Puerto Rico Hospital Association 2024 Annual Convention

Update of the Puerto Rico Hospitals' Financial Challenges

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Topics to be discussed

- Regulatory Updates
 - Implementation of APR-DRG for IPD Services in Plan Vital
- Puerto Rico Healthcare Economic Data
- Outlook of Health Insurance Companies
- Outlook of Puerto Rico Acute Hospitals (all private)
- Limited Outlook of Psychiatric and Rehabilitation Hospitals (all private)
- Closing





Regulatory Update All Patients Refined – Diagnosis Related Groups (APR-DRG) System

Puerto Rico Plan Vital





APR-DRG Implementation Important Information

- Implementation Schedule:
 - Fall 2024: Meetings and trainings with MCO entities and hospitals
 - July 2025: Finalize APR-DRG Rates and Regulation Changes
 - October 2025: APR-DRG Go Live





APR-DRG Implementation Challenges

What is next in the following 12 months?

- Create an implementation team in your hospital and include a representation of the physicians on it
- Obtain from ASES the information as to your hospital base amount, and if possible, the supporting documentation as to how such amount was calculated.
- Reconcile such information with your records (note: ASES worked with claims not with your billings)
- Recruit medical coders
- Acquire the APR-DRG software and related IT systems





APR-DRG Implementation Challenges (continued)

What is next in the following 12 months?

- Run test of billings under the new payment method and compare with the actual payment method to identify the winners and losers' diagnosis
- Perform projections as to the effect of the APR-DRG implementation in your financials: budget, compliance with covenants, projected cash flows, etc.
- Analyze the medical protocols, and introduce changes if applicable, in those services where the payment amount does not provide to cover the medical costs.
- Monitor intensively the implementation process.





Important facts about the APR-DRG Methodology

- Clinically Meaningful: Classifies inpatient services based on clinical similarities and use of hospital resources by severity of illness and risk of mortality.
- All Populations: Developed to work across all populations including newborns, pediatrics, maternity, complexity and behavioral health.
- **Flexible:** Integrates with payment, quality and cost-efficiency programs to drive improvements in • clinical outcomes and operational efficiencies.
- **Accurate:** Clinical categorical approach allows for accurate prospective payment that align with resource utilization.
- **Transparent:** Detailed clinical logic, hierarchies and specifications are published in APR-DRG definitions manual which is updated regularly by 3M's clinical experts.





APR – DRG Payment Formula:

Each inpatient hospital discharge receives a base payment:

DRG Base Payment = Base Rate x DRG Relative Weight x Policy Adjusters

- **Base Rate** Standard dollar amount developed in program design. Can be a statewide rate, hospital-specific rates or peer group rates.
- **Relative Weight** A factor that represents the average resource needs of the DRG. 3M develops national weights using data from all payers.
- **Policy Adjusters** Options to enhance the base payment for specific providers and/or services, such as trauma providers or neonate DRGs.
- Other dispositions as:
 - Cost Outliers and Day Outliers
 - Transfer of patients
 - Short stays
 - Eligibility provisions
 - STAC payments transition provisions
 - Etc.





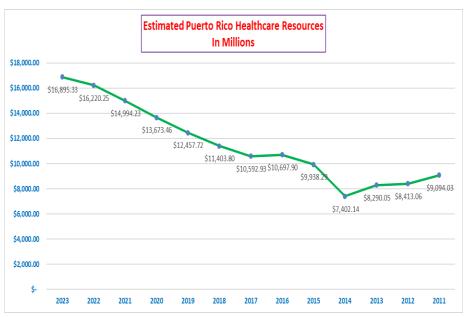
Puerto Rico Healthcare Resources

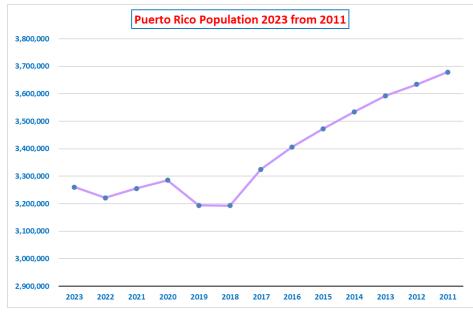
Facing the Real Data





Healthcare Resources vs Population in Puerto Rico 2011 to 2023

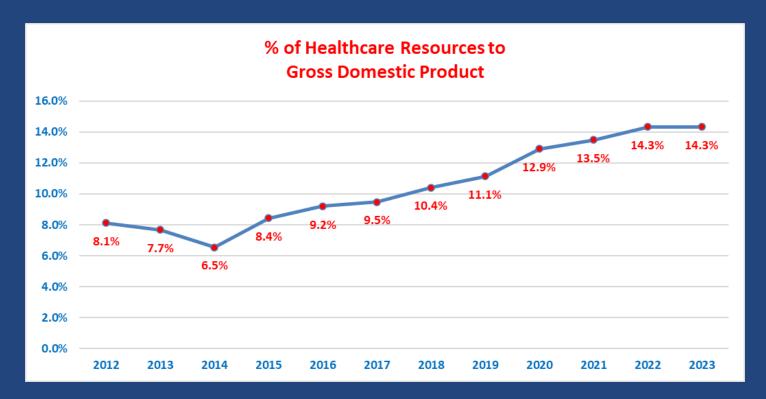








Healthcare Resources in relation to Gross Domestic Product







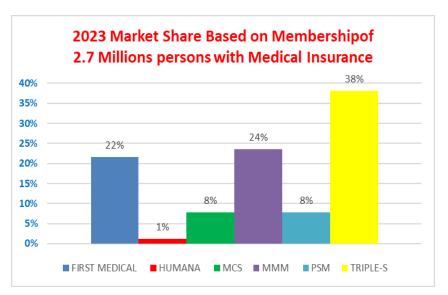
Outlook of Health Insurance Companies

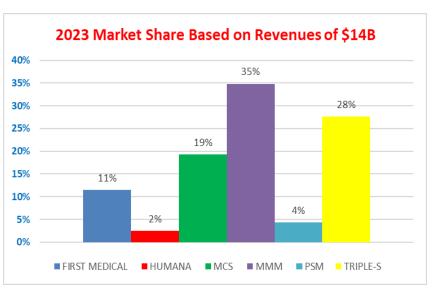
As reported to the Puerto Rico Insurance Commissioner





Market Share

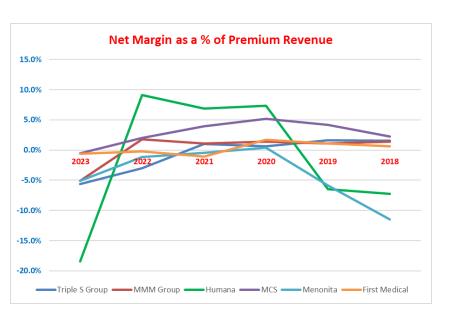


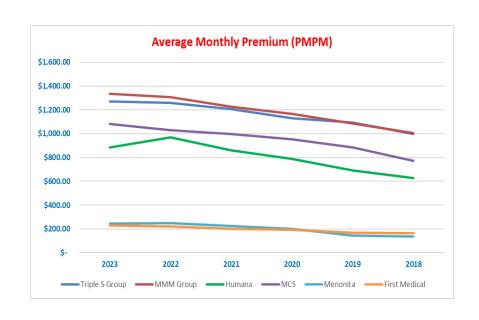






Net Margin % vs. Premium Growth

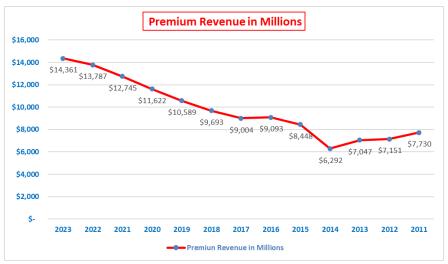


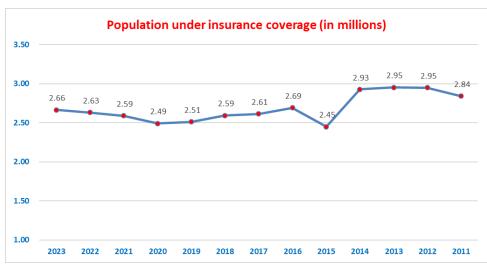






Total Premium Revenue vs. Population with Insurance

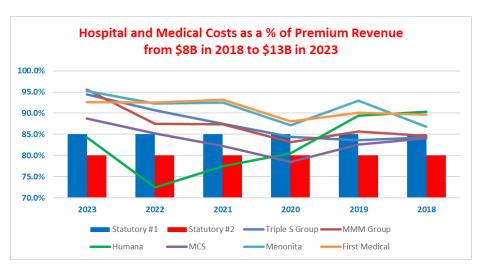


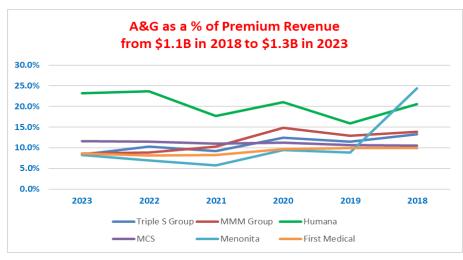






Medical Costs and A&G Expenses in relation to Premium Revenue









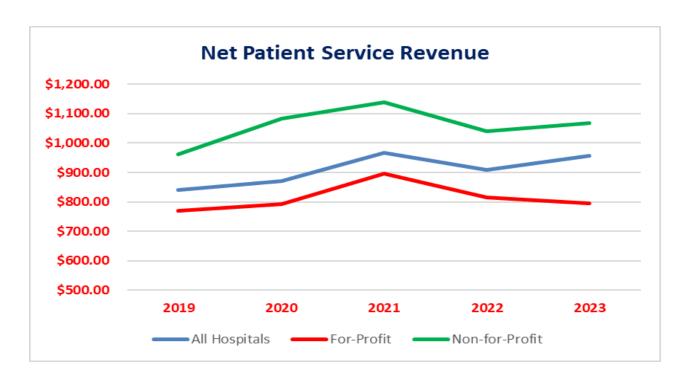
Outlook of Puerto Rico Acute Hospitals

Key Financial and Utilization Indicators





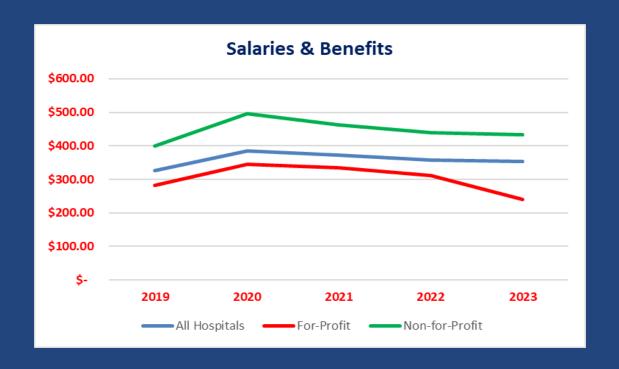
Net Patient Service Revenue per EPD







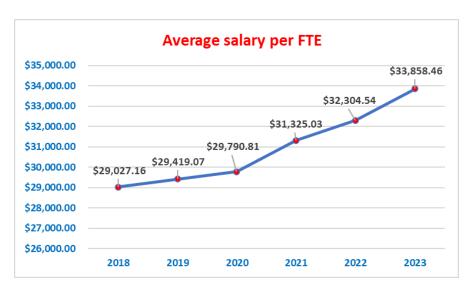
Salaries and benefits per EPD

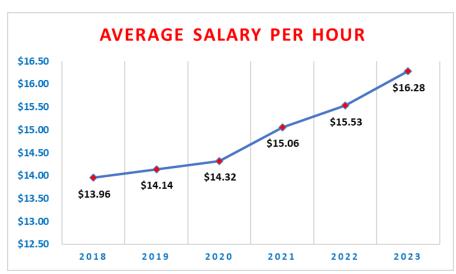






Labor cost (excluding professional fees) – all hospitals

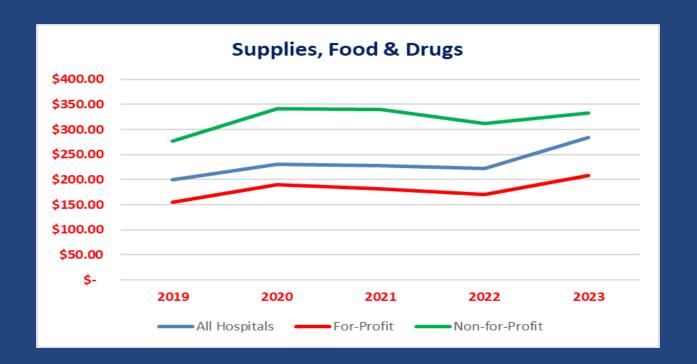








Supplies, food and drugs per EPD







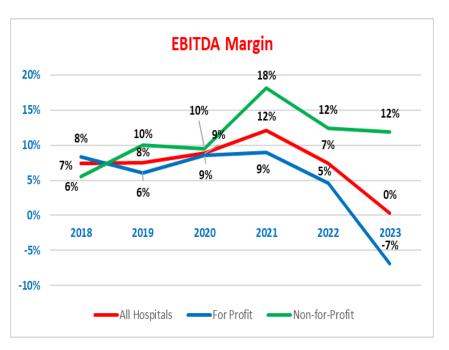
Professional fees per EPD

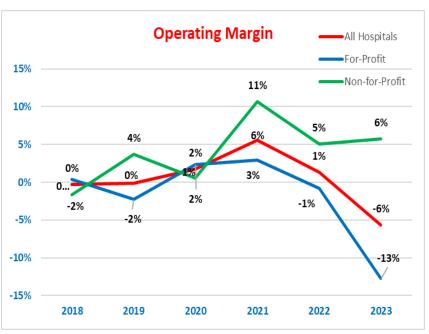






Profitability – Acute hospitals

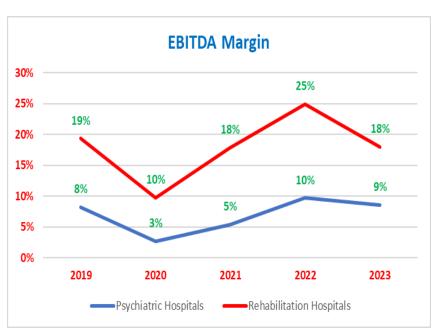


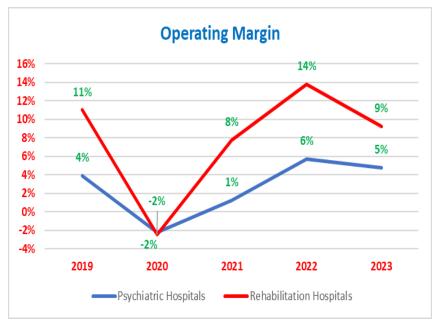






Profitability – Psychiatric and Rehabilitation Hospitals (Stand-Alone)

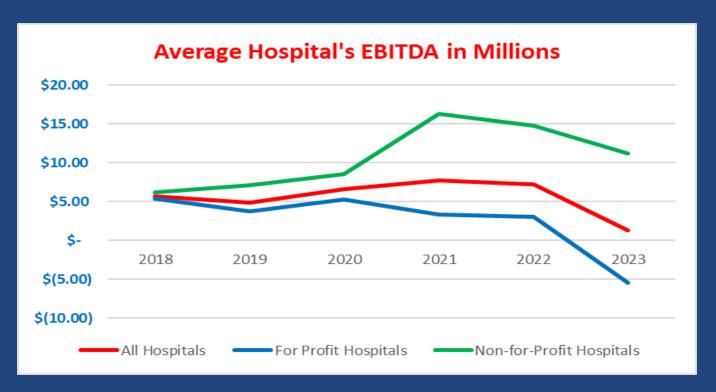








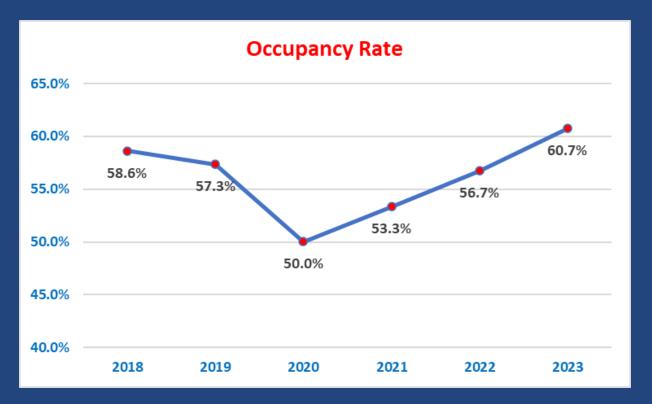
Average EBITDA (based on approximately 42 acute hospitals)







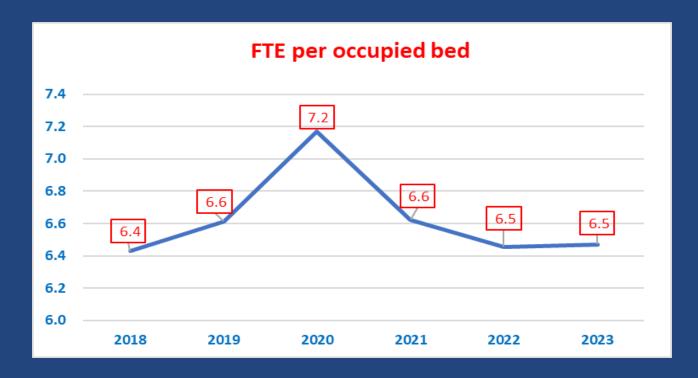
Occupancy







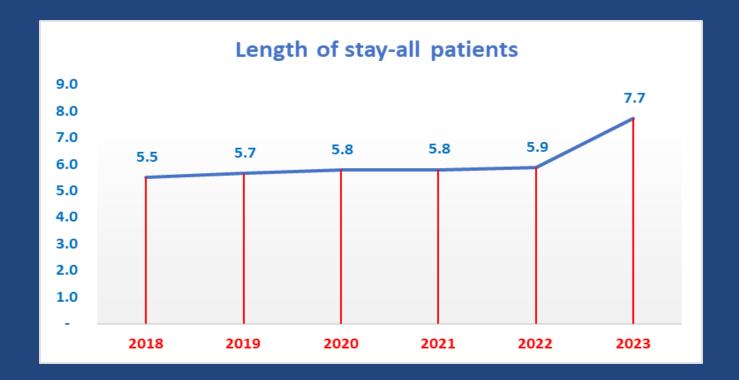
FTE per Occupied Bed







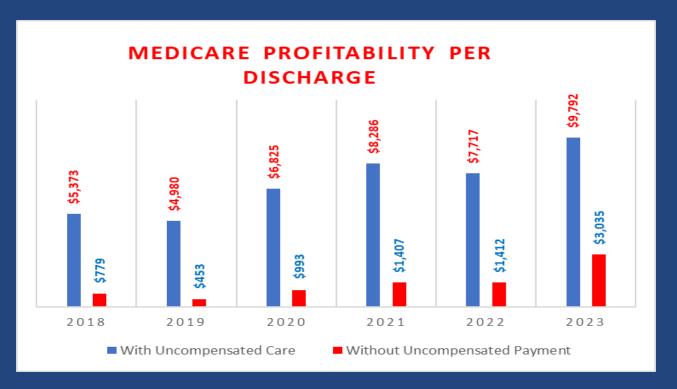
ALOS







Profitability – Traditional Medicare







What CEOs and CFOs of hospitals in Puerto Rico have to say?





CEO's Survey: Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges:	Opportunities:
Availability of Medical Specialist	-Expanding Medical Educational Programs
	-Malpractice reform
	-New compensation models
Recruitment of other Healthcare Professionals	-Professional development and wellness programs
	-Partnership with universities
	-Recruitment bonuses
Adapting to new reimbursement models amid rising costs	-Optimizing operational processes
	-Strategic alliances with other institutions
	-Assuming Risk-Based Contracts
	-Expand services to other high-demand areas
Limited access to financing sources	Require government to implement financing
	programs address to healthcare institutions.
Reduction in the volume of patients, then in revenes to	Expand services to post-acute services and
afford high costs	mental health.
Denied Days	Require government to implement the uniform
	utilization review manual approved since 2016.
Lack of public policy and intervention by the Department of	The state should assume an active role to regulate
Health or the State in matters related to the industry.	all the components and players of the industry.





CFO's Survey: How to improve the operating margin?

Area:	Task or Action:
Strengthen the Revenue Cycle	- Have top notch personnel in all cycle's positions.
	- Have weekly meetings to monitor metrics, such
	meetings should include reprsentation of the
	medical faculty and utilization director.
	- Compensate personnel in relation to metrics.
Purchasing and Contrating	- Contracts with physicians should be a win-win
	scenario.
	-Avoid long-term guaranteed contracts.
	-Negotiate prices ensuring timely payment.
	-Perform cost-benefit analysis in all contracts.
	- Focus in financially high impact issues.
	- Medical faculty requests must come with a
	commitmment to services.
Financial Responsibility	- Everyone must be responsible for issues affecting
	their budget.
	- Involve physicians in the medical supplies
	management.
	-Physicians priveledge should be renewed for those
	in compliance with the policies and procedures as
	to utilization and medical documentation.
	- Have strong system to monitor and reduced
	denials days.
Cost Control	- Keep variable costs proportional to volumen of
	services. Ex. FTE, inventory manangement, etc.
Third-Party Payers	- Maintain a cordial relationship with insurers while
	also applying the necessary energy in the claims
	processes and annual negotiations.







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