

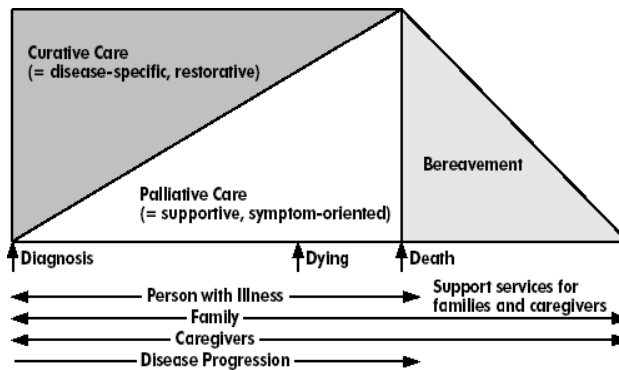
End of Life Planning, Completing and Coding

Frank J Dubeck MD FACP
 CMO Medical Policy and Clinical Editing
 Excellus BCBS

Nov 2011



Life, A Terminal Disease



Life Sustaining Treatments



- Ventilators
- Dialysis
- Ventricular assist devices
- Tube feeding



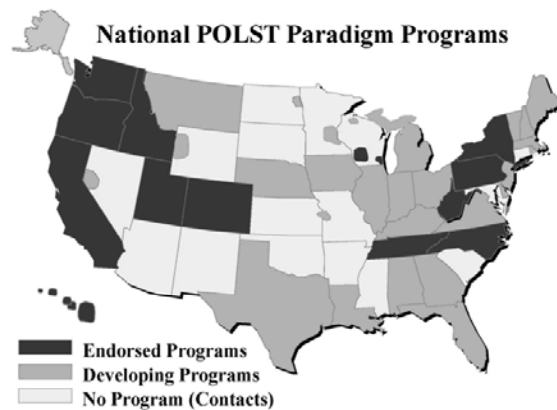
Total Medicare Reimbursements per Decedent, by Interval Before Death
(Interval Before Death: Last Two Years of Life, Year: 2003-2007, Region Level: HRR)



Patient Autonomy



- Health Care Proxy
- Living Wills
- DNR
- MOLST/POLST



Establish Goals of Care



Counseling as an E&M Service



- Counseling as an E&M visit
- Prolonged service codes
- Face to face time



- When counseling and/or coordination of care dominates (more than 50%) the physician/patient and/or family encounter (face-to-face time in the office or other outpatient setting or floor/unit time in the hospital or nursing facility), then **time** shall be considered the key or controlling factor to qualify for a particular level of E/M services. This includes time spent with parties who have assumed responsibility for the care of the patient or decision making whether or not they are family members (eg, foster parents, person acting in loco parentis, legal guardian). The extent of counseling and/or coordination of care must be documented in the medical record



Base E&M Codes have “Usual Times”

New Pt	99205	60 mins
Est Pt	99215	40 mins
Consult	99245	80 mins



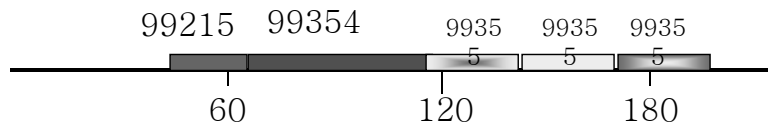
Prolonged Physician Service Codes



- Face to Face Time 99354-99357
 - Inpatient vs Outpatient
 - Initial hour, additional 30 mins
- Non Face to Face Time 99358-99359



Established Patient



Category II codes



- **1123F** Advance care planning discussed and documented, advance care plan or surrogate decision maker documented in the medical record (GER)

- **1124F** Advance care planning discussed and documented in the medical record, patient did not wish or was not able to name a surrogate decision maker or provide an advance care plan (GER)



What diagnosis code



- **V66.7** Encounter for palliative care
 - End-of-life care
 - Hospice care
 - Terminal care
 - Code First: underlying disease



Thank You

- Questions

