

Introduction to the minisymposium on quality and clinical practice management

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We are pleased to present a minisymposium on quality and clinical practice management. Although quality and clinical practice management are separate editorial categories of this journal, we believe it is of benefit to present these topics together because they are inherently complementary and increasingly interrelated. Ensuring the quality of clinical services has always been the focus of those managing clinical operations. This process is becoming increasingly formalized as a result of evolving political and economic forces, as well as a shared desire to improve care.

Articles in this minisymposium cover such important topics as malpractice, quality improvement initiatives, use of information technology to advance departmental goals, and the trend toward 24/7 attending-level coverage. This minisymposium also covers pay-for-performance at the level of the individual radiologist,

as well as the trend toward value-based payment at the departmental level, and their relevance to the pediatric radiology sub-specialty. A special guest, Dr. Ezequiel Silva, an interventional radiologist and chair of the American College of Radiology's Commission on Economics, offers his reflections and insights on value-based payment, which until recently has been a significant topic of discussion primarily among our adult-focused radiology colleagues.

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Compliance with ethical standards

Conflicts of interest None

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