



From Inaccessible to Attainable:

How Chartis teamed with a critical access hospital to achieve compliance and improve quality through ongoing external case review in support of OPPE

The Client Challenge







A small, rural critical access hospital (CAH) lacked the depth and breadth of a practitioner peer base to perform necessary, and recurring, Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation (OPPE) reviews. After the organization's leadership teamed with Chartis to review a few cases that arose out of quality concerns, they recognized the benefits of implementing a more formal and comprehensive ongoing external case review program.

The Solution

In close collaboration with the CAH's quality leader, Chartis developed a Master Services Agreement that outlined the scope of ongoing case review in support of OPPE needs. This also included multiple quality reviews in support of Focused Professional Practice Evaluation (FPPE) needs. Chartis' independent, board-certified, actively practicing providers conducted objective practitioner care evaluations using criteria-based assessments.

The case review team utilized an encrypted portal that fostered collaboration and efficiency during the case review process. Each case review concluded with a concise, easy-to-interpret summary of findings that included scored observations and evaluations of quality and appropriateness of care, and in some cases, identification of quality or safety trends and opportunities for improvement. The CAH received a post-review consultation that clarified the findings and determined next steps.

OUTSOURCED ONGOING CASE REVIEW TRIGGERS

-  Lack of internal expertise and resources
-  Quality of care concerns
-  Reduce bias when only a small medical staff available
-  Reimbursement irregularities
-  Accreditation requirement
-  Regulatory compliance

OUR APPROACH



MATCH

Identify external peer reviewers from Chartis' extensive network of actively practicing and board-certified practitioners



EVALUATE

Conduct independent review of records using proprietary evidence-based scoring methodology



SYNTHESIZE

Prepare comprehensive report, including a concise summary of findings



GUIDE

Provide post-review debrief and guidance for next steps

Client Impact

As part of the CAH’s peer review oversight plan for medical staff, outsourcing ongoing peer review cases to meet OPPE accreditation requirements provided an efficient and objective method for improving the reliability and consistency of the quality and safety of care provided. The ongoing case review program served as a roadmap for the outsourced function that also relieved the organization of significant time and resources associated with finding local practitioners to perform the reviews.



How We Are Making Healthcare Better

“Outsourcing your ongoing peer review cases that support OPPE efficiently provides organizations with recurring and reliable review of medical records in order to evaluate quality, safety, and/or appropriateness of practitioner care. This also supports accreditation and regulatory requirements.”

—Robin L. Jones, Director, External Peer Review Services, Chartis

Outsourced ongoing case review efficiently met OPPE and FPPE requirements and improved quality of care.

50
Cases reviewed annually

3-4 weeks
Time to completion

78
Performance improvement opportunities identified

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Outsourced ongoing case review can be achieved by:

Teaming with external peer review experts

Employing a proven, evidence-based peer review methodology and approach

Collaborating in real time through a secure portal

Scoring findings, identifying trends and improvement opportunities

Utilizing post-review support

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