



CLIENT: McKesson Provider Technologies/Revenue Management Solutions
PROJECT: Dr. Craig Curry Podcast
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**Interview with Craig Curry, M.D.
Quality Improvement Chair
Spectrum Medical Group**

INTRO

McKesson Provider Technologies is pleased to introduce Craig Curry, M.D. Quality Improvement Chair for Spectrum Medical Group in Portland, Maine. In this interview, Dr. Curry discusses an innovative quality data collection and reporting solution developed by Spectrum in conjunction with McKesson Revenue Management Solutions.

DR. CURRY

Over the years, we've learned that the type of anesthetics we provide do have an impact on the outcomes of our patients. Using the information that we've taken from our database has allowed us to improve many of the outcomes for our patients.

The collection process itself is fairly simple and straightforward. It takes anywhere from 15 to 30 seconds to complete the data form. The majority of data actually comes from the billing service and that reduces greatly the amount of time required to gather the information by the provider.

The information that we provide in the OR about the anesthetic given as well as the outcomes in the operating room is then scanned into the database which then receives detailed information from McKesson regarding the nature of the surgery, associated diagnoses, surgeon, all anesthesia providers as well as many of the patient's risk factors.

The most satisfying aspect of having this product is that it allows us to look at patient demographics, the actual anesthetic agents that we utilized, and how



they relate to the outcomes of our patients.

When we meet with our various customers - local employers, insurance organizations, hospital administrators, and accreditation reviewers - we can demonstrate for them in real numbers and in real time the actual outcomes for our practice. We can further demonstrate that we are improving the outcomes of our patients and that we are providing excellent care on a continuous basis, and we can demonstrate that over 15 years. **That's powerful.**

Indeed, they are very impressed when we can go in and say, "This is how **your patients** will be treated, **these** are the outcomes you can expect when we take care of your patients."

One of the unique aspects of this particular solution is the way in which we utilize our billing service and the information that our billing service gathers to complete our quality database. We don't ask providers to duplicate information that they are already providing. Things that are very important to us in quality assurance - such as patient name, type of surgery, patient identifier, patient risk factors - all those things are automatically provided to the anesthesia database from our billing service.

There are a number of appealing aspects to this solution. Number one, it's a very **cost effective** way to gather this amount of information. Number two, it is a very **efficient** way to gather the information. It's very **flexible** - it can be utilized at any anesthesia site regardless of whether you have an electronic anesthesia medical record. It is also very flexible in that you can add or subtract data points freely.

We're all under a great deal of pressure to demonstrate the quality of our practice, So we all need some solution to do this. When you are trying to



determine for yourself what type of solution you need, you want to look for one that will be cost effective and efficient, and one that will allow you to improve your practice – not just give you numbers about how you are doing but allow you to take those numbers and associate them with what’s going on the operating room, what type of patients you are taking care of, and how you can improve those outcomes.

EXIT

The quality data tool developed by Dr. Curry is part of a suite of solutions developed expressly for Anesthesia practices by McKesson. For more information, contact McKesson Provider Technologies at 1.800.789.6409.