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e-News for Friday, September 6, 2013

Upcoming Events

ACOs Aren't 'Pie in the Sky' – They're Real & Achievable



Accountable care organizations (ACOs) present a natural progression in the delivery of patient centered care as

they bring physicians and other health care providers together to manage the broad spectrum of care for a population of patients. Hailed as a better way to achieve cost-effective, high-quality patient care, ACOs have the potential to improve the population's health and slow spiraling health care costs.

On Wednesday, September 18, during the MSMS conference [Transitioning to Accountable Care Organizations](#), in Plymouth, you will get practical information to help you transform your practice under the ACO model. Expert speakers will present topics such as Trends in Health Care; Population Health: A Brave New World; Legal Issues Arising from Health Information Technology; Practice Liability, Risk Management & the Practice of Good Medicine; Improving Health Care Decision-Making - Comparative Effectiveness Research; and Building an ACO

Physician Executive Development Program - Three-Part Series

Wednesday, October 9, Troy
Monday, October 30, Webinar
Wednesday, November 6, Troy

This series will focus on teaching physicians to become top-notch business leaders while remaining exceptional physicians. It will feature practical information presented by physicians in the trenches.

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with Your Physician Network, presented by **Robert Jackson, MD**, Western Wayne Physicians Independent Physician Organization.

As Doctor Jackson put it during a recent presentation to the MSMS Board of Directors, "The future is not certain, but certainly physicians **MUST** control costs, improve quality, and improve patients' experience with care.

"We will have to take care of patients between visits, begin taking care of a population. To do that we must each be accountable, hold each other accountable, and actively engage our patients to better care for themselves," he added.

Congress Returns Next Week – Stay Up-to-date on SGR Action



MSMS continues efforts to push for repeal of the failing sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula for Medicare physician reimbursements as Congress prepares to return next week for fall

session. Next up: MSMS leaders will head to Washington, DC, on September 18, to discuss with key lawmakers from the Michigan Congressional Delegation pending legislation that aims to overhaul the problematic reimbursement system.

During the summer, the House Committee on Energy & Commerce passed a bipartisan measure, which would replace the SGR with a new Medicare physician payment update based on performance under an expanded physician quality reporting system (PQRS). The bill

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Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) Legal Alert

What physicians need to know under the Medicare Shared Savings Program:

- Business Plans & Financial Models
- Corporate Structure
- Governance Structure
- Shared Savings and Losses
- Terms of Participation and More!

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provides for an initial five years of positive updates at 0.5% per year. Beginning in 2019, physicians would have the opportunity to earn an additional 1% for successful participation in an expanded PQRS program. Physicians who score poorly would be subject to cut of 1% (a net cut of -0.5%). In addition, the draft provides for the development of alternative payment models that would allow physicians to opt out of the new reporting requirements.

MSMS and the AMA urge members to stay up-to-date on the issue and to keep pressure on their lawmakers using the information and tools in the [AMA Medicare Physician Payment Action Kit](#). In it, you will find Medicare SGR news, contact information for lawmakers, SGR transition principles put forth by the physician community, impact of Medicare cuts on each state, and more.



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Henry Ford's Schlichting, Michigan Health Care Entities Get Noticed

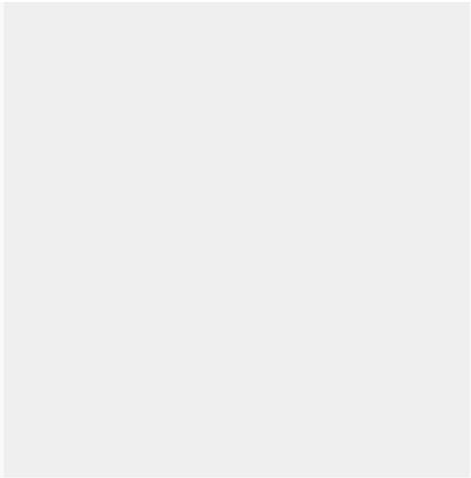


Modern Healthcare's most read articles in August featured a top Michigan hospital executive and several Michigan health care facilities and organizations.

Modern Healthcare's annual ranking of the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare honors individuals in health care who are deemed by their peers and an expert panel to be the most influential individuals in the industry, in terms of leadership and impact. Appearing on the list for the sixth time is Henry Ford Health System CEO [Nancy Schlichting](#).

In addition, *Modern Healthcare* presented the 100

companies and organizations named Best Places to Work for 2013. The recognition program, now in its sixth year, honors workplaces throughout the health care industry that empower employees to perform at their optimum level to provide patients and customers with the best possible care, products, and services. Four Michigan employers appeared on that list: Allegan General Hospital in Allegan; HHA Services in St. Clair Shores; Hospitalists of Northern Michigan in Traverse City; and McLaren Health in Flint. [More>>](#)



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