Calculating Health Care Waste Over Time

Because some measures in the Health Waste Calculator were modified or added from Version 5 to Version 7, and because we added Medicaid data for this analysis, we re-ran results (using Version 7) for the "top 10" areas of waste noted in this report for the prior measurement year (July 2015 – June 2016). We did this to provide comparable data for the prior period and the current period (July 2016 – June 2017). Results are shown below. The level of waste remained remarkably similar for the two time periods, suggesting a strong practice pattern in these areas of care.

	Current Period (July 2016 – June 2017)			Prior Period (July 2015 – June 2016)		
	# of Services Examined	# of Wasteful Services	Waste Index	# of Services Examined	# of Wasteful Services	Waste Index
Opiates for acute low back pain	248,790	232,824	93.6%	267,494	251,528	94.0%
Antibiotics for URI and ear infection	197,871	197,758	99.9%	202,094	202,020	99.9%
Annual EKG/cardiac screening	693,071	196,123	28.3%	655,440	195,160	29.8%
Imaging tests for eye disease	199,928	137,070	68.6%	190,751	136,248	71.4%
Pre-op lab studies, low-risk procedures	151,960	129,360	85.1%	152,376	129,411	84.9%
Two or more concurrent antipsychotic meds	488,477	118,015	24.2%	447,199	108,521	24.3%
PSA-screening for prostate cancer	92,111	79,347	86.1%	89,299	76,702	85.9%
Cervical cancer screening for women	254,510	52,594	20.7%	252,161	58,231	23.1%
Screening for Vitamin D deficiency	136,629	40,049	29.3%	145,214	43,033	29.6%
NSAIDS for hypertension, heart failure, CKD	58,341	39,027	66.9%	54,766	37,641	68.7%

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