



WHITE PAPER



How one SNF increased its daily PDPM rates by improving the identification and documentation of depression in patients.

BACKGROUND

One way Functional Pathways serves as a strategic partner to our clients is by proactively identifying opportunities for improvement. Upon conducting a deep dive analysis of analytics available through our proprietary RightTrack and Splashboard platforms, our Clinical & Reimbursement Team uncovered an opportunity for the facility to improve the identification and documentation of depression in patients. Their current capture rate was less than 1%—significantly below the national average of 11.4%. We proactively shared this opportunity with our SNF client and developed an improvement plan.

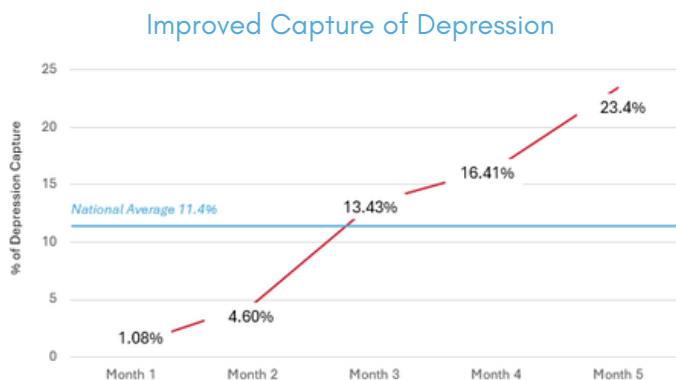
OUR APPROACH

To better identify depression in these skilled patients, we developed a focused training program that included:

- Training for our own PT/OT clinicians on how to be more observant in recognizing potential signs of depression. This is critical, as the therapy team builds a rapport with these patients and is in a unique position to identify signs of depression.
- Educating our Director of Rehab, who fully embraced this initiative and served as the on-site champion across all disciplines.
- Partnering with the facility’s clinical team to provide training for their staff, utilizing best practices we’ve identified across our decades of experience with hundreds of partnerships. Facility leaders were motivated to see an improvement and required their staff to participate in our training, which was critical to the program’s success.

OUTCOMES

Within just a few months, the facility was able to improve the identification and documentation of patient depression, as illustrated below.



Improved Daily Rate

	Daily Medicare Part A	Daily Managed Part A
Month 1	\$625	\$600
Month 2	\$626	\$624
Month 3	\$648	\$652
Month 4	\$651	\$616
Month 5	\$644	\$627

Overall, this initiative was a win-win for all involved. We were able to help improve the wellbeing of our patients suffering from depression, and the facility improved its daily rates.

This initiative highlights Functional Pathway’s commitment to serve as a strategic partner to our clients, helping to identify and support key initiatives beyond our therapy services.