

# New Review of Cost Effectiveness of Bundled Payments published by healthcare analyst Dr. William Matzner

*The cost of healthcare is a much-discussed and ongoing issue. The new article by William L. Matzner, MD reviews "Bundled Payment for Care Improvement Advanced"*

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- The cost of healthcare continues to be a topic of intense discussion from kitchen tables, to board rooms, and finally to congressional hearings. Spurred by these conversations and allegations, insurance companies and entities such as Medicare and Medicaid have striven to conceive alternate payment approaches besides the traditional fee for service methods on the basis of reducing costs. Dr. [William Matzner](#) has published an overview article on this issue. The complete article will be published on the Blog of Dr. Matzner at <https://drwilliammatzner.blogspot.com>

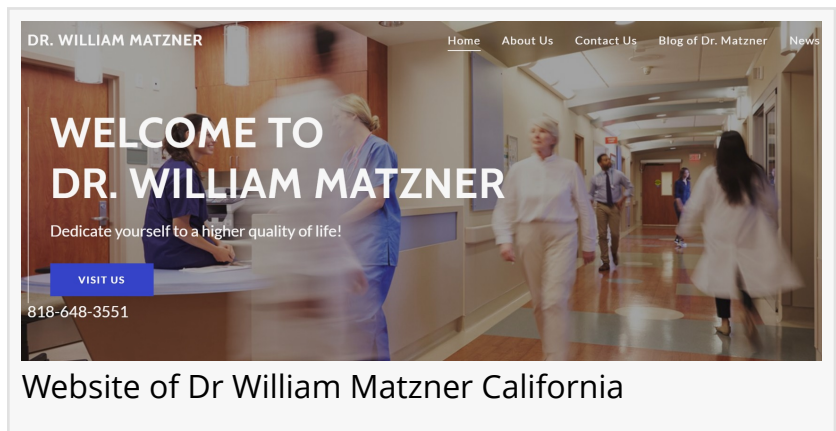
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method, reimbursement of healthcare providers (both hospitals and physicians) is based on the expected costs for clinically defined episodes of care. Since 1984, bundling payment methods have been tried and as of 2012 almost one third of medical reimbursement is now from a bundling system.

In 2018, Medicare introduced a variation called Bundled Payment for Care Improvement Advanced (BPCI Advanced). In this model there are 48 episodes, 45 inpatient and three outpatient. Again there are four payment models, with model two being the most common. Several of the medical episodes included in BPCI Advanced include CHF, COPD, Sepsis, Acute MI and Pneumonia. As every physician would know, there is a wide variation in the degree of illness and the course of therapy within these diagnoses, and there is nothing uniform about each case.



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For example, Sepsis includes three DRGs which range from uncomplicated to septic shock. Unlike elective surgery, providers cannot screen these patients to avoid complications, and in fact many of these patients develop complications and/or have significant comorbidities. All of these variables create significant variations of length in stay (LOS) and other costs associated with each hospitalization. In these cases, where there is a wide variation in costs, a need exists to employ a method to better predict these costs.

That methods exists but seems too seldom used. It is decision tree modeling that offers both the flexibility and complexity of interaction to more accurately predict costs than just a linear model which is commonly used. Since diseases such as sepsis, COPD and CHF can become a complex affair with many possible outcomes that would affect costs, this type of modeling lends itself to such an analysis. Armed with better predictability results, providers are better able to defend both real costs and to negotiate for more fairly applied payment schemes.

If your objective is to provide the best decision-making for your organization and take a global view of your business, expanding your sights beyond ROI, and educating other decision-makers, Cost Effectiveness Analysis can make your organization more competitive and more profitable.

[William Lee Matzner](#), MD. is a recognized expert in Healthcare and Neuro Economics. With a Ph.D. in Economics, MBA and Medical Doctor degree, Dr. [William L. Matzner](#) will provide you with expert analysis on health and wellness programming, populations health management, disease management, new program development, facility development, equipment acquisitions, and other healthcare programs, acquisitions and initiatives. For more information about cost effectiveness analysis and improved financial accountability for your organization, visit Dr. Matzner at <http://healthcareanalytics.biz>. Dr. Matzner is also available for speaking engagements, retreat presentations and topic specific addresses.

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