Lessons to consider from a stand-alone Ambulatory Surgery Center model

Viveka Rydell-Anderson, Esq.
CEO, PDI Surgery Center
What is an Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC)

- ASC/Surgi-centers: medical facilities providing same-day surgical care, including diagnostic and preventive procedures.
- Health care services come with a high price tag but ASCs are an exception.
- Procedures performed in ASCs cost substantially less than in Hospitals.
- Medicare program saves $2.6 billion/year.
The PDI Model

- Case management and prevention education programs were determined to be essential wrap-around services.
- Volunteer board assembled & CEO hired
- $1.3 million capital campaign (public/private funding)
- 2 operating room ASC certified by CMS, AAAHC, CA Dept of Health
PDI opened its doors
January 2008

Mission: To maintain a sustainable dentistry resource that will serve the low income children of Northern California who need safe sedation for dental treatment, and to provide prevention education and promote oral health.

21,822 patients treated since 2008
Staffing

- CEO
- Administrator
- Medical Director and Dental Director
- Contracted pediatric dentists, anesthesiologists.
- Nurses, and dental assistants on staff
- 2 communications and fund development staff
- 4 educators/promoters, 2 caseworkers
- In-house biller and two front-desk staff
“PDI is a huge miracle for my two daughters aged 12 and 16 who both have autism. The girls were unable to sit through dental appointments so went for years without dental care. But with PDI it’s just so easy.” – Carole Cherry
Special Needs

• Since 2008, PDI has been the permanent dental home for Autistic children up to age of 14 (first patients/day)
• They receive regular care and cleanings every 12 months
• In 2016, PDI expanded to treat patients with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and more (up to the age of 25)
• Treatment is provided on 2 days per month
• Treatment on adult teeth is more complex = 2 to 3 patients/day
Prevention Education

"Prevention is priceless."
- Dr. Ruchi Sahota, DDS and consumer adviser for the ADA

See Also: 2000 Surgeon General’s Report on Oral Health in America

- The goal of PDI’s prevention education programs is to reach children before children develop tooth decay that is too severe as to require treatment under general anesthesia (GA) and to keep Special Needs patients on a regular 12-18 month recall schedule for cleanings.

- The Prevention Education Department consists of three programs:
  - In-house Oral Health Education
  - The Promotores (lay health worker) Program
  - Awareness Campaigns: Outreach and Public Information
Lessons Learned

- **Communication:** Open communication encourages staff, partners and supporters to innovate and suggest ways to further improve services. This is the *culture* of PDI.
- **Education:** Raise awareness about the importance of dental health to overall health: children, teachers, parents, clinics, businesses, pediatricians/MDs, nurses, community workers about the importance of dental health to overall health.
- **Partnerships:** PDI partners with 100+ Northern California agencies.
- **Measurement:** To improve programs PDI measures results.
Contact Information

Viveka Rydell-Anderson, Esq.
CEO, PDI Surgery Center
Viveka@pdisurgerycenter.org
Facebook: PDI Surgery Center
LinkedIn: Viveka Rydell-Anderson
Twitter: @PediatricDental
www.pdisurgerycenter.org