

Financial Management in Medical Imaging, 3rd Edition Learning Objectives

Section I: Foundations of Healthcare Finance

Chapter 1: Accounting Basics

1. Explain foundational accounting concepts used in healthcare.
2. Differentiate cash and accrual accounting methods.
3. Interpret healthcare financial statements.
4. Calculate key profitability, liquidity, and asset-management ratios.
5. Analyze financial performance using trend and comparative analysis.
6. Evaluate organizational financial health using ratio analysis.
7. Understand the role of GAAP in healthcare finance.
8. Apply financial information to management decision-making.

Chapter 2: Billing and Coding

1. Describe the imaging revenue cycle.
2. Explain coding systems used in medical imaging.
3. Apply CPT, HCPCS, and ICD-10 principles.
4. Evaluate charge capture and chargemaster processes.
5. Interpret medical necessity requirements.
6. Explain the role of ABNs.
7. Identify compliance risks in billing and coding.
8. Develop auditing and monitoring strategies for reimbursement integrity.

Chapter 3: Collections

1. Explain the relationship between patient flow and revenue cycle performance.
2. Evaluate registration and insurance verification processes.
3. Analyze collection and reimbursement metrics.
4. Develop patient-friendly collection strategies.
5. Understand accounts receivable management.
6. Apply FDCPA requirements to collection activities.
7. Assess the financial impact of payer denials.
8. Improve revenue cycle effectiveness through process management.

Section II: Department Operations and Performance

Chapter 4: Budgets: Hospital Imaging Departments

1. Develop an imaging department operating budget.
2. Forecast imaging volumes and revenues.
3. Calculate staffing requirements using FTE methodologies.
4. Create salary and non-salary budgets.
5. Manage inventory and supply costs.
6. Analyze budget variances and provide corrective actions.
7. Evaluate capital equipment budget priorities.
8. Apply flexible and zero-based budgeting approaches.

Chapter 5: Productivity Measurements

1. Define productivity within imaging operations.
2. Calculate and interpret productivity indicators.
3. Apply RVU-based productivity measurements.
4. Evaluate staffing efficiency.
5. Benchmark departmental performance.
6. Analyze workflow and workload data.
7. Develop strategies for productivity improvement.
8. Integrate productivity metrics into operational planning.

Section III: Strategy and External Environment

Chapter 6: Pricing and Contracting

1. Explain healthcare pricing methodologies.
2. Analyze imaging reimbursement structures.
3. Evaluate managed care contracts.
4. Assess pricing strategies and their financial effects.
5. Negotiate payer contracts effectively.
6. Interpret fee schedules and reimbursement terms.
7. Monitor contract performance.
8. Incorporate pricing strategy into financial planning.

Chapter 7: Business Plans

1. Develop a comprehensive imaging business plan.
2. Perform market and competitive analyses.
3. Create financial projections and pro formas.
4. Evaluate project feasibility.
5. Assess risks and opportunities.
6. Present business cases to senior leadership.
7. Align business plans with organizational strategy.
8. Monitor implementation outcomes.

Chapter 8: Ethical and Political Issues

1. Explain ethical principles in healthcare financial management.
2. Evaluate financial decisions using ethical frameworks.
3. Identify compliance risks and responsibilities.
4. Understand the impact of healthcare policy on imaging finance.
5. Assess political and regulatory influences on reimbursement.
6. Promote transparency and accountability.
7. Participate effectively in advocacy and policy discussions.
8. Integrate ethics into organizational financial decision-making.