

MCI Group Visit Strategy (approved by CHI Compliance and Coding departments)

Mercy Clinics has found group visits to be an effective way to improve compliance and outcomes in patients with chronic disease. In order to maintain the benefits of group visits and to bill in compliance with a strict interpretation of all regulations, the following structure for group visits is proposed:

1. Patients are recruited to a group visit. They are informed that their personal health information may be discussed in front of other patients and are advised that the visit is voluntary.
2. Prior to the visit the Population Health Coach will do a pre-visit review to identify all interventions that will need to be addressed at the visit.
 - Chronic disease standards of care
 - Preventive health care & immunizations
 - Other issues that will need follow-up such as lab results or co-morbidities
 - Paperwork is filled out to make sure this care is completed at the visit
3. During the visit a nurse or CMA initially sees the patient.
 - The history is taken and vitals are performed
 - Needed lab tests are drawn and referrals are made by protocol.
 - All pertinent information is collected on a single page documentation form designed for the visit.
4. The Physician, ARNP, or PA performs one-on-one direct patient care visit in front of the other patients.
 - Pertinent history is reviewed and confirmed with the patient
 - The physical exam is performed as needed for the chief complaint and history (often general appearance is all that is required)
 - Assessment of the patients condition is made
 - The Hx, PE, and assessment are recorded on the documentation form
 - If needed a private exam ca be done after the group session.
5. Self-management support is provided in the group session including:
 - Discussing the assessment of the patient's condition
 - Goal setting and creating an action plan for health behavior change
 - Education
6. Billing will be done based solely on the bullets collected and complexity of the private session, the group counseling component will not be considered in the billing.