



PDGM READINESS TOOL KIT

On or after January 2020, the Patient Driven Groupings Model (PDGM) will replace the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS) as the methodology for calculating episode payments. Arguably, this is the biggest change to home health agency operations since the implementation of the Interim Prospective Payment System in 1998, which resulted in many home health agencies exiting the industry.

Lack of preparation and inability to anticipate the impact of that change likely caused many to close their doors. Learning from history, agencies are strongly advised to plan by assessing readiness, educating staff and making necessary operational/administrative changes before implementation of PDGM. Doing so now will improve an agency's current business practices, thereby improving productivity and profitability in the short term, while positioning the agency for a smoother transition to PDGM.

The *PDGM Readiness Toolkit* is an agency's step-by-step guide to successful implementation through proper planning, preparation, communication and training.

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PLANNING FOR A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION – THE BIG PICTURE

- It's all about the data
- Care coordination
- Embrace technology
- Revenue-cycle management

DETERMINE VENDOR READINESS

PDGM EXPLAINED

To ensure prompt and proper payment post implementation agencies need to identify the myriad data points that determine case-mix category and to understand how the data point contributes to an episode-payment calculation. Agency staff must also know how to extract those data points from referral documentation, from a patient's chart and from assessments and be able to properly record them to be certain that all pertinent factors are captured and accurately recorded for placement in the correct Clinical Grouping and HHRG.

This section explains the what and why of PDGM, so agencies understand and can communicate with staff what is required of them for complete and compliant implementation.

GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE – PREPARATION IS THE KEY

- Agency wide awareness campaign
- Define role of agency leadership, including governing body
- Complete a PDGM readiness assessment
- Things to consider when assessing current processes
- Complete quality assurance audits

PREPARE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Specific action items to help your agency prepare.

RESOURCES AND TOOLS

- PDGM Functional Impairment Chart
- Top 75 Primary Codes No Longer Valid in PDGM
- PDGM Comorbid Tool
- PDGM Audit Questionnaire