



Valuable insights on ACOs



e-News for Friday, April 12, 2013

## Upcoming Events

### CONTENTS:

1. Beyond Color-coded Scrubs: Patients Need to Know Who's Treating Them
2. Senate Committee Restores GME Funding
3. CMS's Stage 3 Slowdown, Plus New EHR Audit Resources
4. What You Should Know about the President's Proposed HHS Budget
5. Get Ready for A.C. & the Sunshine Act – Register for Webinar

### 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.

[Register Now >>](#)

### Beyond Color-coded Scrubs: Patients Need to Know Who's Treating Them

Yesterday, MSMS helped launch new legislation introduced by **Rep. Gail Haines** (R-Waterford) that requires medical professionals to wear and display their credentials both in the office and/or hospital, as well as in any advertising promoting their services. Nicknamed "Patient's Right to Know," the bill aims to empower patients by giving them the most accurate information about who is treating them and what their health care provider is trained and licensed to do.

### Spring Scientific Meeting

May 16 & 17

Somerset Inn - Troy

Smaller and shorter version of the popular fall Scientific Meeting, featuring clinical education.

[Register Now >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)



*Doctor Elmassian speaking to a local news station*

MSMS President-elect **Kenneth Elmassian, DO**, an Ingham County anesthesiologist, told [WLNS Lansing Channel 6](#) yesterday why the bill is necessary: "There is no place for confusion in health care that can put patient safety at risk. A confusing health care system can lead to medical errors and

patient harm when patients or their loved ones mistakenly take advice from medical professionals whose training or experience is something other than what the patient believed or expected."

[More>>](#)

**SET YOUR ALARM!** Tune your AM radio to [Michigan's Big Show](#) with Michael Patrick Shiels on Monday at 7:00 a.m., to hear Doctor Elmassian discuss the Patient's Right to Know bill.

## CMS's Stage 3 Slowdown, Plus New EHR Audit Resources

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced recently that the rulemaking process for Stage 3 of its electronic health record (EHR) meaningful use program won't take place in 2013 as anticipated. Rather, CMS will pause to assess the program's success, review input from physicians and others in the health care industry, and focus on achieving greater interoperability across EHR systems. Earlier this year, the AMA submitted formal comments on Stage 3, urging CMS to evaluate the program's earlier stages and resolve existing problems before moving forward with new rules. [More>>](#)

In Michigan, efforts to expand the interoperability of health information continue to progress with [Priority Health](#) recently joining Michigan Health Connect, one of seven qualified sub-state Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) in the state. Because Michigan Health Connect has the ability to deliver hospital admission, discharge and transfer notifications to insurers, this partnership means Priority Health will be immediately notified and can start processing claims when members are treated in an emergency room or admitted to a hospital.

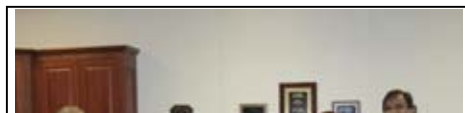
### Use CMS Resources to Prepare for EHR Audits

All eligible professionals (EPs), eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals (CAHs) attesting to receive an incentive payment for either the Medicare or Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program may be subject to an audit. To help providers prepare, CMS created the new [Supporting Documentation for Audits Fact Sheet](#).

## Senate Committee Restores GME Funding

Yesterday, the Senate Appropriations Department of Community Health Subcommittee, chaired by **Sen. John Moolenaar** (R-Midland), passed a budget that restored the governor's proposed 7% cut to graduate medical education (GME) funding.


MSMS President **John G. Bizon, MD**, a Calhoun County otolaryngologist, said in a statement: "Physicians across Michigan applaud members of the Senate Appropriations Committee who today voted to put patients first by restoring critical medical education funding that allows for enhanced training of primary care physicians to stem the impending physician shortage in our state."



On Tuesday, members of the MSMS International Medical Graduate (IMG) section came to Lansing

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(l to r) Allan C.D. Brown, MD, Washtenaw;  
Naeem Ahmed, MD, Bay; Mona Hardas, MD,  
Genesee; Sen. Moolenaar (seated); Amit Ghose,  
MD, Ingham; and Shafi J. Ahmed, MD, Genesee

as "Doctors of the Day" to meet with their lawmakers about Medicaid expansion, GME funding, and more. [Want to be Doctor of the Day?](#)




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## What You Should Know about the President's Proposed HHS Budget

The US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary **Kathleen Sebelius** and other leaders Wednesday announced President Obama's proposed HHS budget for FY 2014. MSMS has outlined several noteworthy provisions in the budget, including:

- Support for the implementation, operation, and oversight of Health Insurance Exchanges (a.k.a., Marketplaces);
- Funding for 40 new health center sites;
- Increased emphasis on and funding for patient safety research;
- Funding to address access to mental health services for students and young adults, as well as increase the behavioral health workforce.

[More>>](#)

### BTW, How Much Are States Spending on Health Care?


Check out the *Wall Street Journal's* illustrated breakdown of US health care spending per person by state, based on 2009 data (["Health-Care Costs: A State-by-State Comparison," April 8, 2013](#)).

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## Get Ready for A.C. & the Sunshine Act – Register for Webinar

An Affordable Care Act component, the Physician Payments Sunshine Act will require manufacturers of drugs, medical devices, and participants in US federal health care programs to report certain payments and items of value given to physicians and teaching hospitals starting August 1. It also will require drug and device companies to disclose, in a public database, all payments to individual physicians for consulting and other services. [Summary>>](#)

The AMA will present a webinar called "Physicians Preparing for the Sunshine Act: What You Need to Know and How to Prepare" on Wednesday, April 24, at 7:00 p.m. (ET), to help physicians get ready for this forthcoming database. Among other things, participants will learn which financial exchanges and ownership interests must be reported, steps they can take now to prepare for public disclosure of this information, and ways they will be able to challenge false, inaccurate or misleading reports. [Register>>](#)

 <p><b>MSMS</b> <b>Practice</b> <b>Partner</b></p>	<p><b>We can help you choose your vendor for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Office supplies</li><li>• Computer Systems</li><li>• Collection Services</li><li>• Insurance Solutions</li><li>• Financial Services</li><li>• Consulting Services</li></ul>
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