





How Houston Methodist ACO is Cracking the Code on HCCs

Tuesday, December 2nd

Speakers: Wajiha Waheed, HMCC Director of Finance and Operations, Emily Hightower, HDAI Manager of Population Health and Himasagar Molakapuri, HDAI Senior Data Scientist

Today's Speakers



Wajiha Waheed, Director of Finance and Operations, Houston Methodist Coordinated Care ACO



Emily Hightower, MSN, RN,CPN, Manager of Population Health, HDAI



Himasagar Molakapuri, Senior Data Scientist, HDAI







- 70-employee predictive analytics and generative AI company based in Boston
- Partnering with Houston Methodist,
 Cleveland Clinic, Dana-Farber, and valuebased care organizations across the country
- We leverage our privileged access to all Medicare claims since 1999 to analyze performance across healthcare
- We have developed predictive models for hundreds of outcomes and generate millions of predictions for our customers each week

- EHR-embedded platform that incorporates any available structured and unstructured EHR data, claims, and other sources
- Network and performance analytics that rigorously assess providers, hospitals, and other facilities
- Advanced, predictive clinical workflows to target key opportunities
- Single-page patient Spotlights that consolidate what's most relevant in the chart
- Al-driven care and operational summaries using sophisticated generative Al models

HDAI's HealthVision™Platform is Fueled by Privileged Access to the Country's Largest and Best Longitudinal Data Set

Big Data

Entire CMS database Updated Monthly

140+ million patients500+ billion encounters25 years longitudinal records

Digital Twinning



Foundation Large Predictive Models (LPM)

Hundreds of predictive models for outcomes, utilization, and cost

Published peer-reviewed methodology

Fully transparent and explainable

Our digital twinning methodology delivers high value and actionable precision insights



Agenda

- HDAI's Strategy for High Impact HCC Capture
- Case Study: Accelerating HCC Recapture
- Q&A

Houston Methodist Coordinated Care I MSSP ACO 2025 Stats

GROWTH

Largest Medicare ACO in Houston

EXCELLENCE

High Performing **HMCC ACO Primary** Care Network

PATIENT CENTERED

Continuity of Care with PCPs, Case Managers, **Nurses & Pharmacists**

QUALITY

#2 Nationally

Quality Performance Academic Medical Centers

SUCCESS

#1 Nationally

Average Savings Per Patient **Academic Medical** Centers











≈ 54,000 CMS Attributed **Medicare Patients** 300+ PCPs **Primary Care Practices**

HMCC ACO Multi-disciplinary Team Approach

95.6% Quality Score

\$50.4 M **Earned Shared** Savings

How Does HMCC Support Physicians in Documentation, Coding and Risk Adjustment?

Patient Assessment Tools and Resources

- Provides physicians visibility into
 HCC coding patient level, physician
 level, and practice level.
- These tools help physicians and care teams spot unaddressed or underdocumented chronic conditions
- The HCC coding process is built into the routine workflow (during patient visits or chart review), physicians don't need to rely solely on memory or manual audits to know which patients need documentation review.

Data Analytics and Population Health Support

- Collaborates with external analytic partners to aggregate and analyze patient and claims data.
- This analytics support helps target patients whose chronic conditions may not be fully captured in the record enabling the ACO to prioritize outreach, follow-up, or chart reviews.
- By doing this systematically, HMCC can improve risk-adjustment accuracy — which supports better shared savings and reinvestment into patient care and care coordination

Practice-level Support, Workflows and Education

- Offers support for physicians in quality programs, value-based care participation, and documentation/ quality improvement with monthly scheduled in-person meetings
- HMCC invests in "clinical infrastructure and resources," including IT tools, care coordinators, and care managers, which reduces the burden on individual physicians and supports stronger care coordination for the patients leading to improved documentation and chronic care management.

HMCC's ultimate goal is to ensure that patient risk is accurately documented for the ACO to deliver the highest quality, best coordinated, financially sustainable care.

HDAI's Strategy for High Impact HCC Capture

Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCCs) Primarily Drive the Total Risk Adjustment Factor (RAF) Score

HCCs (~60-70%)

- 7,770 ICD-10 diagnosis codes that map to 115 clinical categories
- Each HCC has a "weight" (effectively a coefficient in a RAF calculation)

Demographic Status (~ 30-40%)

Enrollment Category

- Aged/not Medicare-eligible
- Aged/Medicare-eligible
- Disabled
- End-stage renal disease

Institutional Status

- Community-dwelling
- Institutionalized

Example of Total RAF

Lung and Other **Severe Cancers**

0.80

and Convulsions

0.22

Seizure Disorders

0.15

Mild Dementia

with Complications

Supraventricular Tachycardia

0.10

Aged/not Medicare Eligible, Community

RAF 1.87

0.60

Demographic Status (32%)

HCCs (68%)

ACOs Regularly Miss HCC Compensation for Complex Patients

		Capture History			
	HCC RAF GAP	2022	2023	2024	2025
72-year-old male with HIV	0.17	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	X
65-year-old Female with Cystic Fibrosis	0.87		$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	X
80-year-old male with End Stage Heart Failure	0.40		$\sqrt{}$		X

Huge Room to Improve Capture Rates

National Annual Recapture Rate for Select HCCs

Among patients who had the HCC documented in each of the 3 previous years

нсс	National Annual Recapture Rate
Heart Transplant Status/Complications	96%
HIV/AIDS	94%
Parkinson and Other Degenerative Disease of Basal Ganglia	87%
Dialysis Status	84%
Cystic Fibrosis	78%
End-Stage Heart Failure	70%

HDAI's Unique Approach to HCC Prioritization - Weighted Gap

We surface the most clinically relevant and high RAF impact HCCs for each patient

	ı vs. Expect	ed: -0.39			Last	AWV: 05/15/2025		
ner provider	s only							About our data ;
	ANNUAL	CAPTURE		EXPECTED R	ECAPTURE RATE		HCC METRICS	
2022	2023	2024	2025	Annual	Year-to-date	Captured HCC	Gap	Weighted Gap
~	٤.	×	×	40.3%	34.3%	0	0.41	0.14
2.	2.	×	×	58.4%	50.1%	0	0.17	0.08
2.	2.	×	×	28.9%	22.8%	0	0.57	0.13
~	~	×	×	54.2%	46.6%	0	0.36	0.17
~	~	×	×					
~	~	×	×					
	2022 & & &	2022 2023	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024 2025	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024 2025 Annual 40.3% 2	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024 2025 Annual Year-to-date 40.3% 34.3% 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024 2025 Annual Year-to-date Captured HCC	ANNUAL CAPTURE 2022 2023 2024 2025 Annual Year-to-date Captured HCC Gap 2024 2025 Annual Year-to-date Captured HCC Cap

Not All RAF HCC Codes are Equal

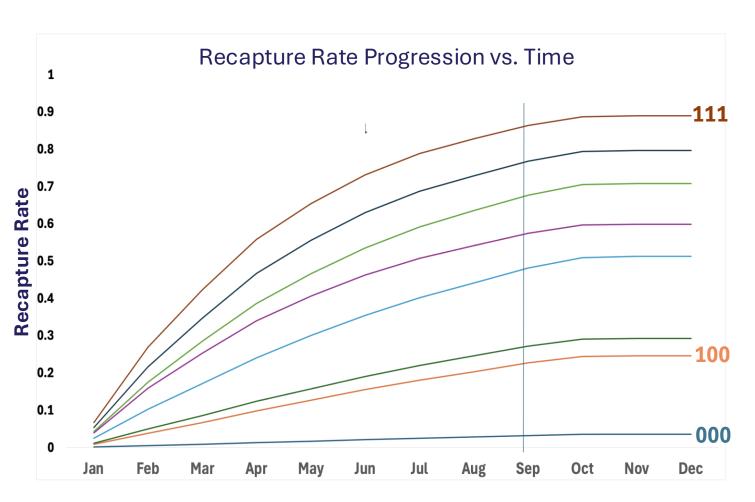
Twin-based Expected National Capture Rate of Heart Failure, Except End-Stage and Acute

HCC Capture Distribution Table for an Actual
Mid-level Performing ACO

1 = Captured	0 = Not Captured
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Capture Pattern	2022	2023	2024	% Patient count	Avg. Recapture Rate
000*	0	0	0	9%	0.3%
100	1	0	0	7 %	23%
010	0	1	0	9%	29%
110	1	1	0	4%	58%
001	0	0	1	20%	70%
101	1	0	1	3%	66%
011	0	1	1	16%	77%
111	1	1	1	32 %	88%
Aggregate					63%

^{*} Patients with no history of HF and a new HF HCC in 2025





Not All RAF HCC Codes are Equal

70%

66%

77%

88%

76%

9%

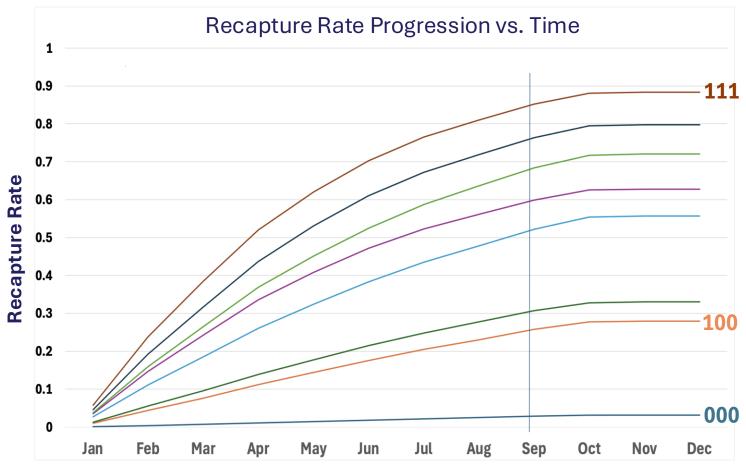
3%

10%

61%

Twin-based Expected National Capture Rate of **Diabetes without Complications**

HCC Capture Distribution Table for an Actual Mid-level Performing ACO					
1 = Captured 0 = Not Captured					
Capture Pattern	2022	2023	2024	% Patient count	Avg. Recapture Rate
000*	0	0	0	3%	0.2%
100	1	0	0	4%	23%
010	0	1	0	4%	50%
110	1	1	0	5%	60%



^{*} Patients with no history of DWoC and a new DWoC HCC in 2025

Aggregate



001

101

011

111

0

1

0

HDAI Solves for the HCC Recapture Problem

Challenge with Existing Implementations	Our Solution
Providers don't know which HCCs to focus on for a given patient (and instead are asked to recapture every code)	HDAI only surfaces clinically appropriate and high- impact HCCs, guided by weekly expected-recapture predictions from national "twins."
Many alternatives focus on helping at the physician note level, without identifying physicians and groups that need support	We offer insights from the patient level to providers, groups, and the ACO or plan overall
No good mechanism to understand mid-year how an ACO, group, or provider is doing	We offer end-of-year and weekly expected recapture rates so we can offer value early in the year
The transition from HCC v24 to v28 complicates HCC implementations and provider education	HDAI's composite HCC groups provide a stable, versionagnostic structure that simplifies implementation and keeps provider education consistent
Providers resist a focus on HCC as an entirely financially driven initiative	HDAI aligns HCC recapture with real clinical needs - so ACOs are compensated fairly while delivering better care.

Accelerating HCC Recapture at Houston Methodist Coordinated Care ACO

HMCC Saw an 11 Percentile Rank Improvement in HCC Recapture

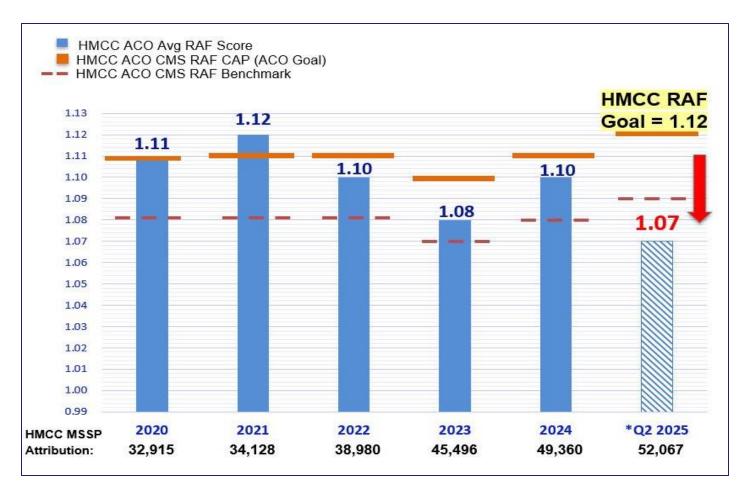




Month of 2025

HMCC's HCC Challenge

2025 RISK ADJUSTMENT DROP DUE TO MSSP PROGRAM RENEWAL



1% Increase

≈ \$6.8 million

1% Decrease

≈ \$4.6 million

CMS Final Reconciliation 2020 – 2024 Evolent RAF Q2 2025 Forecast Report based on claims data Jan-June 2025 **HEALTH DATA ANALYTICS INSTITUTE**

o CA C million

HMCC ACO Strategies to Improve RAF

Tools & Resources

- Best Practice Advisory (BPA) Tool for EPIC Practices
 - Annual Patient Assessment forms provided to Non-EPIC practices (3x annually)
- HMCC ACO 2025 RAF & HCC Coding Booklet
- HMCC ACO 2025 Risk Adjustment Coding Pocket Card
- □ HCPro Risk Adjustment Documentation 1 Hour Course (Houston Methodist LMS/Web; available 24-7; free of cost)

2025 Initiatives

- Health Data Analytics Institute (HDAI)

 HCC Recapture AI based patient level reports identifying missed chronic conditions based on claims with a 3-year history of billed claims
- Patient Chart Coding Review based on AI coding technology (select private ACO physicians with RAF scores less than 1.00)

Patient Claims Coding Review performed for select ACO physicians with RAF scores less than 1.00

New

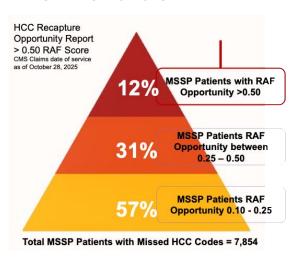
New

Build Buy-in, Drive Action: Educate, Support, and Monitor



Educate

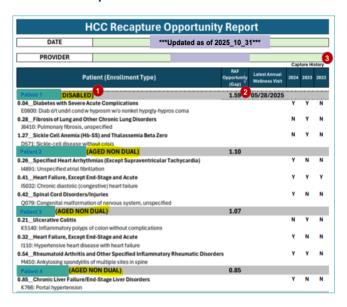
- In-person/Staff Meetings
- Online Portals





Encourage HCC Review

• PDF of patient-level HCC details

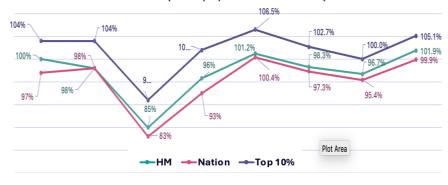




Monitor

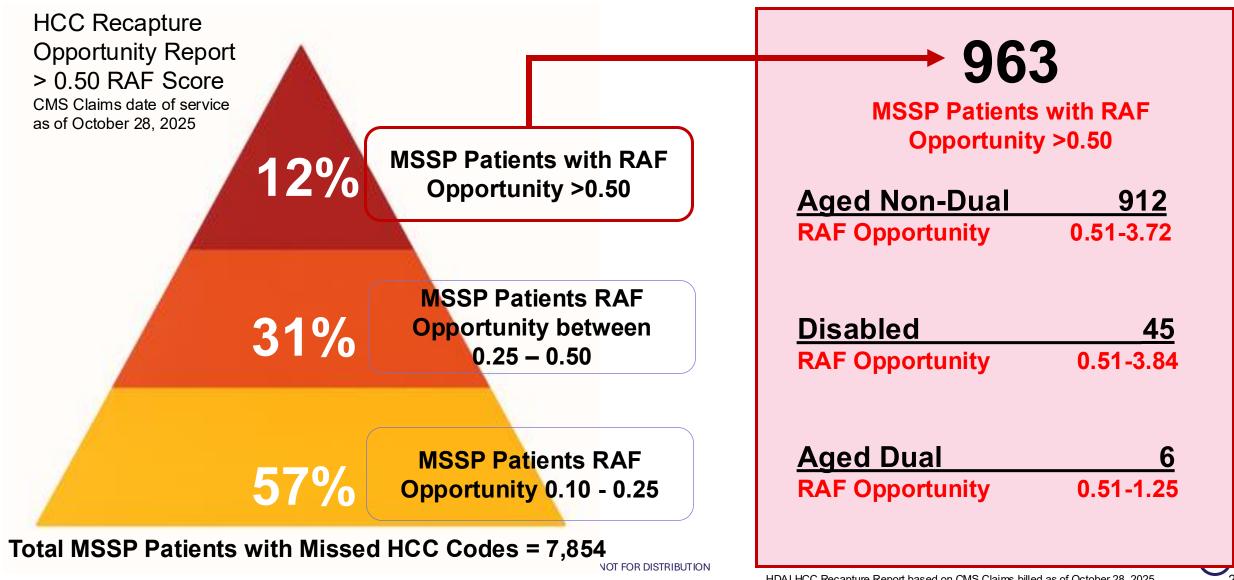
 Monthly review of performance against goal

Observed/Expected (OE) for 'All HCC' RAF Recapture



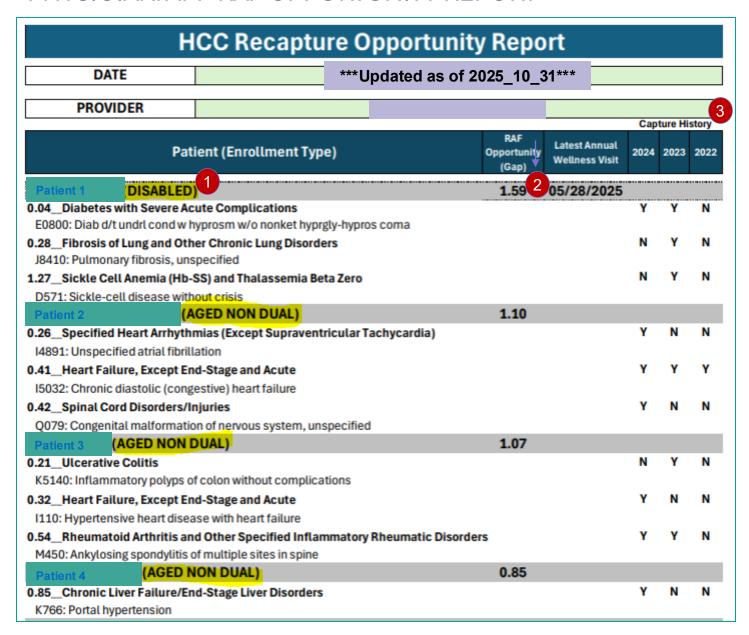
Educate – Why Is RAF Capture Worth the Effort?

28% REDUCTION IN RAF OPPORTUNITIES UTILIZING NEW REPORT



Nudge – Each MD Gets a List of High Impact Patients

PHYSICIAN/APP RAF OPPORTUNITY REPORT



1. Patient Enrollment Type

(CMS 4 Risk Segments: Aged Non- Dual; Aged Dual, Disabled, ESRD)

2. RAF Opportunity Weight

MSSP patients sorted by <u>highest</u> risk opportunity gaps per patient to the <u>lowest</u> risk gaps per patient

These codes have not been captured as

of Medicare Claims Billed Oct 31, 2025

3. Capture History

indicates conditions coded prior years with Yes & No as a guide

4. If Applicable, Must Drop

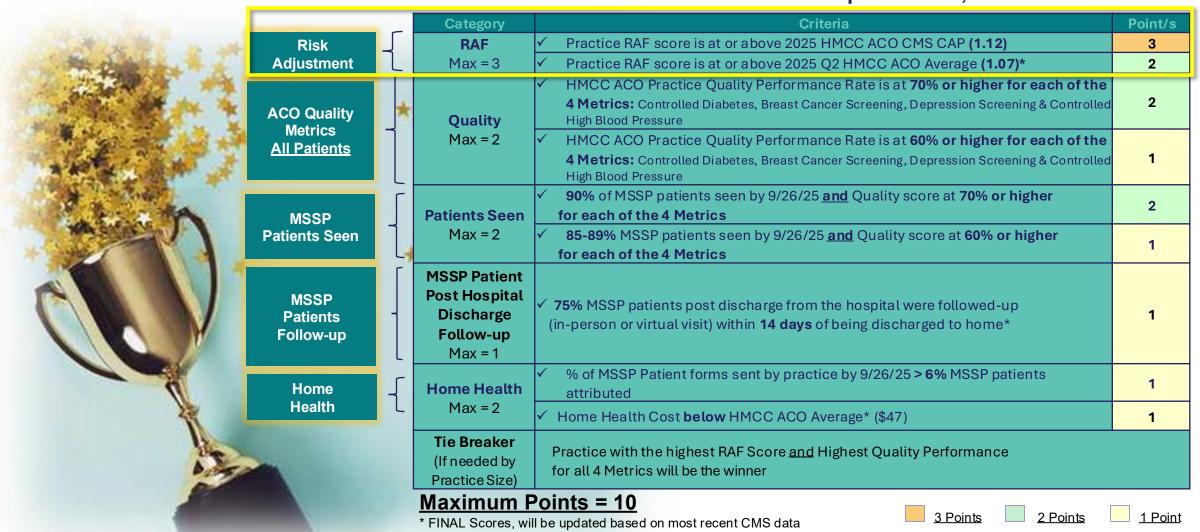
Code in Medicare Claims by

12/31/25

Empower, Educate, and Celebrate

2025 HMCC ACO Primary Care Practice HONOR ROLL

Honor Roll End Date September 30, 2025



HMCC's Goals for 2026



Move away from paper state and streamline workflows to make clinician lives easier



Bi-directional integration
(write-back) with EHR

Populate Best Practice Alerts
with HCC focus areas



Align on one approach across the organization when reporting gaps in HCC opportunity



What Questions Can we Answer?

Stop by our VBCExhibitHall.com Virtual Booth







Live Demonstrations, Upon Request

Thank you!

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