



Newsletter



GETTING STARTED WITH TELERADIOLOGY

1 CONSULTATION

Call us at 1877 225-3EYE or email us at info@tetradiology.com for a free consultation.

2 Q & A

Review a variety of pricing options and ways to benefit your practice, including full time coverage, vacation coverage and subspecialty consultations

3 NETWORK SETUP

Let our IT team setup our state of the art PACS and reporting system to seamlessly integrate into your hospital RIS or practice information system.

4 RELAX

Our skilled team of subspecialty radiologists will provide fast and accurate expert reports. We will communicate directly with your referring physicians, and give you peace of mind.

Imaging Update: Preparing for the impact of Health Care Reform

Health Care Reform, in one form or another, is inevitable. The combination of skyrocketing healthcare costs and limited access to healthcare have put the U.S. on an unavoidable path to change in the system of healthcare delivery.

It is no secret that there has been an amazing escalation in the volume and cost of imaging services, which has put imaging in the 'crosshairs' of the reform movement. As the DRA (Deficit Reduction Act) and the recent decrease in Medicare reimbursement relative to the utilization rate (the amount MRI and CT scanners are used during business hours) have shown, this target has and will include both technical and professional fees.

In order to maintain income and solvency, these decreased reimbursements will require more from radiologists and imaging centers than the traditional volume increases. Radiologists must focus on efficiency, quality and technical advances. Imaging

practices will need to adapt, or they will face continuing decreases in both productivity and finances.

One of the keys to the future viability of radiology as a specialty is quality research. While the policy makers denounce the over-utilization of imaging services (which in some cases is valid-- just go to any emergency department), we must demonstrate the efficacy, value and cost effectiveness of imaging, both old and new.

On our side is one overwhelming fact: Medical Imaging, when used in a milieu of evidence based medicine, has great value in diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and follow-up. The benefit to increasing the percentage of the population that has health care coverage is increased demand and increased volume.

Radiology through the years has frequently been faced with threats to its existence and its economy. Adaptations have been

RADIOLOGY REFORM

WHAT'S IN STORE

- 1) **The Reconciliation Act-** raising the imaging equipment utilization rate assumption from 50 to 75% on CT and MRI. **Effect:** decreased payment for nonhospital providers.
- 2) **The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act-** gradual increase in equipment utilization rate for the technical component of MRI, CT, Nuclear Medicine and PET. **Effect:** Outpatient centers may not be able to afford to stay open.
- 3) **Expansion of Coverage for all.** **Effect-** higher taxes, increased patient volume with lower reimbursement per case.



frequent and effective. They have included technology, innovation and efficiency. This period in our history is no different. Radiologists just need to keep their minds open to the evolution of our field. This growth may be difficult for some, but it is inevitable. One of the many ways to increase efficiency and decrease cost is to leave behind the old model of a radiologist physically present to read every case.

Of course, good medicine predicates having radiologists' present for patient interaction, consultation and education. However, the model of having subspecialty experts available at the click of a mouse or via a text message is more than enticing-- it is now available. This model allows the 'traditional radiologist' more time to read cases, less overhead and ultimately increased efficiency with less malpractice risk.

Third Eye Teleradiology can bring years of expertise to your practice. Call us, and we will set up your protocols to produce the highest quality images, including 2D, 3D and virtual. In addition, you will always have the peace of mind of knowing that the interpretations we provide will match the quality of the images that we help you to produce.



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