

How the Industrial Engineer can Bend the Healthcare Cost Curve

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Abstract

Population health programs are a set of interventions and technologies designed to maintain and improve people's health across the full continuum of care—from low-risk, healthy individuals to high-risk individuals with one or more chronic conditions and is increasingly being looked on by employers, health plans, and others as a promising practice for helping to improve health outcomes and “bend” the health care cost curve. The Industrial Engineer is in great demand for studying and developing systems of care for patients through the use of data analytics and cost saving technologies. Mayo Clinic's Management Engineering and Internal Consulting department is being utilized to make multifaceted connections in this fragmented and complex environment by utilizing frameworks, models, and methods for assessing, designing, and improving operational effectiveness based on performance requirements defined by clients. This presentation will show other healthcare systems best practices and strategies to effectively care for this this targeted population.

Keywords

Industrial Engineer, population health, best practices

Biography

Tony Chihak is a Unit Manager in the Department of Management Engineering and Internal Consulting over Value Creation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and a Masters in Healthcare Administration from the University of North Florida. He has published a paper and presented at numerous national conferences. Mayo Clinic's Department of Management Engineering & Internal Consulting (ME&IC) has over 200 staff members and is Mayo Clinic's internal business consulting and management engineering team. Our customers rely on our engineering, business and project management skills, objective/integrative institutional perspective, operational and cultural expertise, established relationships, commitment to the Mayo Clinic vision, and the end-to-end consulting services we provide. We offer robust management and process engineering methodologies, innovative knowledge-sharing tools, strategic management frameworks, and advanced project management approaches.