

Scripps ACO Tips for Delivering Cost-Effective Care

The goal of the Scripps Health ACO is to deliver value-based, high-quality, and cost-effective care within our hospitals and clinics. We are a clinically-integrated network partnering with our Foundation-model and our independent providers.

Utilization of high cost care settings, when appropriate alternatives are available, is one contributor to increasing health care costs. In order to keep costs low but still provide excellent care to your patients, we have some tips and tricks to help you attain those goals:

- **Skilled Nursing Facilities.** Refer your patients through the Scripps-preferred network. Please see attached list of SNF's available in your area.
- **Home Health.** Refer your patients through the Scripps-preferred network. Please see attached list of Home Health groups available in your area.
- **Outpatient Surgery.** Refer patients to a Scripps outpatient surgical center rather than the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) within the hospital. For a list of Scripps ambulatory centers, please visit www.scripps.org/locations/specialty-centers.
- **Imaging.** Refer patients to free-standing imaging centers instead of the hospital-based imaging department. For example, a standard nuclear medicine imaging procedure at a hospital-based department can cost up to 308% of a free-standing imaging center procedure.* For a list of Scripps breast care and general imaging centers, please visit www.scripps.org/locations/specialty-centers or www.imaginghealthcare.com.
- **Medications.** Prescribe generic medications rather than name-brand medications when appropriate.
- **Lab.** Refer patients to in-network, free-standing laboratory facilities when appropriate. A simple urinalysis in the hospital can cost up to 222% of a urinalysis at a free-standing facility.*

*Healthcare Financial Management Association. Identifying the *Gap Between Hospital and Free-Standing Prices*. HFMA.org, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact your region's practice outreach manager:

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