Decision Point Take Home Assessment

HIRING DOCUMENT

Updated: March 2022

Overview & Purpose

- The purpose of this exercise is to help Decision Point evaluate how you think through a problem, bring some creativity and smarts to a solution, and leverage data to do so

- These slides contain a prompt and instructions to help you work through a solution to a problem like ones we tackle every day at Decision Point on behalf of our clients

- Please note:
  - You'll be using dummy data from a hypothetical Boston-based health plan
  - The health plan covers Medicare beneficiaries (Medicare is generally available for people age 65 or older, younger people with disabilities and people with End Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or transplant)).
  - There is no one "right" answer, please focus instead on communicating to us how you approach this type of problem

Background & Problem Statement

- Our client, a <u>Medicare Advantage</u> plan, would like to design and implement an "Emergency Department Diversion" program to cut avoidable utilization of the emergency department across its membership.
  - The aim of the Emergency Department (ED) Diversion program is to reduce unnecessary emergency room visits. Unnecessary emergency room visits are those that are non-emergent – issues that could be handled without emergency care.
- The VP of Clinical Services at the Medicare Advantage plan has requested Decision Point's recommendations for identifying and stratifying their Medicare Advantage population for triage into a two-tiered ED Diversion program:
  - Tier 1: Super utilizers
  - Tier 2: High utilizers
- Decision Point needs to (a) identify members that would be eligible for each of the two tiers of the program and (b) provide additional recommendations that the VP of Clinical Services should consider
- There is one exclusion criterion: Members that have had an inpatient admission (a hospitalization) in the prior 12 months are not eligible for this program, as these members are already handled in Care Management

decisionpoint

Prompt

- Please evaluate the following tables of dummy member data:
  - dp_table_members.csv
  - dp_table_medical_events.csv
  - dp_table_chronic_and_bh.csv
- Please prepare to discuss the following questions:
  - Which members should Decision Point recommend for Tier 1 ED Diversion?
  - Which members should Decision Point recommend for Tier 2 ED Diversion?
  - Are there any diseases that are associated with particularly high levels of ED utilization?
  - What other data would be useful to have to help strengthen our recommendations?
    Feel free to think beyond administrative/claims data and get creative.
  - Are there any aspects of the data you found surprising, or think warrant a closer look? How do they differ from what you would expect?
- If you generate any code to combine the data tables or any charts or graphs to help understand the data, please feel free to bring with you into this discussion. This is not required.

Thank you!