# Using Telemedicine to Integrate Service Coordination within the Northern California Adventist Healthcare System



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#### Problem Statement

The lack of coordinated care within the Northern California Adventist Healthcare System (NCAHS) leads to the inability to optimally manage their accountable care organization. To address this issue I developed a telemedicine program, concentrating largely on Teleintensive care.

## Discovery

- 1. I developed an initial business model by starting to attend our daily administrative leadership "huddle." I then interviewed each leader separately.
- 2. I was surprised that each hospital within the system was trying to act as a silo and not looking at integrating and coordinating services between them.
- 3. Based on these observations, I had the insight that a telemedicine platform based on tele-intensivist services could be the solution to integrate such services.

Category of Interviewees	No. of Interviews
Medical Providers	
Intensi	vists
Hospita	alists 31
Other Specia	alists 17
Nu	urses 20
Administrators	
Physic	cians 4
Nu	urses 7
Non-Cli	nical 6
Total	90

# Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** To complete setup of a NCAHS teleICU program by the end of 2017. To expand the program out of state by mid 2018.

Outcome-oriented Objective: To use the quantitative measures of CMI, Total Patients Served, Total Revenue, and LOS to show the benefit of this service so that we meet our growth objectives above.

#### Results

	% Increase in Census	No. Increase in Census	Total Increase in Revenue
2016 (from 2015)	9%	4,103	\$15,181,100.00
2017 (from 2016)	8%	3,788	\$14,015,600.00
Total Increase from 2015	34%	11994	\$44,377,800.00
	ALOS		CMI
2016	5.86	2016	2.16
2017	4.26	2017	2.22
Total Decreased LOS	1.6	Total Increase in CMI	0.06

	Medicare ALOS			
2016	4.1			
2017	4.05			
Total Decreased LOS	0.05			

	Month	Total Cases	Outcome Cases	Total Deaths for Outcome Cases	Observed	Expected	Variation	O/E
20	016 Average	30.58	29.25	4.83	0.16	0.13	0.04	1.28
20	017 Average	33.00	32.00	5.00	0.15	0.16	-0.01	0.95

Our primary cost(s) are the salaries of our physicians. Our secondary costs are for our

management consultants, advertising, and computerized healthcare metric software.

office staff employees, our billing company, our attorneys, our medical practice

### Lessons Learned

#### **Lessons Learned:**

- **Did your project achieve the results you had hoped for?** Yes, very much so! At the time of this writing I am being invited to present at national healthcare meetings to be considered for national contracts.
- What would you do differently? I would have spent more time in the development of personal relationships with key executives instead of trying to sell them on our vision (deal with people more on the level of their heart than their head).
- What key insights did you gain that you would share with others? Patience is a virtue, not a weakness. One can concomitantly be aggressive with their goals while also being patient. Don't go it alone! Develop strategic business to business relationships and have your business attorney help with these contracts.
- How might someone implement the project at their organization based on your work? Each healthcare system is different. One would have to listen to the needs of their unique healthcare system
- Did conducting the project change how you lead in your organization? Yes, it gave me a profound appreciation of the strength and skill needed to manage people and politics to achieve one's aims

#### **Next Steps:**

- **Is the project finished?** No. We still need to secure all telemedicine contracts in the NCAHS. There are 2 remaining that I am aiming to acquire prior to the end of 2017.
- Will you continue and if so what is your plan for continuing the project? Yes. My plan is to take our medical group national. This means starting to expand out of state by mid-2018.

#### Mission Model Canvas

integration of medical care within the NCAHS via telemedicine.

#### 0 Buy-in & Support **Key Partners** Value Propositions **Key Activities** Beneficiaries Using a telemedicine platform 1. NCAHS (Primary) Other telemedicine The ability to: 1. The corporate office in 2. Commercial Insurers Roseville, CA of the NCAHS to integrate the coordination companies (intentionally not Increase the number of of medical care within the 3. MediCal listed by names here) that we 2. Commercial payors to expand patients staying within the have strategic business NCAHS. telemedicine reimbursements 4. Medicare NCAHS for care by 10% in 5. Patients partnerships with. 2. Using the goal metrics listed 3. Strategic business partners 2017. 6. Employees of the NCAHS to track our progress in with other medical groups 2. Increase total revenue within achieving the statement in the NCAHS by 5% within No.1. 2017. Improve quality metric Deployment Key Resources outcomes through the integration of care across the Physicians board certified or NCAHS by being in the 90<sup>th</sup> Secure financial and clinical eligible in critical care percentile for the Northern service contracts to deploy medicine. California region. the telemedicine program 2. The telehealth platform within 2. Recruit the physicians the Northern California needed to run the program Adventist Healthcare System. 3. Develop the clinical and Business attorney(s) with financial tracking system to expertise in strategic alliances report on needed metrics and company buyouts. Mission Achievement/Impact Factors Mission Budget/Cost Our mission is to increase the quality of medical care and to reduce its cost by the furthering of We are primarily a service business, specifically suppling medical services via telemedicine.