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e-News for Friday, October 10, 2014

Upcoming Events

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1. Earn up to 28.5 AAFP Prescribed Credits and AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM



Register today for the 149th MSMS Foundation Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) October 21 – 25, 2014, to be held at the Somerset Inn, Troy. This year's ASM offers 40 courses including 2 free plenary sessions, free William Beaumont Lecture, along with daytime, evening and Saturday courses.

For complete course details and to register, visit www.msms.org/asm.

Statement of Accreditation:

The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement: The MSMS designates this live activity for a maximum of 28.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

AAFP Credit: This live activity, 149th MSMS Foundation Annual Scientific Meeting, with a begin date of October 22, 2014, has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 28.5 Prescribed credits by the American Academy of Family Physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

PCMH: Supporting Patients through Population Health

October 21, 2014
Somerset Inn - Troy

The Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) is physician-led and rooted in primary care. It emphasizes patient satisfaction by enhancing the quality of coordinated care and utilizing specific performance measures and incentives with potential cost savings to the health care system. Population health and the management of chronic disease are accentuated in this health care delivery model.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

ICD-10: Are You Prepared?

October 22, 2014
Somerset Inn - Troy

December 2, 2014
Somerset Inn - Troy

This class begins with an introduction to and some history of the ICD-10 system. Guidelines for ICD-10 are then reviewed with comparisons to current ICD-9 guidelines. General coding examples are scattered throughout the class along with specialty-specific ones to give the attendee hands-on coding of ICD-10 and to allow them to experience how they will be coding in ICD-10.

2. Conflicting Mammogram Guidelines Can Pose Risks



Misdiagnosis, delayed diagnosis, and failure to diagnose breast cancer are liability risks, particularly for radiologists, gynecologists, general surgeons, and family medicine practitioners, according to closed claims data from The Doctors Company from 2007-2013.

Several factors contribute to these risks:

- Conflicting guideline screening recommendations.
- False negative mammograms, which fail to detect some cancers.
- False positive mammograms, which lead to breast biopsy.
- Radiation exposure.

The Doctors Company offers a [fully footnoted article](#) about these mammography concerns. As a brief overview, physicians can promote patient safety and reduce risks by:

- Communicating with patients about conflicting guideline recommendations.
- Discussing why you believe your recommendation is right for the patient.
- Reviewing the patient's breast-related medical history and breast cancer risk factors to assess their impact on breast cancer risk.
- Ensuring that an adequate follow-up system for mammogram reports is in place.
- Clearly communicating mammogram test results to the patient in a timely manner and ensuring that the patient understands the significance of the findings and recommendations.
- Documenting all discussions with patients in the medical record.

For medical groups, The Doctors Company recommends that all member physicians should agree on and follow consistent practice guidelines for breast cancer screening. For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety.

3. Hardship Exception Applications Due Nov. 30 to Avoid the 2015 Medicare Payment Adjustment



CMS this week announced its intent to reopen the submission period for hardship exception applications for eligible professionals and eligible

hospitals to avoid the [2015 Medicare payment adjustments](#) for not demonstrating meaningful use of Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT).

The new deadline will be Nov. 30. Previously, the hardship exception application deadline was April 1 for eligible hospitals and July 1 for eligible professionals.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

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As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), Congress mandated payment adjustments under Medicare for eligible hospitals, critical access hospitals, and eligible professionals that are not meaningful users of CEHRT. The Recovery Act allows the Secretary to consider, on a case-by-case basis, hardship exceptions for eligible hospitals, critical access hospitals, and eligible professionals to avoid the payment adjustments.

This reopened [hardship exception application](#) submission period is for eligible professionals and eligible hospitals that:

- Have been unable to fully implement 2014 Edition CEHRT due to delays in 2014 Edition CEHRT availability; **AND**
- Eligible professionals who were unable to attest by Oct. 1 and eligible hospitals that were unable to attest by July 1 using the flexibility options provided in the [CMS 2014 CEHRT Flexibility Rule](#).

These are the only circumstances that will be considered for this reopened hardship exception application submission period. [Applications](#) must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EST on Nov. 30.

More Information

CMS said more information about the application process will be shared soon. It intends to address this issue in upcoming rulemaking. Visit the [Payment Adjustments and Hardship Exceptions webpage](#) for more information about Medicare EHR Incentive Program payment adjustments.

4. Supreme Court Elections Crucial to Profession and Patients



Those who believe that their professional lives are not affected by the Michigan Supreme Court need to look at every aspect of their daily lives, said MSMS President James D. Grant, MD, in his column in the upcoming issue of *Michigan Medicine*.

"If our medical liability reforms are overturned by an activist court, Michigan will once again become a pariah in recruiting new physicians and frivolous lawsuits will flourish," Doctor Grant pointed out. "Neither ivory towers nor hospital walls can protect physicians and patients from the miasma of a decaying practice climate. We need more political action as things get messy, not less."

An easy way to become involved in the Michigan Supreme Court elections is to let your patients know where you stand. Download a [reproducible flyer](#) here for use in your waiting room to let your patients know you are supporting Justice David Viviano, Justice Brian Zarha, and Judge Jim Redford.

As a physician, your advice is taken seriously. Let your patients know that it's important to continue to the non-partisan portion of the Nov. 4 ballot because their access to care could be affected.

5. International Medical Graduates Symposium on Oct. 25 in Troy

PROM

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International medical graduates and ECFMG-certified individuals as well as students, residents, and physicians interested in IMG issues and learning about AMA and MSMS resources are invited to attend a free AMA Symposium on

Saturday, Oct. 25, from 9-11 a.m. at the Somerset Inn in Troy.

Breakfast will be provided. This event is being held in conjunction with the [MSMS Annual Scientific Meeting](#). Those interested in the AMA Symposium also may attend optional mock interviews at 8:00 a.m.

During the symposium, panelists will discuss:

- AMA and AMA-IMG Section resources
- Michigan Conrad 30 Program
- Successfully navigating the match

"The AMA and MSMS IMG Sections are working hard to address the difficulties IMGs endure and we are making great progress," said Mouhanad Hammami, MD, chair of the MSMS IMG Section. "Michigan is fortunate to have the AMA present this program here, so we hope new and established IMGs will attend to learn more and network with each other."

MOCK INTERVIEWERS NEEDED

Interviewers for the mock interviews are needed at 8:00 a.m. at the Symposium. To volunteer, please register at the link below.

"We all owe a debt of gratitude," Doctor Hammami said. "Serving as a mock interviewer is a great way to give back."

REGISTRATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS

A Q&A session will follow the presentations. Space is limited, register today at <https://login.ama-assn.org/account/login>. If you have trouble logging in, please call (800) 262-3211 and get help to reset your password or to set up an account. Non-members may also create an account to register for this meeting.

The deadline to register is Oct. 21. Go to <http://ama-assn.org/go/amasymposium> for more information.

To reserve a room at the Somerset Inn, call (248) 643-7800 or [click here](#).

Infectious Disease Spread Prompts Practice Concerns

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THE DOCTORS COMPANY

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