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# Potential, Disadvantages, Unexpected Costs, Trends, Considerations, Related Approaches

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## **Preface**

• This presentation is not intended to promote or demote the use of outsourcing for hospitals

• It is instead intended to identify the potential, disadvantages, unexpected costs, trends, considerations, and related approaches regarding outsourcing in hospitals



Potential, Disadvantages, Unexpected Costs, Trends, Considerations, And Related Approaches

#### **Potential**

- When looking at outsourcing I keep in mind that:
  - The outsourcing provider has to make a profit
  - There will be logistics, communications, and management costs



## **Potential**

- So I look for opportunities that structurally would benefit from larger pools of service:
  - Sharing temporary nursing services (possibly with other hospitals)
  - Sharing lower use patient services, e.g. oncology weekend walk in clinics
  - Other services that do not need to be in the hospital where one management team could manage larger operations



## **Disadvantages**

- Silos may not get broken down
- Potential disalignment of goals
- From http://operationstech.about.com/od/outsourcing/tp/OutSrcDisadv.htm
  - Loss of managerial control
  - Hidden costs
  - Threat to security and confidentiality
  - Quality
  - Being tied to the finanical well-being of another organization
  - Bad publicity and ill-will



## **Unexpected Costs**

- Quality management
- Management of the outsourcing
- Invectory costs can actually be higher because of need to keep inventory in the pipeline
- Cost of unplanned logistics and premium freight



## **Hospital Outsourcing Trends**

- From http://www.fiercehealthcare.com/story/hospital-outsourcing-lasting-trend/2013-10-07
  - Hospital outsourcing is on the rise:
    - Housekeeping
    - Food services
    - Patient care where there isn't "long term physician-patient relationship"
  - The trend may not persist as hospital systems grow, they pool these services internally across hospitals in their systems



## Outsourcing For Hospitals Potential, Disadvantages, Unexpected Costs, Trends, Considerations, And Related Approaches

## **Hospital Outsourcing Trends – Top 5 Patient care Services**

2006	2008	2012
Dialysis services(31%)	Anesthesia (42%)	Anesthesia (37%)
Sleep disorders (24%)	Dialysis services (34%)	Emergency Department (36%)
Diagnostic imaging (23%)	Diagnostic imaging (24%)	Dialysis services (32%)
Laboratory services (20%)	Hospitalist (24%)	Diagnostic imaging (25%)
Physical therapy (18%)	Emergency Department (20%)	Hospitalist (25%)





#### Potential, Disadvantages, Unexpected Costs, Trends, Considerations, And Related Approaches

## 10 Considerations For Hospitals Looking To outsource Services

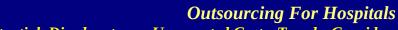
- From http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/10-considerations-for-hospitals-looking-to-outsource-services.html
  - "Choose an oursourcing partner carefully, and conduct a rigorous interview process to fnd the right partner
  - Create a two-way dialogue with the outsourcing firm so collaboration becomes a mutual goal.
  - Appoint a mentor within the hospital or health system to work exclusively with outsourcing firms.
  - Insist on continuity with an outsourcing provider. Usually, outsourcing providers hire back 70 to 80 percent of the hospital or health system's staff, and executives have to make sure that is the baseline at the very least.





## 10 Considerations For Hospitals Looking To outsource Services

- From http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/10-considerations-for-hospitals-looking-to-outsource-services.html
  - Weigh the value of a long-term outsourcing contract versus a short-term one.
  - Establish the necessary data, analytics and key performance indicators to find out if the outsourcing firm is saving money while also maintaining a positive environment for physicians, nurses and other staff.
  - Determine how the outsourcing vendor can create systemwide efficiencies through centralized purchasing, consolidation of vendors and standardization of maintenance practices.





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## 10 Considerations For Hospitals Looking To outsource Services

- From http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/10-considerations-for-hospitals-looking-to-outsource-services.html
  - Find out where big cost improvements can be made such as volume purchasing, energy savings, equipment maintenance and labor control without layoffs.
  - Look beyond cost savings to see where outsourcing firms can help with patient safety, patient satisfaction and other areas emphasized in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
  - Demand accountability."

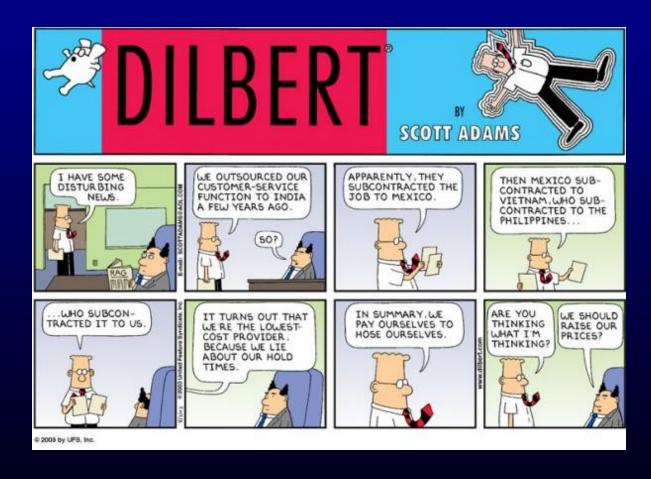


## **Related Approaches**

- Services organization (Brian Maruffi)
- Chargeback

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## **Outsourcing Humor**





## **Outsourcing Humor**

• The singing telegram is offshored to India





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## Thank You!