



What's New in Pathologist Productivity and Compensation

Plus Boosting Profitability through Effective Negotiations with Hospitals and Payers

Executive War College ° Tuesday, April 30, 2024

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Speakers

Robert Tessier, MPH

Panelist & Co-Founder Panel of National Pathology Leaders

After receiving his Master's in Public Health from UNC Chapel Hill, Bob Tessier consulted for community and academic radiology groups, including practice plans and third-party negotiations. In 1982, Cornell/NY Hospital retained him to establish the first fee-for-service pathology practice in NYC. He later did the same for Yale Pathology and has since negotiated over 300 third-party contracts. In 2019, Bob founded the *Panel of National Pathology Leaders*, a "think tank" advancing innovation in pathology and laboratory medicine. PNPL includes 400 pathologists, Digital Pathology, Diagnostic Medicine, and Corporate Social Responsibility research groups, and multiple networking teams.

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Speakers



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Al Sirmon, CPA

Co-Founder and Consultant, *Pathology Practice Advisors, LLC*

Al Sirmon began his career in public accounting in 1973, later transitioning to become Practice Administrator for a pathology practice in 1988. He co-founded Pathology Service Associates, LLC (PSA) in 1995, which grew to a national company providing billing and management services to over 100 pathology practices in 25 states, before its acquisition by McKesson in 2012. Al then established Pathology Practice Advisors, LLC in 2016, offering consulting services to pathology practices nationwide. He presently serves on CAP's Practice Management Committee and the Board of the Panel of National Pathology Leaders, bringing over four decades of industry experience to his role.



Introduction to PNPL

The <u>**Panel of National Pathology Leaders</u>** (PNPL) is a non-profit "think tank" dedicated to:</u>

- a. Advancing innovation in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- b. Focus on practical business solutions and value-based strategies
- c. Members and Panelists represent nearly 400 Pathologists

Activities:

- a. Focus Groups (Digital Pathology, Diagnostic Medicine, CSR)
- b. Networking Teams (Practice Leaders, CFOs/RCM, Compliance, PAs)
- c. Research Projects, Reports, Micro Highlights and Webinars
- *d. Members Reference Library* with over 600 documents



Presentation Topics

- 1. Pathologist Productivity
- 2. Compensation
- 3. Hospital Negotiations
- 4. Third-Party Strategies



Great Wall Strategy – Build a Strong Foundation





Great Wall Strategy – Reaching the Top

Generating **Obtain Donor Support for** Participate in Hospital **Contribute to** Financial a Department Fund Innovation (Dig Path) Fundraising Incentives Maximizing **Outsource Billing for** Coordinate Compliance Efforts **100% Charge Control for** Operational for Hospital & Practice TC & PC Clinical PCCP Services Efficiency Alliances with **Develop Regional** Group Purchasing Achieving **Hospitals and Commercial** Economy of Histo/Cyto Lab Organization Labs Scale **Commission Plan to Coordination with** Marketing and Sales Staff Motivate Sales Staff **Hospital Efforts** Expanding **New Business** Opportunities **Develop Effective Marketing Marketing Outside** Pathology Practice & Traditional Catchment Area Materials Department Website Enhancing Strong **Consider a Derm** Esoteric Professional Subspecialty Training **GI & GU Relationships** Division Testing Expertise

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PNPL's wRVU Pathologists' Productivity Study

- Most comprehensive national report, last published in 2021 with 2019 data.
- 2. PNPL 's 2019 Survey included data for 1,438 pathologists in 230 groups.
- 3. The average wRVUs per pathologist: **7,452**
- 4. The median value per pathologist: **6,582**
- 5. PNPL is planning a new study in 2024 with 2023 data and invites all U.S.-based practices to participate this year.



Survey Questions for 2023 wRVU Pathologists' Productivity Study

- 1. A report of Calendar Year (CY) 2023 CPT code volume, for each Pathologist (without M.D. names).
- 2. This should be for CY 2023 date of service, not processing. We prefer a list of CPT codes rather than RVUs to assure that the wRVU unit value is consistently applied to all groups. (88305 = .75)
- 3. We also want to exclude those who started or ended during the year or Pathologists who are less than one FTE. The survey is restricted to those who have completed a full 12 months of service.
- 4. Identification of the employer of the pathologists as 1) academic institution,2) hospital or 3) private pathology group.
- 5. Identification of the Medical Directors (Chief) at each practice.
- 6. Name of billing company (if applicable) to exclude your data from their report to PNPL.

If interested in participating, please email Allegra Klein at <u>aklein@pathleaders.org</u>.



2019 Pathology Work RVUs: Statistics by Group Size

Practice Size	# of Groups	% of Total	# of Pathologists	Median wRVU	Mean wRVU
1-3	98	43%	192	6,309	8,192
4-6	57	25%	267	6,282	7,663
7-9	32	14%	257	7,107	7,606
10-14	25	11%	295	6,565	7,124
15-24	12	5%	218	6,156	7,049
25+	6	3%	209	6,988	7,196
All Groups	230	100%	1,438	6,582	7,452

2019 Pathology Work RVUs: Percentiles

Practice Size	25th	50th	75th	90th
1-3	4,269	6,309	9,390	16,205
4-6	4,740	6,282	9,454	12,762
7-9	4,710	7,107	9,557	12,190
10-14	4,365	6,565	9,075	11,763
15-24	4,520	6,156	9, 1 15	11,312
25+	5,105	6,988	9,180	10,557
All Groups	4,619	6,582	9,309	11,842

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2. Compensation

"Tale of Two Cities" from PNPL's Book of Secrets

<u>Total Income per Senior Pathologist</u> Each doing 10,000 wRVUs	Innovative Practice	<u>The Norm</u>
Salary	\$250,000	\$250,000
Practice Plan Costs	\$75,000	\$75,000
Bonus (Additional Bonus + \$178,000)	\$328,000	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$653,000	\$475,000







2. Compensation

Senior Pathologist (10,000 wRVUs)

Income		_ [Innovative Practice		The Norm		Incremental	
	Part A							
1	Hospital Support	\$	125,000		\$	50,000	\$ 75,000	
2	Performance Based Incentive		10,000			0	10,000	
	Part B							
3	Third Party Reimbursement		50,000 Ab	oove Norm		Norm	50,000	
4	Global Billing Referred Services		25,000 Te	echnical overage		0	25,000	
5	PCCP (net of operating costs)		100,000 No	on-PAR		60,000 PAR	40,000	
6	G.I. POL							
	Professional Component		130,000	Medicare		75,000 = Flat Fee	75,000	
	Technical Component		25,000 =	(\$40 = 88305) Overage		(\$20 = 88305) 0	25,000	
			(Non C	Care / Non Caid)				
		L			L		\$ 300,000	



2. Compensation

Senior Pathologist (Expenses)

	Expenses		Innovative Practice		The Norm		Incremental	
7	Billing System Performance Incentive	\$	45,000		None		\$	(45,000)
8	Marketing & Sales							
	Compensation		50,000		65,000			15,000
	Benefits		12,500	25%	13,000	20%		500
	Sales Plan		30 <mark>,</mark> 000		0			(30,000)
9	Practice Cost of Pathologists' Assistant		25 <mark>,</mark> 000		0			(25,000)
10	Department Fund (Dividend Reinvestment)		25 <mark>,</mark> 000		0			(25,000)
11	Management Services		20,000		7,500			(12,500)

Additional Bonus

178,000

\$



\$ (122,000)

2. 2023 Data on Pathologist Compensation

1. A **national study** received in 2024 from a survey company for Pathology - Anatomic and Clinical found the following:

a.	Combined Data	75 th %-tile
	• FTE compensation:	\$450,000
	• Work RVUs:	8,300
	Avg Prof. Collections:	\$600,000
b.	Private Practice	
	• FTE compensation:	\$465,000 (100%)
	• Work RVUs:	9,000 (100%)
c.	Hospital Employed	

- FTE compensation: \$457,000 (98%)
- Work RVUs: 8,750 (97%)



2. 2023 Data on Pathologist Compensation

- 2. According to **Doximity**, Pathology is among the top 10 specialties with the largest increase in annual compensation of 2.7% or on average **\$357,384**.
- 3. Medscape pathologist compensation: \$339,000.
- 4. Santé Consulting (from Rich Cornell)

First year in practice fellowship trained:

- a. Low end \$250,000
- b. High end \$400,000
- 5 or more years of experience:
 - a. Low end \$325,000
 - b. High end \$ 425,000
 - c. Add \$25,000 for directorship roles.



2. 2023 Data on Pathologist Compensation

4. Santé Consulting (from Rich Cornell)

Academics:

- a. Assistant Professor level \$230,000-\$270,000
- b. Associate Professor level \$270,000-\$300,000
- c. Professor level (clinical track) \$300,000-\$420,000

Average starting salary for 2023 is \$334,000, including all practice settings.

- a. The highest starting salary for 2023 was **\$520,000** for an experienced fellowship trained GI pathologist.
- b. Annual bonuses averaged an additional 20% of the base salary.
- c. One time signing bonuses were between \$0 and \$100,000 with an average signing bonus of \$18,000.
- d. Relocation varied from \$7,500 up to \$90,000 with an average of \$15,000.



2. Fair Market Value Study - Benefits

Data from CY 2022

Category	Practice 1	Practice 2	Practice 3	Practice 4	Your Practice 2023
Health & Dental	\$34,500	\$23,700	\$13,475	\$33,878	
Disability & Life	\$1,500	\$19,000	\$348	\$1,501	
Retirement plan	\$28,000	\$8,250	\$38,500	\$8,465	
License & Fees	\$1,500	\$0	\$3,305	\$0	
CME	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$236	\$5,000	
Payroll Taxes	\$14,300	\$15,000	\$20,196	\$14,870	
Workers Comp	\$1,500	\$0	\$4,202	\$0	
Malpractice	\$9,000	\$4,500	\$6,235	\$4,587	
Total Costs	\$95,300	\$76,450	\$73,446	\$68,301	



Hourly Rate Summary for Part A Services

This chart provides a summary of **compensation data** from numerous national sources. Note the variation in hourly rate from **\$160 to \$274**.

RCE	25 th %	75 th %	National Study	50 th	75 th
2015	\$260,300	\$312,000	2022	\$452,054	\$518,448
2023 3% COLA	53,741	64,415	2023	13,562	15,553
2/5 Million Malpractice	13,500	N/A		9,000	9,000
CME Costs	5,000	N/A		5,000 (?)	5,000 (?)
Fringe Benefits	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
TOTAL	\$332,541	\$376,415		\$479,616	\$548,000
Hourly Rate	\$160	\$181		\$240	\$274

NOTE: Hourly rate for RCE based on 2,080 hrs/yr. National study, based on 2,000 hrs/yr.

DND

Why Hospital Negotiations are Crucial

- 1. Recruiting Pathologists when there are 1,000 open positions
 - a. Raising the bar on expectations
 - b. Private practice Senior Pathologist: \$600,000
 - Salary: \$520,000 @ 75th Percentile
 - Includes benefits & taxes @ \$80,000
 - wRVUs = 9,000/year
 - c. Academic practice Associate/Professor: \$500,000
 - Includes benefits & taxes @ \$90,000
 - wRVUs = 7,500/year

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Why Hospital Negotiations are Crucial

- 2. Tactics for Recruiting & Retaining Pathologists
 - a. Commit to Digital Pathology & AI with up to 25% Cost Savings
 - Determine how it will be funded (private practice vs. hospital employment)
 - Hospital only
 - Pathologist contribution to a department fund in a nonprofit institution
 - b. Social Responsibility Strategy
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 - Implementing sustainable practices in laboratories ("Green Labs")



2024 Medicare Reimbursement Rates (All MACS) for Top 4 CPT Codes: 88305, 88307, 88341, 88342

	Medicare	Medicare		Variance
CPT Code	National Low	National High	Variance	%
88305 PC	33.74	48.36	14.62	143%
88305 TC	29.82	49.99	20.17	168%
Total 88305	63.56	98.35	34.79	155%
88307 PC	73.69	105.22	31.53	143%
88307 TC	174.81	293.47	118.66	168%
Total 88307	248.50	398.69	150.19	160%
88341 PC	25.27	36.19	10.92	143%
88341 TC	53.29	89.75	36.46	168%
Total 88341	78.56	125.94	47.38	160%
88342 PC	31.54	45.19	13.65	143%
88342 TC	60.51	101.68	41.17	168%
Total 88342	92.05	146.87	54.82	160%

* Prior to 3/9/24 adjustments

Will the corresponding reimbursement digital pathology codes reflect the same technical variances?

Cost-based reimbursements (blocks and slides) should be 68 - 70% of Medicare TC.

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Document Part A Time and *Educate* **Administration**

- 1. Custom Time Studies for Pathology minimum of 2 studies/year
 - a. Each study is two weeks
 - b. Supply documentation including diaries/schedules
- 2. Interviews with supporting referring physicians
- 3. Prepare Annual Report
 - a. Prior CAP webinar with Dr. Stephen Ruby and Dr. Robert Breckenridge was excellent
- 4. Add **Performance Based Incentives** to flat payments, relating each item to providing **"VALUE"**
- 5. Become familiar with *Fair Market Value* rates for Part A time
 - a. Valuation studies provide a wide range of FMV

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Matrix of Responsibilities – Medical Director and Pathologists (p. 1 of 3)

	Medical Director Chief / Chair	Pathologist A	Pathologist B	Pathologist C	Pathologist D
Anatomic Pathology					
Surgical Pathology					
Cytology					
Molecular Testing					
Autopsy					
			1	1	1
Clinical Pathology					
Chemistry					
Microbiology					
TDM/Toxicology					
Hematology & Coagulation					
Urinalysis					
Blood Bank/Transfusion					
Molecular Testing					
Point of Care Testing					
LIS/IT Services					
Outreach					
Phlebotomy (Specimen Collection) & Registration/					
Accessioning/Processing					
		PNPL			

Medicare Wage Index for California

Another consideration in determining *Fair Market Value* is the **APC Wage Adjustment** in areas with a high cost of living, such as California.

Area Name	Wage Index
CALIFORNIA	1.2534
Anaheim-Santa Ana-Irvine, CA	1.2534
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA	1.2970
Napa, CA	1.5172
Oakland-Berkeley-Livermore, CA	1.7995
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA	1.4250
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	1.2534
Sacramento-Roseville-Folsom, CA	1.6307
San Diego-Chula Vista-Carlsbad, CA	1.2737
San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City, CA	1.8591
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	1.8747

Wage Index used to calculate APC rates

Source: FY23 CMS-1771-F Table 3

NOTE: the APC is based on **40%** national at 1.0 and **60%** wage-adjusted.

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Consider adding **performance-based incentives** to your Part A contract.

Examples

Send-out testing

Practice receives **25%** of savings/net of direct costs

10% of the savings

\$10,000

\$20,000

\$10,000

Blood Acquisition Costs

CAP Medical Director Certificate

TAT Surgical greater than 85%/24 hours

TAT Frozen 90% within 20 minutes

Prepare a detailed Marketing Plan \$10,000



4. Third-Party Contracts

Hospital-Based Pathologist Third Party Pledge

1	Prepare a notebook containing all Third Party Contracts.	
2	Faithfully maintain the file and add changes when they are effective.	
3	Provide a complete copy to my billing company/manager to assure their files are accurate.	
4	Require my billing system to write off amounts as "contractual disallowances" using only the executed contracts as their authority.	
5	Mandate that the billing system provide a report, not less than monthly, showing any amounts that are paid at less than the contract amounts.	



Done

4. Third-Party Contracts

- Assure that the billing system documents that all amounts, not paid according to contract levels, have been appealed.
 Establish a Third Party Calendar reflecting all contract renewal dates including any required notifications provisions.
 Begin planning for contract renewals at least 90 days in advance.
 Obtain volume reports from the billing system reflecting the current run rate for all activities during the most recent six months distributed between:

 a. Global billing (PC and TC)
 b. Professional component
- 10 Identify three five *carve out* codes to be given special attention in the negotiating process.



4. Third-Party Contracts

11	Prepare a request for new rates taking into consideration:	
	 a. Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Not less than 3% each year b. Codes to be carved out for special consideration. c. Any published rates from sources like Worker's Compensation. d. Wage adjustment guidelines that might be favorable to my specific area in the state, such as those used by Medicare to set APC rates. e. A multi-year contract of not less than three and as many as five years. 	
12	Maintain any global reimbursements that have not been adversely impacted by Medicare changes for codes such as 88305 and other with significant technical cuts.	
13	Not to accept the initial response from the third party and be prepared for at least three-six challenges.	
14	Prepare a Third Party Credit Master containing Practice fees, reimbursements with their effective dates and faithful maintain this document.	

4. Third-Party Strategy

1. Selective Contracting

a. Billing globally for referred services with a technical Cost Recovery payment to the hospital

2. Payers expect annual contract updates.

• Maintain a detailed Third-Party Calendar

Payer	Contract Period	88305-26 88305 As % of 2024 Medicare		Notes
Commercial 1	10/1/22-9/30/24	85.82 215%	211.07 272%	2 Year ICP Contract: Year 1 = 2.00% increase Year 2 = 2.00% increase (Based on 2022 CF of \$75.80) Medicare Advantage will be reimbursed at 100% of Medicare Fee for Service
Commercial 2	Commercial 2 Effective Date 2/15/2023 89.46 224%			<u>Contract</u> <u>Tier 4 Fee Schedule -</u> Based on 221.7% of 2022 RBRVS defaulting to the Market Fee Schedule for all else. contract. <u>Next Renewal is on 1/1/2025</u>

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4. Third-Party Strategy

3. Utilize published rates when negotiating contracts

- a. There may be attractive published rates from payers for statewide contracts or regional reimbursement.
- b. The **Worker's Compensation schedule** may be an effective point of reference. Below are the rates for the 88305 in Connecticut (prior to March 9, 2024):

88305	Workers Comp	Medicare 2024	Multiplier
РС	83.35	36.92	2.26
тс	84.08	38.26	2.20
TOTALS:	\$167.43	\$ 75.18	2.23

- c. While workers compensation volume is limited in pathology, it represents 3-5% of the volume in radiology and is given credibility when negotiating contracts.
- d. At 220-226% of the 2024 Medicare fees, this reimbursement level for the Blues and commercial carriers might rate a "B."

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4. Third-Party Strategy: Carve Out Codes

4. Carve Out procedures

- a. Propose 10 codes but settle for 5
- b. Payers like to have their regular fees accepted but will listen to your argument for carve outs

NOTE: The 4 CPT codes below from the 2021 Medicare Database represent approximately 70% of total payments.

СРТ	2020 wRVU	Number of Services		wRVU Total		Total Payments		% of All Payments
88305 0.75		5,846,249		4,384,687		\$173,936,789		38.8 %
	2020	5,292,068		3,969,051		\$162,735,370		36.8%
Variar	nce 2021 vs 2020	554,181	10%	415,636	10%	11,201,419	7%	
88307	1.59	830,182		1,319,989		56,032,462		12.5%
	2020	799,571		1,271,318		\$55,619,814		12.6%
Variar	nce 2021 vs 2020	30,611	4%	48,671	4%	412,648	1%	
88341	0.56	2,224,488		1,245,713		51,936,755		11.6%
	2020	2,068,491		1,158,355		\$49,570,765		11.2%
Variar	nce 2021 vs 2020	155,997	8%	87,358	8%	2,365,990	5%	
88342	0.70	1,119,129		783,390		32,116,226		7.2%
	2020	1,020,631		714,442		\$30,363,712		6.9%
Variar	nce 2021 vs 2020	98,498	10%	68,948	10%	1,752,514	6%	

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4. Third-Party Negotiations: Fee Transparency

Fee Transparency Analysis	State:	ALL
2021	CBSA:	ALL
2020 Medicare Utilization Database	Place of Service:	Facility (F) Professional
	Provider Type:	Pathology

		25%-tile	50%-tile	75%-tile	90%-tile
99205	2021	129	173	225	271
88305	2020	129	175	220	268
88307	2021	259	315	400	640
00307	2020	255	310	396	490
88341	2021	80	108	150	211
00041	2020	77	106	150	204
88342	2021	113	144	188	250
00342	2020	113	142	182	249
00172	2021	189	233	296	382
88173	2020	186	230	293	381

4. Third-Party Negotiations: Fee Transparency

2021 Medicare Utilization Database

Professional Fees Charged by Prominent Pathology Departments

CPT Charge : 88305-26 and 88307-26

In Order of Charge for 88305 - Low to High

Place of Service: Facility

National at 75th percentile for comparison

	2020 Medicare Da	itabase Charge
	88305-26	88307-26
MD	144	275
MA	159	350
CA	167	400
СТ	180	405
NY	180	400
National	225	400
ОН	242	729
ТХ	327	552
NH	445	809
	MA CA CT NY National OH TX	88305-26 MD 144 MA 159 CA 167 CT 180 NY 180 National 225 OH 242 TX 327

4. Third-Party Negotiations: Fee Transparency

88305-Professional Component Fees Sort: 50th percentile high to low

					-	
State	*	50 %	ΨŤ	75%		٠
Nevada			\$336		\$3	49
Alaska			\$284		\$3	80
Wisconsin			\$271		\$3	37
New Hampshire			\$262		\$4	45
Texas			\$250		\$2	85
Indiana			\$220		\$2	30
South Carolina			\$212		\$2	17
Florida			\$210		\$2	45
Missouri			\$206		\$2	30
Illinois			\$204		\$2	60
Kansas			\$200		\$2	22
Ohio			\$198		\$2	42
Connecticut			\$195		\$2	45
lowa			\$187		\$2	41
Georgia			\$181		\$2	08
Mississippi			\$180		\$2	05
Rhode Island			\$180		\$1	93
Virginia			\$178		\$2	00
National Average			\$173		\$2	25
New Jersey			\$173		\$1	93
North Carolina			\$170		\$1	80
Kentucky			\$164		\$2	11
California			\$163		\$2	31
Nebraska			\$162		\$2	00
Delaware			\$160		\$1	60

Massachusetts \$159 \$174 West Virginia \$156 \$211 Vermont \$155 \$162 Minnesota \$154 \$188 New York \$150 \$195 Oklahoma \$150 \$188 Utah \$150 \$165 Pennsylvania \$148 \$195 Maryland \$148 \$177 Michigan \$144 \$195 North Dakota \$143 \$179 Louisiana \$140 \$178 New Mexico \$138 \$179 Tennessee \$137 \$188 Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173			
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North Dakota \$143 \$179 Louisiana \$140 \$178 New Mexico \$138 \$179 Tennessee \$137 \$188 Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$120 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173	Maryland	\$148	\$177
Louisiana \$140 \$178 New Mexico \$138 \$179 Tennessee \$137 \$188 Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$120 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173	Michigan	\$144	\$195
New Mexico \$138 \$179 Tennessee \$137 \$188 Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$120 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	North Dakota	\$143	\$179
Tennessee \$137 \$188 Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Louisiana	\$140	\$178
Alabama \$125 \$214 South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Hawaii \$83 \$133	New Mexico	\$138	\$179
South Dakota \$125 \$160 Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Tennessee	\$137	\$188
Oregon \$120 \$161 Montana \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Alabama	\$125	\$214
Montana \$120 \$122 Wyoming \$120 \$120 Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	South Dakota	\$125	\$160
Wyoming \$120 \$120 Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Oregon	\$120	\$161
Maine \$119 \$119 Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Montana	\$120	\$122
Arkansas \$115 \$126 Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Wyoming	\$120	\$120
Washington \$114 \$192 Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Maine	\$119	\$119
Arizona \$99 \$173 Hawaii \$83 \$133	Arkansas	\$115	\$126
Hawaii \$83 \$133	Washington	\$114	\$192
	Arizona	\$99	\$173
Idaho \$73 \$126	Hawaii	\$83	\$133
	Idaho	\$73	\$126

4. Third-Party Strategy

Other Strategies

- 1. Piggybacking on hospital contracts
 - When payers are willing to recognize a % of charges
 - Take advantage of hospital cost of billing, 3% vs 5-8%
- 2. Determine hospital reimbursement as a function of Medicare technical rates
 - They are often 3x to 5x Medicare TC
- 3. Meet with third parties at the hospital or practice laboratory site
 - Provide a tour of the department
 - Introduce the most effective practice negotiator
 - Involve hospital finance or the director of managed care



4. Third-Party Strategy

Other Strategies

- 1. Address new business or reduced referred/ global billing immediately
- 2. Payer data is based on the most recent experience
 - a. Planned changes should be addressed quickly while history is favorable
 - If there is a loss of a large GI or GU group resulting in less global billing
 - + If there are new referring MD that will increase global activity
 - b. Consider adjusting a multi-year arrangement early to take advantage of the swing in activity
 - Extend the term
 - Offer a lower COLA to encourage a new deal
 - c. By reducing global payments when a large referring group is leaving to open their own POL and increase payments for professional services, a 2-3% annual COLA can result in 6-8%+ more revenue. The next renewal will begin with an increased baseline.

This requires close attention to trends. [Al Sirmon to present]



Do Your Homework Before You Negotiate

For Hospital Negotiations

Use current and prior year Classified and Departmentalized Profit and Loss Statement

- 1. Classified P&L
 - a. Income segregated between patient billing and other
 - b. Expenses segregated between
 - Direct Lab Cost
 - Selling General Administrative
 - Physician Expense
- 2. Departments
 - a. Hospital
 - b. Outreach
 - c. Administrative



ABC Pathology Profit and Loss Statement For the Year Ending December 31, 2022

1 Income

11	ncome		% of Total				
2	Insurance and Patient Collections	Total	Income	 Hospital	 Outreach	Ad	ministration
3	Anatomic Path and Cytology	\$7,000,000	88%	\$ 3,502,360	\$ 3,497,640	\$	-
4	Professional Component of Clinical Lab	\$ 500,000	6%			\$	500,000
5		\$7,500,000	94%	\$ 3,502,360	\$ 3,497,640	\$	500,000
6	Less Refund	\$ (150,000)	-2%	\$ (90,000)	\$ (60,000)		
7	Net Insurance & Patient Collections	\$7,350,000	92%	\$ 3,412,360	\$ 3,437,640	\$	500,000
8	Hospital Management Contracts	\$ 450,000	6%	\$ -		\$	450,000
9	Other Income	\$ 200,000	3%	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$	-
10	Total Income	\$8,000,000	100%	\$ 3,412,360	\$ 3,637,640	\$	950,000
11	Direct Lab Cost	100%		43%	45%		
12	Salaries Taxes and Benefits	\$1,081,000	14%		\$ 1,081,000		
13	Supplies - Medical	\$ 450,000	6%		\$ 450,000		
14	Repair and Maintenance	\$ 150,000	2%		\$ 150,000		
15	Computer and LIS Software	\$ 125,000	2%		\$ 50,000		
16	Depreciation	\$ 100,000	1%		\$ 125,000		
17	Rent	\$ 60,000	1%		\$ 100,000		
18	Auto Expense	\$ 50,000	1%		\$ 60,000		
19	Total Direct Lab Cost	\$2,016,000	25%	\$ -	\$ 2,016,000	\$	-
	Income Before SG&A & Physician Expenses	\$5,984,000	75%	\$ 3,412,360	\$ 1,621,640	\$	950,000
20	Selling General and Administrative Expense						
21	Salaries Taxes and Benefits	\$ 405,000	5%	\$, .	\$ 184,156	\$	48,094
22	Billing Cost	\$ 588,000	7%	\$,	\$ 275,011	\$	40,000
23	Accounting	\$ 25,000	0%	\$ 10,664	\$ 11,368	\$	2,969
24	Legal	\$ 15,000	0%	\$ 6,398	\$ 6,821	\$	1,781
25	Supplies - Office	\$ 10,000	0%	\$ 4,265	\$ 4,547	\$	1,188
26	Utilities	\$ 9,000	0%	\$ 3,839	\$ 4,092	\$	1,069
27	Bank Charges	\$ 1,000	0%	\$ 427	\$ 455	\$	119
28	Total S G & A Expense	\$1,053,000	13%	\$ 471,332	\$ 486,449	\$	95,219
29	Income Before Physician Expenses	\$4,931,000	62%	\$ 2,941,028	\$ 1,135,191	\$	854,781
30	Physician Expense	100%		60%	23%		17%
31	Salaries Taxes and Benefits	\$4,550,000	57%	\$ 2,730,000	\$ 910,000	\$	910,000
32	Insurance Malpractice	\$ 200,000	3%	\$ 120,000	\$ 40,000	\$	40,000
33	Total Physician Expense	\$4,750,000	59%	\$ 2,850,000	\$ 950,000	\$	950,000
34 I	Net Income	\$ 181,000	2%	\$ 91,028	\$ 185,191	\$	(95,219)

PNPL

If You Base Part of Your Contract on Medicare, Beware

Medicare Ten Year Change Medicare National Payment Amount

			<u>Ten Year Change</u>			
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>		
88305TC	\$ 34.14	\$ 35.62	\$ 1.48	4%		
88307TC	\$ 221.35	\$208.71	\$ (12.64)	-6%		

How much did salaries and wages increase during these 10 years?

How much did your supply and maintenance contracts increase during these 10 years?

PNPI

Do Your Homework Before you Negotiate

For Payor Negotiations

- 1. Is the Payor paying according to contract?
- 2. If not, why?
 - a. Paying the wrong amount
 - b. Denials
 - c. Patient Responsibility
- 3. How does the contract compare to Medicare?



<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u></u>		<u>D</u>	<u>E E</u>		<u>6</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>_</u>
2										
	3 ABC Pathology 4 Summary of Activity - Current Year Compared to Prior Year									
2		Sum	mary c			bared	to Prior Year			
5				Dece	ember 31, 2022					
6										
ر ع				2022			2021		Variance	
ç				YTD			YTD		\$	%
	Gross Charges		\$	17,000,000		\$	18,000,000	\$	(1,000,000)	-6%
	Adjustments to Gross Charge		\$	(9,230,000)		\$	(9,000,000)	*\$	230,000	3%
	Net Charges		\$	7,770,000		\$	9,000,000	\$	(1,230,000)	14%
13	3									
14	Collections		\$	7,000,000		\$	7,200,000	\$	(200,000)	3%
15	Refunds		\$	(150,000)		\$	(150,000)	\$	- *	0%
16	Net Collections		\$	6,850,000		\$	7,050,000	\$	(200,000)	3%
17	<mark>7</mark>									
18	Bad Debts		\$	835,000		\$	1,200,000	\$	(365,000)	30%
19										
) Increase (Decrease) in AR		\$	85,000		\$	750,000			
	Beginning Accounts Receivable	9	\$	2,000,000		\$	1,250,000			
	2 Ending Accounts Receivable		\$	2,085,000		\$	2,000,000	\$	85,000	4%
23										
24	Key Performance Indicators									
25		D16/D12		88%	G16/G12		78%			
26		D18/D12		11%	G18/G12		13%			
27	0	D20/D12		1%	G20/G12		8%			
28				100%			100%			
29		D22/(D10/365)		45	G22/(G10/365)		41			
30										
31	Benchmarks			40,000			45,000		(5.000)	
33				40,000			45,000 110,000		(5,000) (10,000)	
34		D33/D32		2.5	G33/G32		2.44		(10,000)	
35		D33/D32 D10/D31	\$	425.00	G33/G32 G10/G31	\$	400.00			
36		D10/D31	φ \$	170.00	G10/G32	φ \$	400.00 163.64			
37		D14/D31	\$	175.00	G14/G31	\$	160.00			
38		D14/D32	\$	70.00	G14/G32	\$	65.45			
	Gross Collection %		Ŧ	41%		Ŧ	40%			



ABC Pathology Summary of Activity By CPT For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	% of <u>Total</u>				eginning		Contracts Co								Net Collection	Bad Debts	Change <u>in</u>	Days in	Ave	rade	<u>Average</u>	
Rank	<u>Charges</u> <u>CPT + M</u>	lodifier	<u>Units</u>	-	AR		<u>Charges</u>	ljustments		Payments	Re	<u>funds</u>	Bad Debts	E	nding A/R	<u>%</u>	<u>96613</u> <u>%</u>	AR	AR	Cha		<u>Copllection</u>
1	31% 88305		30,000	\$	617,647	\$	5,250,000	\$ 2,314,199	\$	2,678,690	\$	57,400	\$288,262	\$	643,897	89%	10%	1%	45	\$	175	\$ 89
2	26% 8830526		25,000	\$	514,706	\$	4,375,000	\$ 3,013,244	\$	1,129,511	\$	24,204	\$234,574	\$	536,581	81%	17%	2%	45	\$	175	\$ 45
3	14% 8830726		20,000	\$	282,353	\$	2,400,000	\$ 573,139	\$	1,847,180	\$	39,582	\$ 7,263	\$	294,353	99%	0%	1%	45	\$	120	\$ 92
4	7% 8834126		6,000	\$	141,176	\$	1,200,000	\$ 928,818	\$	193,111	\$	4,138	\$ 76,209	\$	147,176	70%	28%	2%	45	\$	200	\$ 32
5	6% 88341		5,000	\$	117,647	\$	1,000,000	\$ 484,438	\$	464,077	\$	9,945	\$ 56,429	\$	122,647	88%	11%	1%	45	\$	200	\$ 93
6	4% 8830426		5,000	\$	76,471	\$	650,000	\$ 537,616	\$	65,337	\$	1,400	\$ 45,198	\$	79,721	57%	40%	3%	45	\$	130	\$ 13
7	4% 88342		2,000	\$	70,588	\$	600,000	\$ 349,667	\$	216,050	\$	4,630	\$ 35,912	\$	73,588	84%	14%	1%	45	\$	300	\$ 108
8	4% 8834226		2,000	\$	70,588	\$	600,000	\$ 479,698	\$	77,687	\$	1,665	\$ 41,280	\$	73,588	63%	34%	2%	45	\$	300	\$ 39
9	2% 88304		3,000	\$	45,882	\$	390,000	\$ 228,807	\$	138,821	\$	2,975	\$ 23,396	\$	47,832	84%	15%	1%	45	\$	130	\$ 46
10	2% 8831226		1,000	\$	36,471	\$	310,000	\$ 257,258	\$	29,643	\$	635	\$ 22,185	\$	38,021	55%	42%	3%	45	\$	310	\$ 30
11	1% 8830926		1,000	\$	26,471	\$	225,000	\$ 63,117	\$	159,892	\$	3,426	\$ 4,292	\$	27,596	97%	3%	1%	45	\$	225	\$ 160
	100%	1	100,000	\$	2,000,000	\$	17,000,000	\$ 9,230,000	\$	7,000,000	\$1	.50,000	\$835,000	\$	2,085,000	88%	11%	1%	45	\$	170	\$ 70



ABC Pathology Summary of Activity By CPT for Hospital For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Hospital																				
	% of													Net	Bad	Change					
	<u>Total</u>		Beginning		<u>Contracts</u>								Collection	<u>Debts</u>	<u>in</u>	<u>Days in</u>	Ave	rage	<u>Avera</u>	age	
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Charges</u> <u>CPT + Modifier</u>	<u>Units</u>	AR	Charges	<u>Ac</u>	<u>djustments</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Re</u>	<u>funds</u>	Bad Debts	<u>E</u> 1	nding A/R	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>AR</u>	Cha	arge_	Coplled	<u>ction</u>
1	45% 8830526	25,000	\$ 514,706	\$ 4,375,000	\$	3,013,244	\$	1,129,511	\$	24,204	\$234,574	\$	536,581	81%	17%	2%	45	\$	175	\$	45
2	25% 8830726	20,000	\$ 282,353	\$ 2,400,000	\$	573,139	\$	1,847,180	\$	39,582	\$ 7,263	\$	294,353	99%	0%	1%	45	\$	120	\$	92
3	12% 8834126	6,000	\$ 141,176	\$ 1,200,000	\$	928,818	\$	193,111	\$	4,138	\$ 76,209	\$	147,176	70%	28%	2%	45	\$	200	\$	32
4	7% 8830426	5,000	\$ 76,471	\$ 650,000	\$	537,616	\$	65,337	\$	1,400	\$ 45,198	\$	79,721	57%	40%	3%	45	\$	130	\$	13
5	6% 8834226	2,000	\$ 70,588	\$ 600,000	\$	479,698	\$	77,687	\$	1,665	\$ 41,280	\$	73,588	63%	34%	2%	45	\$	300	\$	39
6	3% 8831226	1,000	\$ 36,471	\$ 310,000	\$	257,258	\$	29,643	\$	635	\$ 22,185	\$	38,021	55%	42%	3%	45	\$	310	\$	30
7	2% 8830926	1,000	\$ 26,471	\$ 225,000	\$	63,117	\$	159,892	\$	3,426	\$ 4,292	\$	27,596	97%	3%	1%	45	\$	225	\$	160
	100%	60,000	\$ 1,148,235	\$ 9,760,000	\$	5,852,889	\$	3,502,361	\$	75,051	\$431,001	\$	1,197,035	88%	11%	1%	45	\$	163	\$	58

	Office																					
	% of														Net	Bad	Change					
	<u>Total</u>		Br	eginning		ç	Contracts								Collection	<u>Debts</u>	<u>in</u>	<u>Days in</u>	<u>A</u> '	<u>verage</u>	Av	verage
Rank	Charges CPT + Modifier	<u>Units</u>		<u>AR</u>	Charges	<u>Aď</u>	<u>djustments</u>		Payments	<u>Refur</u>	<u>ids</u>	Bad Debts	Er	nding A/R	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Charge</u>	Cor	pllection
1	73% 88305	30,000	\$	617,647	\$ 5,250,000	\$	2,314,199	\$	2,678,690	\$ 57,4	400	\$ 288,262	\$	643,897	89%	10%	1%	45	5\$	6 175	\$	89
2	14% 88341	5,000	\$	117,647	\$ 1,000,000	\$	484,438	\$	464,077	\$ 9,9	945	\$ 56,429	\$	122,647	88%	11%	1%	45	5\$	s 200	\$	93
3	8% 88342	2,000	\$	70,588	\$ 600,000	\$	349,667	\$	216,050	\$ 4,6	630	\$ 35,912	\$	73,588	8 84%	14%	1%	45	5\$	300	\$	108
4	5% 88304	3,000	\$	45,882	\$ 390,000	\$	228,807	\$	138,821	\$ 2,9	975	\$ 23,396	\$	47,832	84%	15%	1%	45	5\$	5 130	\$	46
	100%	40,000	\$	851,765	\$ 7,240,000	\$	3,377,111	\$	3,497,640	\$ 74,9	949	\$ 403,999	\$	887,965	89%	10%	1%	45	5\$	5 181	\$	87
	-				 										-							
Combined	1	100,000		2,000,000	 17,000,000	_	9,230,000	_	7,000,000	150,0	000	835,000	_	2,085,000	88%	11%	1%	45	5\$	5 170	\$	70

PNPL

Exhibit 11

ABC Pathology Summary of Activity By Payor For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	% of													Net	Bad	Change				
	<u>Total</u>			<u>B</u> (leginning		<u>C</u>	<u>Contracts</u>						<u>Collection</u>	<u>Debts</u>	<u>in</u>	<u>Days in</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>A</u>	Average
<u>Rank</u>	Charges	Location	<u>Units</u>		<u>AR</u>	Charges	Ad	<u>ljustments</u>	Payments	<u>Refunds</u>	Bad Debts	En	nding A/R	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>Charge</u>	Co	pllection
1	40% M	edicare	40,000	\$	800,000	\$ 6,800,000	\$	4,423,389	\$ 2,236,412	\$ 47,923	\$ 154,122	\$	834,000	92%	6%	1%	45	\$ 170	\$	56
2	30% Bl	lue	30,000	\$	600,000	\$ 5,100,000	\$	2,172,793	\$ 2,887,884	\$ 61,883	\$ 75,706	\$	625,500	97%	3%	1%	45	\$ 170	\$	96
3	15% Ye	ellow	15,000	\$	300,000	\$ 2,550,000	\$	1,565,676	\$ 937,102	\$ 20,081	\$ 54,552	\$	312,750	93%	6%	1%	45	\$ 170	\$	62
4	10% Gr	reen	10,000	\$	200,000	\$ 1,700,000	\$	1,068,141	\$ 598,977	\$ 12,835	\$ 37,217	\$	208,500	93%	6%	1%	45	\$ 170	\$	60
5	5% Se	elf	5,000	\$	100,000	\$ 850,000	\$	(0)	\$ 339,625	\$ 7,278	\$513,403	\$	104,250	39%	60%	0%	45	\$ 170	\$	68
	100%		100,000	\$	2,000,000	\$ 17,000,000	\$	9,230,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$150,000	\$835,000	\$	2,085,000	88%	11%	1%	45	\$ 170	\$	70



For Blue Onl

	% of <u>Total</u>		Be	eginning		<u>c</u>	ontracts								Net <u>Collection</u>	Bad <u>Debts</u>	Change <u>in</u>	<u>Days in</u>	A	<u>verage</u>	A	<u>verage</u>
	Charges CPT + Modfier	<u>Units</u>		AR	Charges	Adj	iustments	Payments	Re	efunds	Ba	d Debts	Er	nding A/R	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	AR	AR	<u>(</u>	harge:	Co	ollection
1	31% 88305	9,000	\$	185,294	\$ 1,575,000	\$	327,130	\$ 1,255,500	\$	26,904	\$	11,398	\$	193,169	98%	1%	1%	45	5\$	175	\$	140
2	26% 8830526	7,500	\$	154,412	\$ 1,312,500	\$	833,245	\$ 453,375	\$	9,715	\$	29,032	\$	160,974	93%	6%	1%	45	5\$	175	\$	60
3	14% 8830726	6,000	\$	84,706	\$ 720,000	\$	53,813	\$ 675,180	\$	14,468	\$	1,875	\$	88,306	99%	0%	1%	45	5\$	120	\$	113
4	7% 8834126	1,800	\$	42,353	\$ 360,000	\$	279,655	\$ 70,308	\$	1,507	\$	9,744	\$	44,153	86%	12%	2%	45	5\$	200	\$	39
5	6% 88341	1,500	\$	35,294	\$ 300,000	\$	121,216	\$ 176,850	\$	3,790	\$	4,223	\$	36,794	97%	2%	1%	45	5\$	200	\$	118
6	4% 8830426	1,500	\$	22,941	\$ 195,000	\$	165,067	\$ 23,715	\$	508	\$	5,751	\$	23,916	78%	19%	3%	45	5\$	130	\$	16
7	4% 88342	600	\$	21,176	\$ 180,000	\$	95,964	\$ 81,540	\$	1,747	\$	3,344	\$	22,076	95%	4%	1%	45	5\$	300	\$	136
8	4% 8834226	600	\$	21,176	\$ 180,000	\$	146,159	\$ 28,458	\$	610	\$	5,093	\$	22,076	82%	15%	3%	45	5\$	300	\$	47
9	2% 88304	900	\$	13,765	\$ 117,000	\$	62,708	\$ 52,650	\$	1,128	\$	2,185	\$	14,350	95%	4%	1%	45	5\$	130	\$	59
10	2% 8831226	300	\$	10,941	\$ 93,000	\$	79,130	\$ 10,881	\$	233	\$	2,757	\$	11,406	77%	20%	3%	45	5\$	310	\$	36
11	1% 8830926	300	\$	7,941	\$ 67,500	\$	8,706	\$ 59,427	\$	1,273	\$	303	\$	8,279	99%	1%	1%	45	5\$	225	\$	198
	100%	30,000	\$	600,000	\$ 5,100,000	\$	2,172,793	\$ 2,887,884	\$	61,883	\$	75,706	\$	625,500	97%	3%	1%	45	5\$	170	\$	96

 Per Payor Report
 30,000
 \$
 600,000
 \$
 5,100,000
 \$
 2,172,793
 \$
 2,887,884
 \$ 61,883
 \$ 75,706
 \$ 625,500

PNPL

Exhibit 12

<u>Blue</u>

Rate Mode Denial % Comments

Blue

Contract

Allowable per Medicare Blue