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e-News for Friday, September 5, 2014

Upcoming Events

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HIPAA Security Compliance: Be Prepared

September 17, 2014
St. Mary's of Michigan - Saginaw

October 24, 2014
Somerset Inn - Troy

[Details & Registration >>](#)

ICD-10-CM Boot Camp: The Clock is Ticking

September 18-19, 2014
FireKeepers Casino - Battle Creek

November 6-7, 2014
Weber's Inn - Ann Arbor

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1. Crucial Time as Legislature Returns For Final Countdown



State lawmakers made their way back to Lansing this week for the final days of the 2014 legislative session.

MSMS has a number of issues on the docket that we will be working on until the end of the year. A primary focus will continue to be on Senate Bill 2 -- the massive scope expansion bill that endangers patient safety and breaks up the health care team -- as noted in MSMS Action Alerts emailed to all members this week and last.

A hearing on SB 2 will be held in the House Health Policy Committee on Tuesday. President-elect Rose M. Ramirez, MD, will be testifying for MSMS. To send a message to your lawmaker about SB 2, [click here for the MSMS Action Center](#).

A handful of other bills that MSMS will continue to watch and work on include House Bill 4736 that would provide more options to treat STD's, House Bill 4404 and 4405 that would strengthen regulations at tanning salons, and House Bill 4524 that would regulate identification in hospitals for the various health professionals.



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MSMS also will be paying close attention to any legislation that would affect Michigan's No-Fault Auto Insurance statutes.

Your voice does matter and nothing is more powerful than a one-on-one meeting with your legislator at the Capitol. Please contact Steve Japinga, Chief, Public Policy & Legislative Affairs, at 517-336-5781 or sjapinga@msms.org to set up a meeting with your lawmaker.

2. New CMS Rule Allows Flexibility in Meeting Meaningful Use



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized a rule last week allowing hospitals and eligible professionals more flexibility in how they meet meaningful use requirements for the electronic health record incentive program.

In the final rule, physicians unable to adopt 2014 technology because of availability of certified technology have three options. The situation is similar for providers intending to attest to Stage 2 meaningful use in 2014. For option details in both situations, see the full [article](#)

and [charts](#).

Most physicians are still wondering where to go from here and what this new rule means for their practices.

Basically, if you have implemented the 2014 version of your EHR and can attest to Stage 2 meaningful use, you better go ahead and do so. For everyone else still working on implementation of the 2014 version, the best recommendation is to continue on with your path to achieving Stage 2 criteria and use the flexibility offered for this year to allow you more time to implement your changes properly.

The Michigan State Medical Society is here to help with MSMS HIT Consulting Services. MSMS consulting is designed to assist physicians in any specialty or practice size to achieve Meaningful Use, and has staff available to assist you. For more information, contact Dara Barrera at 517-336-5770 or djbarrera@msms.org.

3. NEW from MSMS! Lower Your Student Loan Debt

A new MSMS Practice Solutions partner, SoFi, can help you lower your student loan debt through exclusive refinance loans that combine your existing private and federal loans into one monthly loan payment with rates

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4. Open Payments Review and Dispute Process Extended to September 10



Due to technical difficulties that have limited access to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Open Payments Program, CMS is extending the

deadlines for review and dispute to next Wednesday, September 10.

The CMS Open Payments Program is the result of the Physician Payments Sunshine Act (Sunshine), which requires manufacturers of drugs, medical devices, and biologicals that participate in U.S. federal health care programs to track and report certain payments and items of value given to physicians and teaching hospitals. Manufacturers are required to submit the reports to CMS annually. Additionally, manufacturers and group purchasing organizations (GPOs) must report certain ownership interests held by physicians and their close family members.

Therefore, physicians have an additional window of opportunity to have potentially erroneous information corrected or flagged before the data is released. The original deadline for physicians to initiate disputes was August 27. However, as mentioned above, to allow ample time in the review, dispute and correction processes, **physicians have until September 10 to see whether any payments, items of value, or ownership interests have been attributed to them and to initiate a dispute if the information is not correct.** The public data release date remains the same, September 30, 2014.

Both CMS and the American Medical Association have tools to help physicians through this process. Visit the [Physicians web page of](#)



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the [Open Payments website](#) or ama-assn.org/go/sunshine, respectively, for more information.

If you have additional questions please feel free to contact Stacey Hettiger at (517) 336-5766 or shettiger@msms.org.

5. PCMH Designations Continue to Climb



Congratulations to the nearly 1,500 MSMS physician members who recently have been designated as a Patient Centered Medical Home practice.

A report released by the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative, "The

Medical Home's Impact on Cost and Quality," highlights studies of PCMH outcomes between August 2012 and December 2013. It points out positive improvements in practices using the PCMH model of care delivery. Progress has been shown in many areas including cost, utilization, prevention, population health, access to care, and patient satisfaction. Other advancements have been in payment reform and the strengthening of ACOs and other patient centered initiatives.

MSMS will present a program titled "Patient Centered Medical Home: Supporting Patients through Population Health" on Tuesday, Oct. 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Somerset Inn in Troy. Featured speaker will be Marianne Udow-Phillips, Director of the Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation.

This conference will further your understanding of the PCMH model and the role it plays in the management of population health. Whether or not you have jumped on the PCMH bandwagon, the information from expert speakers is not to be missed. Register at www.msms.org/eo.



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