Make Data Integrity Audit (DIA) Part of Your Quality Program and Perform Better on Survey Outcomes

KEY FINDINGS

- PointRight DIA users had 12% fewer total health inspection deficiencies on average than non-DIA users.
- PointRight DIA users had a 6% reduction in total health inspection deficiencies on average in their first survey after DIA implementation.
- PointRight DIA users who terminated PointRight DIA services had an increase of 3% on average in the total number of deficiencies and a 25% increase on average in immediate jeopardy deficiencies in their first health inspection after they stopped using DIA.

What is DIA?

PointRight's Data Integrity Audit (DIA) prompts Minimum Data Set (MDS) coordinators and other multi-disciplinary team members to improve the accuracy of MDS assessments and supporting documentation. It offers a practical learning / feedback loop to help SNFs continually improve on survey outcomes.

OUR APPROACH

PointRight studied the association of DIA use with health survey outcomes. We analyzed data across the following groups to compare proportion of deficiencies by survey grade.
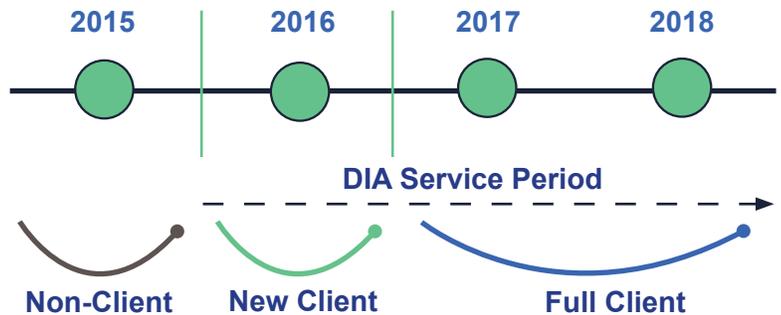
"DIA has been very helpful identifying opportunities for improvement with specific MDS sections. It is so helpful to know which QMs will be triggering prior to transmission to CMS. This provides us with an opportunity to review coding to ensure accuracy."

MDS Coordinator

- **Full DIA Clients** - facilities that used DIA for at least a year prior to the survey and during the survey
- **New DIA Clients** - facilities that became DIA clients between 1 and 364 days prior to the survey and are clients at the time of the survey
- **Departed DIA Clients** - facilities that stopped using DIA within a year prior to the survey
- **Non-Clients** - facilities that were not DIA clients at any time during the year prior to and at the time of the survey

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SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Outcomes	Full DIA Clients vs Non-Clients (% difference)	Clients after beginning DIA service (% difference)
Total Deficiencies	↓ **12%**	↓ **6%**
Repeat Deficiencies	↓ 18%	↓ 10%
Substandard quality of care	↓ 37%	↓ 18%
Immediate jeopardy	↓ 28%	↓ 37%
Widespread	↓ 36%	↓ 16%
Scope/Severity G & above	↓ 19%	↓ 19%

In addition to the Key Findings noted above, our data show a better performance for DIA users on all the survey outcomes we studied. For example:

- PointRight DIA users had 37% fewer substandard quality of care deficiencies and 36% fewer widespread deficiencies on average than non-DIA users.
- PointRight DIA users had a 37% reduction in immediate jeopardy deficiencies on average in their first survey after DIA implementation.

WHAT THIS MEANS

In the near-term, DIA users will have an advantage in the transition to Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM) as MDS accuracy is critical to getting accurate and appropriate reimbursement. PointRight's DIA solution now includes over 100 PDPM-specific MDS coding checks to ensure our clients are prepared and ready to thrive in this new environment. In addition, long-term consistent use of DIA leads to an overall improvement in assessment and documentation. This enables facilities to deliver a higher level of care, improve patient outcomes, maintain compliance, and achieve proper reimbursement.

ABOUT DATA INTEGRITY AUDIT (DIA)

DIA goes far beyond data "scrubbers" or basic MDS data validation checks. DIA audits each MDS for accuracy before submission to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and provides feedback from clinical, regulatory, financial, and risk management perspectives. Each MDS is checked for logical and clinical coding accuracy with recommended actions when inaccurate, incomplete, or inconsistent information is identified. DIA views each assessment the same way a surveyor or government auditor would and provides immediate feedback to resolve identified issues.

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