Dental and Health Care Utilization among Florida Pediatric MediPass Beneficiaries

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The Florida MediPass Program

Florida Medicaid’s Primary Care Case Management Program

– Recipients must select a primary care provider (PCP) who will refer patients for necessary medical services
– PCP’s receive a $3 monthly management fee for each patient
– Dental services do not have to be approved by a PCP
– 48 percent of all beneficiaries are in MediPass; 50 percent are in HMOs
– Florida MediPass claims and utilization data are easily accessible
This project utilized Florida MediPass administrative claims data

• Includes children who had a dental claim in 2000-2003 and were aged 0-6 years during each year

• Group 1: No record of general anesthesia (GA) for hospital-based dental procedure

• Group 2: Record of GA for a hospital-based dental procedure, based on:
  – ICD-9 codes: dental caries (521.0); dental periapical abscess without sinusitis (522.5); facial cellulitis (682.0) and periapical abscess with sinus (522.7)
  – Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 00170 (“anesthesia for intraoral procedures, including biopsy; not otherwise specified”)
  AND
Unit of Analysis

Member months

– Allows for gaps in coverage and different lengths of spans in enrollment
– Total number of days of enrollment/30 days
– Rounded to the nearest month e.g. 30.2 rounded to 30
– Results presented as per 1000 member months for ease of interpretation
Distribution of Children, aged 0-6 years, enrolled in Florida MediPass in years 2000-2003 with dental claims, with and without general anesthesia (GA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>All children</th>
<th>At least 1 dental claim</th>
<th>Without GA</th>
<th>With GA Children</th>
<th>With GA Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>601,721</td>
<td>75,537</td>
<td>74,495</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>1,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>683,669</td>
<td>82,328</td>
<td>81,007</td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td>1,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>752,150</td>
<td>92,313</td>
<td>91,044</td>
<td>1,269</td>
<td>1,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>802,293</td>
<td>101,805</td>
<td>100,533</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>1,703</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected demographic characteristics of children age 0-6 yrs enrolled in Florida MediPass program, by General Anesthesia status, 2000-2003
# Average CDT Diagnostic, Preventive, Restorative and Other procedures per 1000 member months, 2000-2003

Florida MediPass Recipients aged 0-6 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Anesthesia (GA) status</th>
<th>Type of Procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DIAGNOSTIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No GA</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average CDT Diagnostic, Preventive, Restorative and Other procedures /1000 member months
Florida MediPass Recipients aged 0-6 years, 2000-2003

- DIAG: 268 (No GA), 375 (GA)
- PREV: 272 (No GA), 245 (GA)
- REST: 808 (GA)
- Other: 119 (No GA), 651 (GA)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Anesthesia Status</th>
<th>Physician Visits</th>
<th>ER Visits</th>
<th>In-patient Admissions</th>
<th>Length of stay (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dental Claims and No GA</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Claims and GA</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>28.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average Physician Visits, ER Visits, IP Admissions and Lengths of Stay/1000 Member Months
Florida MediPass Recipients Age 0-6, 2000-2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Avg. # per 1000 member months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.D. visit</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ER visit</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP Admission</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of stay</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **No GA**
- **GA**

Graph showing averages for different services.
Average costs per 1000 member months ($1000) for Physician Visits, Inpatient Admissions, and Total Florida MediPass Recipients Age 0-6, 2000-2003

- Cost for MD visits: 101.14
- IP Costs: 10.39
- Total Costs: 319.17

No GA: 101.14, 10.39, 125.46
GA: 210.34, 27.48, 319.17
CONCLUSIONS

DENTAL CARE – Florida MediPass beneficiaries with general anesthesia (2000-2003) during a dental procedure received, on average:
- 1.4 times as many diagnostic procedures
- 5.9 as many restorative procedures
- 5.5 as many other dental procedures
- but only 0.9 as many preventive procedures as those who received dental care without general anesthesia.
CONCLUSIONS

MEDICAL CARE - Florida MediPass beneficiaries (2000-2003) with GA for dental care were more likely to have medical contacts than those receiving dental care without GA, including:

- 1.8 times as many physician visits
- 2.1 as many emergency room visits
- 2.6 times as many in-patient admissions
- 2.5 times as long hospital stays
- 2.5 times as much medical costs
CONCLUSIONS

There were racial and residential location differences in the distribution of Florida MediPass children (2000-2003) in the non-GA and GA groups:

a) Whites, Blacks and Hispanics were relatively evenly distributed in the non GA group,

b) Whites represented more than 2.1 times as many GA cases as Blacks,

c) Whites represented more than 3 times as many GA cases as Hispanics.

d) Rural children were 1.7 times more likely to receive GA for dental care than their representation in the nonGA group of children with dental claims.
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• Consultants- Drs. James Crall, Peter Damiano, and Donald Schneider
REFERENCES


