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e-News for Friday, January 31, 2014

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1. Medical Loan Repayment Bills Clear Committee

In January, a bill that would modify a program that re-pays student loans for certain physicians in underserved areas moved out of the Senate Appropriations Committee with amendments. Senate Bill 648, sponsored by Sen. John Moolenaar (R-Midland) and supported by MSMS, would remove the four-year limit on loan repayments, increase the maximum annual loan repayment, and establish a lifetime cap on loan repayments. The idea, according to the bill sponsor, is to incentivize more medical students to choose to practice primary care in rural and underserved parts of the state. The bill also would permit the Michigan Department of Community Health to give preference to physicians studying general practice, family medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, or internal medicine. Watch Medigram for further developments.

Learn more about state and federal loan repayment programs at www.msms.org/gme.

2. Free, Live Webinar: The Road to Meaningful Use in 2014

This year brings both good and bad news about Meaningful Use (MU). For the first time, we have two distinct groups looking to

Upcoming Events

ICD-10-CM Boot Camp

February 27-28, 2014
 Somerset Inn - Troy

This two-day program will ensure that physicians, coders, billers, managers and other health care professionals are prepared for the October 1, 2014 implementation of ICD-10-CM.

[Register Now >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

Meaningful Use Consulting

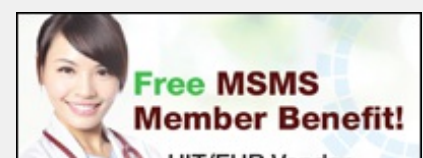
MSMS experts help you qualify for Medicare & Medicaid EHR incentives

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For more info, please contact Dara Barrera at djbarrera@msms.org or (517) 336-5770.



achieve MU, those moving to Stage 2, and those still in Stage 1. However, everyone will see changes. Criteria have been enhanced regardless of Stage 1 or Stage 2 participation, attestation timelines have shortened, and penalties are on the horizon for those who aren't taking steps towards MU this year. In this webinar, Todd Searls, an expert on EHR and MU and a frequent speaker, will discuss the changes in MU regulations and requirements.

Physicians and practice managers will benefit from hearing about the new penalties, the exact rules for selecting the attestation period, changes from the 2013 criteria and how to satisfy the new criteria, MU audits, security risk assessments, etc.

This free, live [webinar](#) will be held on Friday, February 21, 12:15-1:00 p.m. EST.

[Register >>](#)

3. Do Your Patients Know about the Importance of Advance Directives?

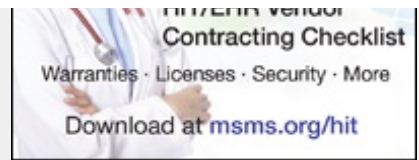
MSMS encourages you to educate your adult patients about the importance of having an advance directive on file in the event of a catastrophic illness or injury. Since 1990, MSMS has distributed more than five million of these forms. Customers include hospitals, physician offices, lawyers, hospices, and individuals. Experts urge everyone over the age of 18 years to get one and review it every year to update information. They don't even need an attorney. [Order Forms >>](#)

4. Free Webinar Focuses on Comparative Effectiveness Research

Interested in learning more about evidence-based resources to improve your patients' health? Join MSMS, Michigan Primary Care Transformation Project, and the Federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) for a [free webinar](#) called "Improving Health Care Decision Making: Comparative Effectiveness Research," on Tuesday, February 25, 12:00-1:00 p.m.

The webinar will:

- Explain what comparative effectiveness research is
- Summarize how comparative effectiveness research can be used to help improve clinical practice
- Identify free comparative effectiveness research resources through the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) for physicians and other clinicians



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To view this message as a webpage: [click here](#).

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