visit

HM

60,000 pt/yr
145 enc/day

ICU

8,000 pt/yr
26-bed

Our History



1997

EM
MEP flagship

2012

OBS
18 bed unit
<20 hr LOS

2015

USACS Transition
MEP to USACS
New Services

2019

IAC
HM
CC
BHU/Palliative



Advanced Practice Providers

Integration from 2012-2021

Phase I: 2012 APP Integration



Emergency Medicine
0.6 to 1:1 APP/Doc Ratio



Observation Services
24/7 Autonomous APP Practice
On-call support

Phase I: Success!

- Low Hospital Cost
 - Decreased loss/Revenue
 - LOS 20hr
 - C-suite support
- Out-patient practice
 - EM DOPs
- Dedicated physician support
 - No EM Burden



Phase II: 2019 APP Integration



ED & Observation

ED: 1:1 APP/Doc Ratio

Obs: Autonomous APP Practice



BHU/Palliative

BHU: Autonomous APP Practice

Palliative: Doc/APP team



Hospital Medicine & Critical Care

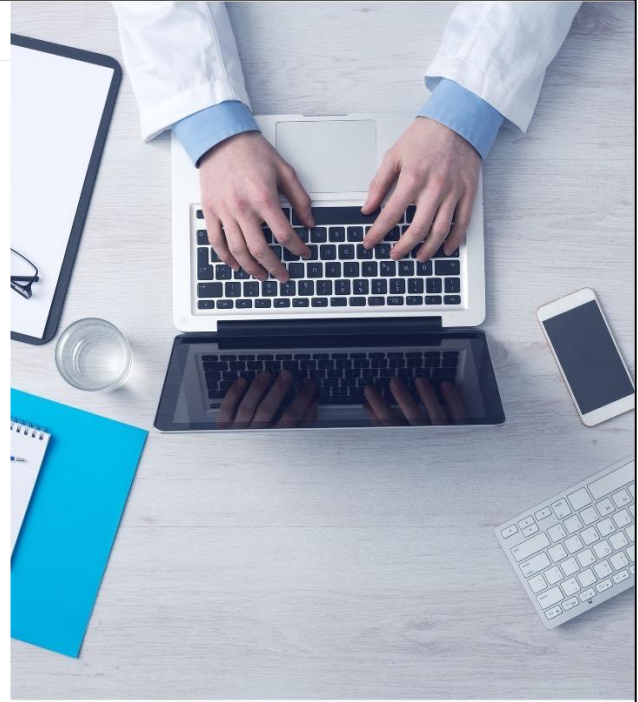
HM: Doc only

CC: Doc only

Approach to Model Changes

What makes sense?

- **Bylaws**
 - 24-hr admission follow-up
 - 48-hr inpatient follow-up
- **Current Staff**
 - Culture
 - Experience with APPs
- **Where is the need?**
 - Increasing encounters
 - Extra night help





Do The Math

Productivity

Definition: $\text{encounters} / \text{corrected hours}$

Cost Per Encounter

Definition: $\text{cost of staffing} / \text{encounter volume}$

Inherent HM Model

- 7- 12 hr Physician Rounders
- 1- 12 hr Physician Admitter
- 1- 12 hr Physician Admitter/Swing
- 2- 12 hr Nocturnists

132 doc hours

Productivity = $145 / 132 = 1.10$



Phase II: HM Model

- 8- 12 hr Physician Rounders
- 1- 12 hr APP Admitter
- 1- 12 hr Physician Admitter/Swing
- 2- 12 hr Nocturnists
- 1- 12 hr Night APP Cross Cover

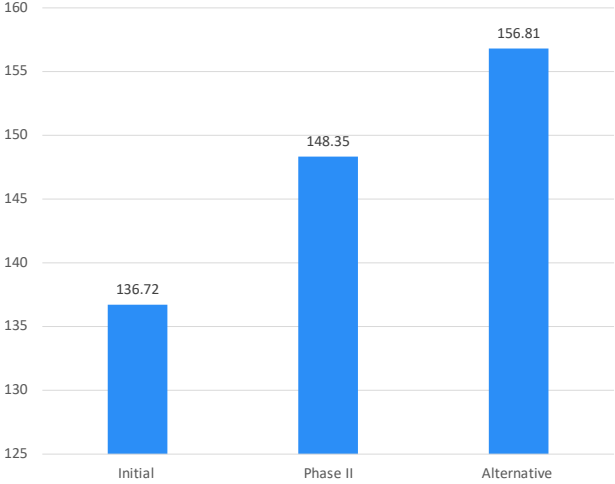
132 doc hours/24 APP hours

Productivity = $145 / (132 + 12) = 1.01$



Cost Per Encounter

- Direct Cost
 - Compensation
 - Benefits
 - Malpractice
 - Other
- Encounter Volume 145/day



Phase II: Success!

- Cross coverage immediate success
- Admissions delayed success
 - Relationship building



Phase III: HM Model

7- 12 hr Physician Rounders

1- 12hr APP Rounder (obs)

1- 12 hr APP Admitter

1- 12 hr Physician Admitter/Swing

1- 12 hr Physician Nocturnists

2- 12 hr Night APP Admit/ Cross
Cover

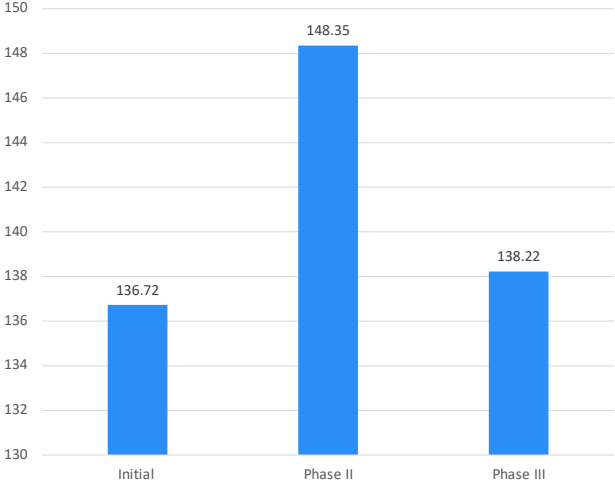
108 doc hours/48 APP hours

Productivity = $145 / (108 + 24) = 1.10$



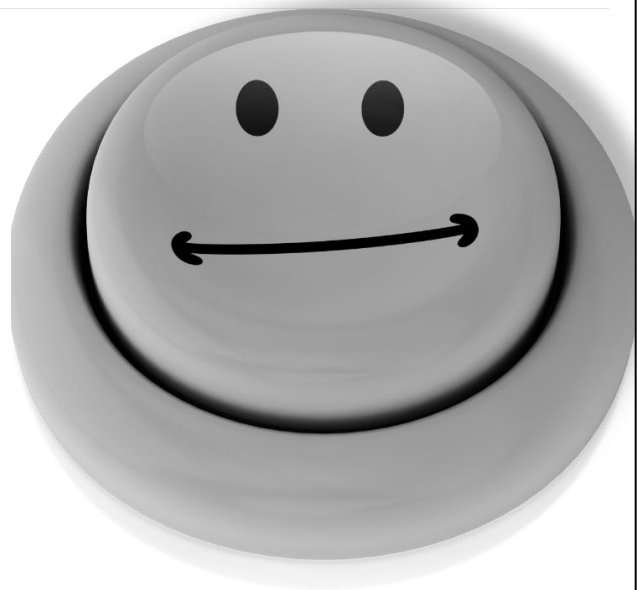
Cost Per Encounter

- Direct Cost
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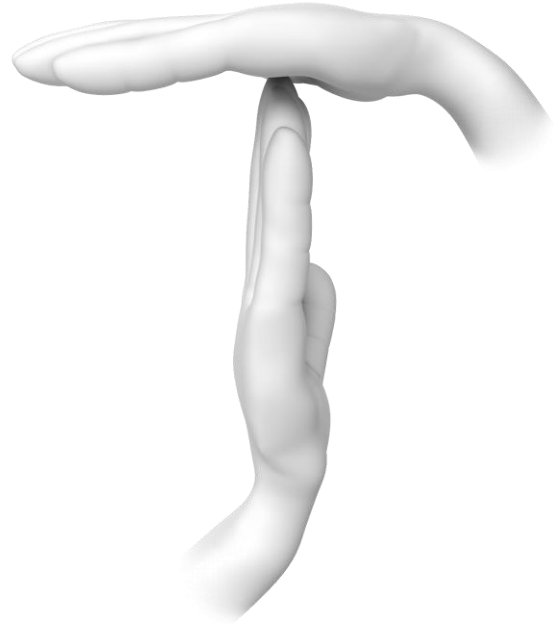
Phase III: Mixed Results

- **Nights**
 - **Physician workflow changes**
 - **Increased communication**
- **APP Rounder**
 - **Physician workflow changes**



Hidden Pitfalls

- 1 **Liability**
- 2 **Quality Program**
- 3 **Supervisory Roles**
- 4 **New Grad APPs**
- 5 **Compensation**





Advanced Practice Providers

Adventist Shady Grove 2021-beyond

Future Model Changes

- ICU Staffing
 - Current: 30 Doc hours
 - Future: potential APP?
- HM Staffing
 - Rounding APPs
 - Doc/APP teams



Cross Training Staff

- **COVID-19**
- **Maximize your “pool”**
- **Increase skill sets**



Successful Cross Training



EM to Obs
Shift Expansion
AM hours



Obs & HM
Interchangeable
Role Dependent



EM to HM
Cross cover
Admissions



- **Set number of training shifts**
- **Decreased need for procedural skill**

Unsuccessful Cross Training



HM/Obs to EM
Sporadic shifts
Site/Role Dependent
Composition of APP pool



- **Lack of consistency**
- **Procedure heavy**

Creating an Integrated Staff



Compliance

Self Referral
Billing



Training

Clinical
Didactic
Oversight

Compensation

Differentials
RVUs
Schedule



Job Satisfaction

Hiring practice
Messaging
Selection



Take Home Points

What you should remember:

- 1 **Slow and steady wins the race**
- 2 **Understand the value**
- 3 **Communicate your strategy**
- 4 **Leverage your workforce**





Questions? More Information??

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