



# MARGIN OPTIMIZATION...



Richard Kunnes, MD Managing Director – Margin Solutions

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# TODAY'S PRESENTER



RICHARD KUNNES, MD

Managing Director – Margin Solutions

Rick brings over 35 years of experience in the healthcare industry helping hospitals and health systems on an enterprise-wide basis. He has worked as a Partner at a "Big Four" accounting/consulting firm, as a Managing Principal at one of the largest accounting/consulting firms in the Midwest, as a Chief Medical Officer at a 50 hospital/health system and as a Founder/CEO of a hospital consulting firm serving hospitals in 33 states.



# **AGENDA**

- Course Objectives
- > Background & Overview in a COVID Crunch Era
- > Optimizing Margins....Quickly
- Basic Approaches & Implementation
- Sample Implementation Solutions
- >Q&A





### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- > Provide a basis for appreciating how the COVID crunch era has dramatically altered the operational and financial landscapes of small and medium-sized hospitals.
- > Understand the financial necessity for the rapid implementation of carefully curated operational and financial Solutions.
- > Learn specific Solution examples that maximize new, high-dollar savings and revenues quickly.



## MARGIN OPTIMIZATION...QUICKLY

## The COVID crunch era.....

- > Increases expenses
- > Reduces revenue
- > Subtracts staffing...relative to work-load, work-complexity and team cohesion

Resulting in....





## MARGIN OPTIMIZATION.....QUICKLY

#### Producing:

- > Decreased cash flow
- Decreased days cash on hand
- Negative ops margins...

...and most importantly....

Not enough/right staff to *quickly* increase cash and margins

Must work with what you have and optimize/maximize the cost-effectiveness and creativity of incumbent execs, managers and staff





### **HOW TO: MARGIN OPTIMIZATION.....QUICKLY?**

#### Optimize Margins *Quickly*, via....

- Decreasing unnecessary use...e.g., D/C post-closure preventative ABs
- > Converting expenses into revenues...e.g., admission imaging
- > Increasing collections...e.g., co-pay/deductible/OOP coverage
- ➤ Gaining new savings/revenues from new sources...e.g., patient estates
- ....using only 20-30 high-dollar-value Solutions....out of 1000s,





#### **OPTIMIZING MARGINS....**

### .....Very Quickly & Very Easily....

- ➤ Only <u>6 months</u> needed for fast implementation
- > Achieves far more savings & revenues in 6 months.



- ➤ Increases days cash and ops margins ASAP, without layoffs.
- > Practical, implementable & 100% scalable for all-sized hospitals/systems.
- Savings & Revenues are in <u>actual</u>, <u>verifiable new</u> net savings and net-net revenues





### **OPTIMIZING MARGINS...VERY QUICK AND VERY EASILY**

- > Works best for hospitals needing it the most:
  - Smaller hospitals...under 100 occupied beds
  - Negative ops margins....minus 3% or worse
  - Days cash on hand less than 50 days
  - Areas of high unemployment
  - Low Medicaid coverage...especially out of NY State









## VALUE OF OPTIMIZING MARGINS QUICKLY....

# More generally...hospitals with any of these ASAP needs:

- > Quickly need increased: ops margins, cash flow, debt capacity/ratings and/or days-cash-on-hand.
- Now: Want to avoid layoffs, stay independent, strengthen bargaining position and/or make new capital purchases.







# OPTIMIZING MARGINS QUICKLY.... FACILITATORS:

#### All Solutions evidence-based and proven-in-practice:

- > Quickly-optimizing Solutions: "Been there, done that... at 100s of hospitals."
- ➤ All Solutions <u>documented</u> with peer-reviewed references....in the public domain
- > "Stolen shamelessly, proven effective!" (Registered Service Mark)
- > You don't "re-invent the wheel."





#### **OPTIMIZING MARGIN SOLUTIONS' ADVANTAGES**

#### All Solutions:

- > Customizable, cost-effectiveness-enhancing & scalable for hospital
- > Implementation-ready, easy and quick to achieve new dollars... leading to:
  - Quick-hit savings/revenues...using only 20-30 high-dollar value

Solutions....

....Resulting in multi-year, sustainable, growing new net savings & net-net revenues





## **STARTING WITH QUICKLY OPTIMIZING SOLUTIONS...**

#### Leads to:

- ➤ Decision-Support to "Decision-Now"
- > Actionable-Now Solutions
- > Speed-to-Solution Implementation
- Fastest and Highest New Net Savings & Net-Net Revenues



Prevents: the delaying blur of Paper Mountains...don't drown in paper





#### MARGIN OPTIMIZING SOLUTIONS' ADVANTAGES

#### Always for hospital.....

- ➤ Days cash-on-hand growing
- > Margin-increasing
- ➤ Credit rating-enhancing



Supports: ACO, bundling, shared-savings, value-purchasing, pop. health & tele-med

Counts only actually implemented new net dollars, not "implementable" dollars.





## **QUICKLY OPTIMIZING SOLUTIONS'.... ADVANTAGES**

- ➤100s of margin optimizing Solutions' achieved high-dollar savings & revenues in all 50 states...quickly
- >Avoid analysis paralysis...just do it!

➤ Margin optimizing Solutions' "MO" is...Margin Optimization







#### **HOSPITAL FULLY CONTROLS...**

- > Selection, sequence & rejection of Solutions.
- > The number of Solutions:
  - Implemented
  - Customized/Modified
  - Rejected
  - On-Hold



- > Customization of Solutions by:
  - Pace and Acceleration
  - Who/How Implement
  - Maximized dollar gain/value
  - Hospital's cultural/administrative fit.





#### **HOSPITAL'S OBLIGATIONS**

Work toward an **effective**, **savings-** & **revenue**-generating dynamic using quickly-optimizing margin Solutions via...

- Appointing an active, hospital **executive champion/sponsor** for the quickly-optimizing margin Solution project.
- > Implementing at least 2-4 Solutions in 6 months, out of 20-30.
- > Regularly scheduling meetings for the implementation of quickly optimizing Solutions with appropriate execs, directors, managers and staff, virtually and frequently.
- > Tracking and **reporting** on rapidly optimizing Solutions' new net savings & net-net revenues on a bi-weekly basis.





# IF CORRECTLY AND QUICKLY IMPLEMENT...WHAT WILL YOU GET?

- ➤ Ease of implementation
- > Complete implementation within 6 months....can repeat often
- > Savings/revenues from these Solutions continue and grow for many years.
- > No layoffs required; layoffs and furloughs avoided
- ➤ No new hires nor new overtime required
- ➤ Increased days cash and ops margins...quickly





# RAPIDLY OPTIMIZING MARGIN SOLUTIONS: EXAMPLES

- > Aged AR Acquisition....sell fast, collect big
- > IT expense reduction management...internal IT staff can't
- > Medicaid (and other insurances) eligibility...bad debt to new revenue
- > OEM M&R....end OEM expensive monopoly
- Managed print/telecom/waste/utilities...hidden savings
- > EE Medical Benefit Eligibility....family feud...but necessary





# **QUESTIONS?**







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