

RELATIVE WEIGHT THEORY

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Relative weight means a numeric value that reflects the relative resource consumption for the DRG to which it is assigned. Each relative weight is multiplied by the base amount to determine the DRG rate.

I must admit I had a good education and am pretty well read, but things like Relative Weight theory escape me. I don't understand it, couldn't explain it and certainly wouldn't know how to apply it. Today however I got to experience it firsthand.

You see this little vial, which tipped the scale at a little over 5 grams (For reference a R1 coin is 4g and a R2 6g) has been weighing very heavily on me for the last few months.

On my shoulders I have carried the hopes and fears of not only the Elders in my care, but those of their families waiting to hear that their parents have been vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2.

I have carried the fears of the staff who travel every day to work and carried the burden of those who ask "When will it end?"

Today we administered the second dose of the vaccine that will protect our vulnerable Elders against this illness and as we wrapped up the process, as we packed away the vaccination stations, I felt a weight lifted. It wasn't just 5 grams it was a whole lot heavier. I suddenly breathed a little better, felt a lightness in my step. It felt as though sun shone a little bit brighter that the smiles on peoples face were bigger and a sparkle had returned to their faces. 5 grams is all it weighed, it felt like tons.

It reminded me of a line from a favorite David Wilcox Song.

*It may look to you like nothing much to see
But you should see the way it feels to me*

