**EXCERPTS from the QTIP Blog:**

**Barnwell excels at ER use intervention**

Yesterday’s visit to Barnwell showed some impressive work on decreasing ER utilization among their patients. (See the handout below that they give to every patient as they walk through the door). By my count they have done or are doing 11 PDSA cycles just on ER visits alone.

PDSA 1: ascertained that the average ER Visit charge for a Barnwell Peds patient is in excess of 1000 dollars. Data pulled by hospital administrator at practice request

PDSA 2: Met with medical staff at Barnwell ED including ED doctors and got them interested in working on more appropriate ED utilization

PDSA 3: Assembled data for baseline ED utilization by Barnwell Peds patients from both Allendale and Barnwell hospitals (data not yet tabulated)

PDSA 4: Developed criteria for assessing ED visits so they could be stratified as urgent or non urgent. Have assembled baseline data set that can be utilized for determining percent urgent vs. non urgent. Study part or data accrual not yet done.

PDSA 5: Developed a handout on appropriate ER utilization and given it to every patient at every visit.

PDSA 6: Reviewed handout with staff and gotten their feedback as to its use.

PDSA 7: Reviewed handout with several family members to see if they thought it useful

PDSA 8: Reviewed handout with peers from other QTIP practices to get their feedback

PDSA 9: Reviewing ED visits for time of day to see how many of these visits occurred during office hours

PDSA 10: W/Plan to use above data sets to see if handout helps decrease ED utilization or changes percent of utilization that is Urgent every two months

PDSA 11: Medical staff noting how many comments from parents they have received as to how helpful the guidance in the handout was.

Whew. I’m exhausted just thinking about what they have done!

Dr. R
BARNWELL PEDIATRICS OFFICE HOURS
8:00AM – 5:00PM MONDAY – FRIDAY
8:30AM-10:30AM – SATURDAY (SICK CARE ONLY)
AFTER HOURS RECOMMENDATIONS:

DO NOT GO TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT FOR:
✓ Colds
✓ Rashes
✓ Fever or ‘Feeling Hot’
✓ Bug Bites
✓ Nausea/Vomiting
✓ Or if our office is open

REASONS YOU SHOULD GO TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT:
✓ Any life threatening illness
✓ Automobile accidents
✓ Seizures
✓ Loss of consciousness or fainting
✓ Severe cuts, burns
✓ Questionable broken bones

The average cost of an emergency department visit is $1000
The average wait time is 3-5 hours at the emergency department
These high costs cause Medicaid and Insurance cutbacks which affect YOU!!

If your child is sick after we close, call the provider on call at 259-7337
and we will guide you as to what you should do.
For routine questions you can also call ask-a-nurse or visit our website at
www.barnwellpediatrics.com

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