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**Risk Adjustment for Measuring Health Care Outcomes, Fourth Edition**

Lisa I. Iezzoni, MD

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**Book Description**

The fourth edition of *Risk Adjustment for Measuring Health Care Outcomes* presents the fundamental principles
and concepts of risk adjustment for comparing outcomes of care and explains why risk adjustment is a critical tool for measuring quality and setting reimbursement rates. This book is a comprehensive guide to the issues raised by risk adjustment, including the pros and cons of different data sources, the validity and reliability of risk adjustment methods, the effects of various statistical modeling approaches, and concerns relating to special populations.

The fourth edition features:

- A new chapter on the role of risk adjustment in managing healthcare organizations
- New information on risk factors, including genetics and social and environmental determinants of health
- Perspectives on electronic health records and new health information technologies
- Explanations of new statistical methods for comparing provider outcomes and their implications for risk adjustment

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Risk adjustment refers to the modifications made to measurement to reflect the health status of patients. It is the "use of patient-level information to explain variation in health care spending, resource utilization and health outcomes over a fixed time period." (Ellis, 2007) A risk adjustment model refers to an actuarial tool used to predict health care costs based on the relative risk of enrollees (say for example in a health plan.) Reason: Risk adjustment is a tool that we can use to aid in the comparability of populations, place. Center for Health Services Research, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center September 2002. The purposes of this document are (1) to briefly discuss outcome measurement, risk adjustment, and the rationale for risk adjusted outcome reporting in the context of outcome-based quality improvement (OBQI) for home health care, and (2) to summarize the current risk adjustment and outcome measurement approaches as well as plans for their continued refinement. For such individuals, an intuitive sense of the risk adjustment methods can be acquired by simply reading the narrative and skimming through the material that is more technical in nature. In Sections 5 and 6, background information on outcome measures and OBQI Invited Commentary | Health Policy. Social Risk Adjustment in Health Care Performance Measures. Linda Diem Tran. The number of value-based purchasing programs, which leverage financial rewards and penalties to incentivize health care provider (eg, hospitals and physicians) improvements in quality measures, has increased in past years. Although adjustment for patient health status and other clinical factors is to social risk adjustment, financial incentives can be targeted to reward improvements in health. equity and clinical outcomes for the
most vulnerable patients. At the same time, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services can adopt and support initiatives that address social determinants of. Risk Adjustment and Health Care Reform: The Example of Massachusetts . 309 15.1 Background. Risk Adjustment of payments to health plans was a topic discussed by the board from time to time, and Nancy suggested that, as the momentum for national health reform built in 2008-9, a text on predictive modeling and risk adjustment would provide a timely and useful contribution to the practical implementation of reform. Exclusions of services are rare in health insurance policies, although they are not unknown (for example, prior to the Affordable Care Act, a policy might not cover prescription drugs, or could exclude certain imaging services).