

Draft Proposal: Major Forces

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Today's healthcare environment is a complex one. This is because certain forces have a profound impact on healthcare delivery. These forces bring about specific opportunities and challenges for today's healthcare leaders. This paper seeks to discuss the major forces that affect the delivery of healthcare in the contemporary healthcare environment. The discussion further explores the opportunities and challenges that come with these difficulties.

Major Forces Affecting the Delivery of Healthcare

The first major force influencing today's healthcare delivery are technological advancements in the health sector. According to Stanhope and Lancaster (2015), technological innovations in medicine are increasing at an incredible pace. Medical technology that direct surgical operations patient monitoring, record keeping and disease diagnosis affect the degree to which healthcare practitioners can perform their professional obligations as well as the quality of service delivery.

Another factor that affects health care delivery today is the availability of health professionals. Mitchell and Haroun (2016) found that there is a sharp mismatch between increasing demands for health services and the extent to which healthcare facilities can access qualified healthcare practitioners. This means that there is a shortage of healthcare professionals. In situations where such experts are unavailable, healthcare delivery becomes a challenge.

Another key factor is the set of regulatory demands that insurers impose on healthcare providers. Healthcare organizations have to adhere to complex sets of regulations that govern reimbursement and coding (Mitchell & Haroun, 2016). Some of these regulations can be

impractical; thereby, frustrating the overall goal of health care delivery. Conversely, some of these regulations can have a positive impact on streamlining healthcare costs for patients.

Effect of Forces

The proliferation of modern technology provides a perfect opportunity for current health care leaders to transform the health sector in its entirety. For instance, advancements in enterprise data hardware technologies mean that healthcare facilities can access and retrieve real-time data through analytic applications that improve the accuracy of certain surgical operations such as brain implants (Stanhope & Lancaster, 2015). Conversely, the proliferation of technology is also a challenge since data security issues are meant to arise. According to Mitchell and Haroun (2016), this is attributable to possible data security breaches.

A shortage of healthcare experts is an immense challenge for healthcare leaders. This is because healthcare service delivery mainly depends on the services of these professionals. Stanhope and Lancaster (2015) established that when healthcare leaders compete for physicians, registered nurses, surgeons and vocational nurses retaining these experts will be a problem. This will then result in inconsistencies in service provision. However, this also opens an opportunity for healthcare administrators to devise long-term plans for addressing the shortage of such high profile human resources. In essence, such deficiencies open the opportunity for healthcare leaders to improve the working conditions of employees to retain the professionals that they hire.

The regulatory demands of payers are a challenge since it can have a downward impact on the morale of healthcare providers. Most healthcare providers consider the rigid requirements of insurers as burdensome (Mitchell & Haroun, 2016). As such, they can opt to decline attending to

particular categories of clients that would possibly jeopardize the established coding and reimbursement regulations.

Conclusion

The forces that influence the modern healthcare delivery are complex. The explosion of medical technologies, accessibility of health care practitioners and the regulatory demands of payers are major forces that affect health care delivery. These factors bring particular challenges and opportunities. Health care administrators need to devise the best mechanisms for addressing the challenges.

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