

MSMS Medigram



Valuable insights on ACOs



e-News for Friday, March 29, 2013

Upcoming Events

Blue Cross Announces Provider Fee Update

Thomas L. Simmer, MD, Senior VP & Chief Medical Officer, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM), recently delivered the 2013-2014 payment update at the Physician & Professional Provider Contract Advisory Committee (PPPCAC) meeting. BCBSM will continue its payment strategy of:

- Building a strong primary care foundation through Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) initiatives and tiered fees;
- Supporting the development of Organized Systems of Care (OSCs) to better coordinate care and perform population management; and
- For specialists, achieving their active engagement in population management through Physician Organizations/Physician-Hospital Organizations (POs, PHOs), measuring specialty performance at the population level, and specialist office visit fees tiered based on overall performance of the population they serve.

Based on this payment strategy, the total fee update effective July 1, will be 1.3% net. The PGIP PO Component was increased by 0.3%. This will take the total PO Component to 5.0%. The remaining 1% increase will be for specialty uplifts. This means that for the third straight year, there will be zero fee update.

At recent Tri-Staff (MSMS, Michigan Osteopathic Association and BCBSM) and PPPCAC meetings, MSMS strongly advocated that BCBSM provide an across-the-board fee update until such time as all specialties have an opportunity to receive uplift.

[More>>](#)

Michigan Doctors Say, 'Expand Medicaid Now!'

Legislators might be on break this week and next, but that doesn't mean we have to take a break from the Medicaid expansion effort. The Expand Medicaid coalition, of which MSMS is a member,

Understanding Transitional Care Management Service
April 2 - **NEW DATE!**
Live or Webinar
MSMS Headquarters, East Lansing

Learn to use Transitional Care Management (TCM) codes correctly and compliantly.

[Register Now >>](#)

The Weight of the State
May 8
The Inn at St. John's - Plymouth

This important conference will provide essential educational opportunities for health care professionals on advances in prevention strategies, treatment approaches, and health consequences of obesity.

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consists of more than 20 health care, business and other organizations that are working to expand Medicaid eligibility and bump the program's rates to that of Medicare, as proffered in the Affordable Care Act.

[Video outlines why physicians want expansion>>](#)

If you haven't done so already, MSMS urges you to sign up today for the [Expand Medicaid newsletter](#) to receive updates and stay connected.

If adopted, the expansion would cover approximately 450,000 additional lives. The federal government would pay for 100% of the cost for the first two years. After that, Michigan would pay for 10% of that additional cost.

Last week, Medicaid expansion hit a snag when the House Appropriations Community Health Subcommittee removed it from the MDCH budget bill it passed after lawmakers raised concerns about cost to consumers, sustainability, and the possibility of reforms instead of expansion. The Senate is expected to take up its own MDCH budget bill in the coming weeks. Watch *Medigram* for further developments.

Happy Doctors' Day on March 30!



National Doctors' Day has been held annually on March 30 since 1933 to honor physicians who dedicate their careers to the care of their patients and to advancing medical knowledge. The first Doctors' Day honored Crawford W. Long, MD, of Georgia, who discovered the use of ether as an anesthetic in surgery. Previously, surgery was done

without any painkillers.

"Being a physician is a demanding but incredibly rewarding profession," said MSMS President John G. Bizon, MD, a Calhoun County otolaryngologist. "The physician-patient relationship has faced many challenges over the years, but we have worked hard both in our practices and outside them to ensure that above all else, patients will have confidence in us to provide the best possible care to them and their families."

MSMS salutes its 16,000 members for their membership, their leadership and their dedication!

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