Value-Based Shoulder Surgery: Practicing Outcomes-Based, CostConscious Care Using Models in Arthroplasty and Rotator Cuff Surgery

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Background: Pathology of the shoulder contributes significantly to the increasing burden of musculoskeletal disease. Currently, there exists high variability in the nature and quality of shoulder care, and outcomes and cost reporting are not uniform. Value-based practice aims to simultaneously maximize outcomes and minimize costs for given disease processes.

Methods: The current state of the shoulder care literature was examined with regards to cost and outcomes data, initiatives in streamlining care delivery, and evidence-based practice improvements. This was synthesized with value-based care theory to propose new avenues to improve shoulder care in the future.

Conclusion: The treatment of shoulder disorders is ideal for the value-based model but has been slow to adopt its principles thus far. We can begin to advance value-based practices through (1) the universal reporting of outcomes and costs, (2) integrating shoulder care across provider specialties, and (3) critically analyzing data to formulate best practices.

Level of Evidence: Narrative Review