

APP AND PHYSICIAN PARTNERSHIP: WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE ACCESS

CHALLENGE

Staffing challenges have hit all facets of the healthcare industry, leaving hospitals understaffed and struggling to deliver care to its patients. One of our clients at a leading health system in North Carolina was experiencing challenges in the neuro-hospitalist specialty area.

RECRUITING

Due to national physician shortages and an increased need for healthcare services, hospitals find it difficult to recruit physicians with more competition for available talent. That has left many hospitals looking for other ways to fill staffing needs.

ACCESS

Patients seek care within this health system for serious conditions, such as brain and spine tumors, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, and migraines, to name a few.

The stroke prevention and care program is one of the vital services they provide. Facilities within the system are nationally recognized for their stroke care.

It is vital to provide access to care for patients across the care continuum. When there is a gap in coverage, patients do not have access to necessary medical care.

SCHEDULING

Without a fully staffed roster of clinicians, it can be difficult to create a schedule that meets the needs of patients and the organization. Not only can this impact the hospital's bottom line, but more importantly, it limits access to care for the community.

WHAT IS ON THE HORIZON FOR U.S. HOSPITALS?



72.2% of facilities plan to expand APP coverage in 2023



By 2030, 67.3% of new practitioners added to the workforce will be APPs

LOCUMTENENS.COM HAS SEEN:



31% increase in coverage requests for APPs



56% increase in the number of APP placements

Source: LocumTenens.com and NEJM Catalyst

SOLUTION

Our client was not content with the status quo. To address their challenges, they developed a program that better utilizes APPs to create a comprehensive patient experience.

In their model, APPs and physicians work in pairs. This allows them to maximize their time with patients and, if one provider is with a patient, the other can continue to see waiting patients. This process ensures patients can get the care they need, and has the potential to increase the quality of care provided.

To assist with staffing challenges, LocumTenens.com provides an APP that integrates within their existing model and provides world-class patient care alongside a physician.

RESULTS

By increasing utilization of APPs, the program has seen success. Being able to scale to meet growing needs has given them a path toward sustainable staffing. In addition, this system has seen results through:

ACCESS: Providing care to more patients by integrating APPs into the care model.

COLLABORATION: Increasing collaboration between care givers, resulting in a better experience for the patient.

SCHEDULING: With more caregivers and a sustainable care model, scheduling is more streamlined.

ADOPTION: There has been little to no resistance from patients when seen by an APP instead of a physician. Across the continuum, staff and patients see the value of integrating APPs into the care model.



This partnership ensures great patient care. The collaboration between the two providers is a win-win, for the patients and the physician/APP team."