

April 26, 2011

To Mark Bernhardt

The Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PDMI) through Amerisource Bergen has been a positive change for Hospice of North Idaho. We are no longer spending up to 40 hours of nursing time reviewing medication invoices when we are completing the Medicare Cost Report. We are able to run a report that identifies medications in the cost categories that our Medicare cost report requires. We are also able to look at patient costs individually and where we are spending the most dollars with regards to the most utilized medications by HONI patients. There are many alternatives in the reporting and this is a very valuable tool in reviewing our drug utilization and costs.

We have experienced better billing practices with our contracted pharmacies having the ability to now bill our compounded medications through PMDI. We no longer receive compounded medications as a separate and lengthy bill and can clearly identify the actual ingredients in the compounded medication.

Our triage nursing staff has access to the PDMI system and has support through our local pharmacy. This has decreased nursing time as well. We have not had to wait for a "help desk" person to initiate new patients in the system or wait for a data correction. Further, the rather extensive drug formulary and, the ability to modify that list, is a time saver for our medical director and nursing staff.

The use of the PDMI system has provided us with cost controls, ease of use and exceptional reporting.

Thank you again for your support of HONI

Respectfully,

Cindy

Cindy Reed, RN CHPN

Director of Clinical Services

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