

Auburn Community Hospital (ACH) Improves Bottom Line - Impact Totalling \$1.03MM by Implementing ezCAC™



Summary:

Auburn Community Hospital (ACH) is a not-for-profit, 99-bed acute care facility serving a population of approximately 80,000. Located southwest of Syracuse, New York.

Situation:

ACH is a McKesson Paragon/OneContent hospital that was using the 3M encoder, and Navigant CDI software to complete their coding and CDI-related work. Their Discharge Not Final Coded (DNFC) was 7 days and their CMI was 1.2024.

Objective:

1. Improve both coder efficiency and accuracy
2. Eliminate coding backlogs and adapt to day to-day changes in revenue cycle
3. Functionality to customize worklists and automate abstraction
4. Assign accurate ICD-10 diagnostic/procedure codes
5. Improve DNFC and CMI
6. Find an intelligent platform that can help track missing documents and help identify potential documentation improvement opportunities

Solution:

ACH chose to deploy ezDI's NLP-based technologies including computer-assisted coding (CAC) application, ezCAC, along with a fully integrated encoder, ezEncoder as well as ezDI's coding compliance software, ezAssess.

Data Security:

ezCAC is hosted on Amazon Web Service (AWS) HIPAA compliant cloud Services (AWS). Together, ezDI and AWS comply with all industry leading compliance standards such as SOC1/2/3, ISO 27001-9001, and Department of Defense Standards. This infrastructure provides secure deployment of services utilizing HL7 interfaces communicating with ACH's hosted McKesson Paragon.

Result:

“Improved revenue cycle process with a bottom line impact of \$1.03MM”

- **4.59% increase in CMI**
ezCAC helped ACH increase the CMI by improving the CC/MCC capture rate and providing specific codes, resulting in optimized DRGs
- **50% decrease in DNFC days - improving cash-on-hand (from 7 days to 3.5 days)**
With real-time tracking of documents and prioritized work-list feature, ezCAC streamlined the billing cycle for ACH
- **>40% improvement in coder productivity**
ezCAC accelerated inpatient coder productivity by providing automated code suggestions to the coders
- **Eliminated all IT support for coders**

"The benefits that ezDI has provided to us are increased CMI, increased coder productivity, a decrease in time to code which provides increased cash on hand. Going forward there is significant opportunity to utilize the expertise that ezDI brings. You really don't know what you are missing until you start implementing a program like ezCAC and working with a vendor like ezDI. cash on hand.

So, in addition to the current benefits of saving of more than \$1.03MM since we implemented ezDI technology, I see the biggest benefit is the ongoing opportunity to work with ezDI to further develop products that solve problems in quality measurements and reporting that we have here at Auburn Community,"



~ Jason Lesch, Chief Financial Officer at ACH.

Jason further states, "We didn't even know the extent of inefficiencies and problems that we had going into this project or the improvements that we could gain.

The results have been tremendous in terms of return on investment, more than \$1.03MM and 10x plus return.

The coder productivity has gone through the roof, especially when considering new ICD-10 standards. Our coders and IT staff are happy and financially we are very excited by the results, and there has been no disruption in any of our existing processes."

"Data security is our top priority. The services, software and the security solution deployed by ezDI would be very difficult for me to do in-house. Typically, I have to engage third party security vendors to audit our security performance and our security posture. I am confident that this application is developed and housed in talented hands and my data is secure.

The second notable accomplishment, we have had much greater IT staff availability since ezCAC requires no IT support. Also, we have not had any downtime whatsoever since we have been live. The system performs quite well, is highly available, and highly secure."



~ Chris Ryan, Chief Information Officer.

About ezDI

Headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, ezDI, Inc. focuses on developing healthcare IT solutions that leverage cutting-edge technologies including Natural Language Processing (NLP), Machine Learning, Semantic Web, and High Performance Computing. ezDI builds Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI), Computer-assisted Coding (CAC), Medical Transcription, Analytics, and more.

For more information, please visit
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