

Infectious Disease Spread Prompts Practice Concerns

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THE DOCTORS COMPANY

e-News for Friday, January 23, 2015

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1. 2015 Medicaid Primary Care Rate Increase



For 2015 the primary care rate increase will be paid on CPT codes (99201 through 99215; 99304 through 99318; 99324 through 99337; 99341 through 99350) for **physicians Board certified in family medicine, general internal medicine, or pediatric medicine.** The fee-

for-service and non-capitated managed care plans will pay the enhanced payment through CPT codes. However, if your managed care contract is capitated, the increase will come as an enhanced capitated payment. While MSMS has not been told the amount for that enhanced payment, MSMS learned that it is on par with the fee-for-service increase.

Because the enhanced payment has not been disclosed, **please work with the health plans to define the enhanced capitated payment.** As you contact the health plans to determine that enhanced capitated payment, **please verify with them your specialty as the state will not provide an eligibility roster to the health plans.**

Should you have any further questions, please contact your

Upcoming Events



Compliance Essentials You Need to Know in 2015

January 28, 2015
Troy Marriott

This conference is designed to help physicians, medical staff and Physician Organizations stay up-to-date on the latest compliance rules, deadlines and obligations. Be prepared to learn about government initiatives that impact care delivery and billing, as well as the latest enforcement trends.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

Beyond Checking the Box: Legalities and Practicalities of HIT

February 17, 2015
Troy Marriott

Health information technology (HIT) is creating many challenges for physicians and other health care professionals as they work to understand how to marry technology with practice transformation goals. The presenters of this course will provide attendees with practical

reimbursement and coding solution, Stacie Saylor, CPC, CPB, at (517) 336-5722 or ssaylor@msms.org.

2. Gov. Rick Snyder's Plan to Merge Agencies That Serve the Poor Prompts Optimism, Questions

Michigan Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to merge state departments that serve poor and underinsured residents is being met with cautious optimism and healthy skepticism in Lansing.

Snyder, as he noted in his 2015 State of the State address, will soon issue an executive order combining the Department of Human Services and the Department of Community Health. The departments operate welfare, Medicaid and other assistance programs.

The merger is part of Snyder's broader vision to streamline government services and help residents quickly return to what he's calling the "river of opportunity."

[Read more from MLive >>](#)

3. SAVE THE DATE: GME Advocacy Day and New Lawmaker's Reception

The Michigan State Medical Society will kick off our new legislative year with our New Lawmakers Reception on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 from 5-7 pm at MSMS Headquarters. This event is a premier networking event for our physician members.

All MSMS members are welcome to attend and we have invited Michigan government officials, as well as the members of the Michigan Legislature.

The event will follow Graduate Medical Education Advocacy Day where GME advocates will visit Lansing to educate legislators on the vital role of teaching hospitals and the benefits of GME funding. GME directors, program administrators and physician residents are encouraged to attend this important event to urge full funding of GME.

To RSVP please contact Anne'ka Marzette, Government Relations Coordinator at amarzette@msms.org or 517-336-5736. Should you have any questions, please contact Colin J. Ford, Senior Director, State and Federal Government Affairs, at 517-336-5737.

4. Committee Assignments Announced for 2015-16 Term

Senator Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and House Speaker Kevin Cotter have revealed their full list of Senate and House committee members for the 2015-16 term.

"As Chair of the Michigan State Medical Society Legislation and Regulations Committee, we would like to congratulate lawmakers on these key committees that deal primarily with health care issues," said Grand Rapids urologist Phillip Wise, MD. "We look forward to working collaboratively with lawmakers on tackling tough

advice to help manage the various opportunities and requirements associated with the implementation of HIT tools and resources in medical practice.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

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health care issues during this legislative session while maintaining the highest quality of care, access, and safety for patients."

[Read more and see the full list >>](#)

5. MSMS MEMBER BENEFIT: Meet the Solution to Your Reimbursement and Coding Problems

If you are a member of MSMS (or work for an MSMS member), you can receive free reimbursement assistance from our Reimbursement Advocate, Stacie Saylor, CPC, CPB. A former manager of physician billing in a large health care system, Stacie has over 20 years of experience in physician billing issues. The MSMS Reimbursement Advocate has helped thousands of physicians recover as little as \$30 and as much as \$50,000.

[Read more >>](#)

6. Lower Your Student Loan Debt With SoFi

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 as low as 2.17 % APR with AutoPay.

Low fixed and variable rates mean MSMS members with \$150,000 in student loans can save hundreds of dollars a month. Consolidating all of your student loans into a single loan makes it easier with one lender, one bill, and one monthly payment saving the physician on average \$20,800*. Those new to SoFi who register through www.sofi.com/msms will receive a \$500** welcome bonus once the transaction is complete.

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*See SoFi.com/MSMS for a detailed explanation regarding how the savings were calculated.

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7. What is Obama's 'Precision Medicine' Initiative?

President Barack Obama used some of his State of the Union oratory to lay out a grand vision for "precision medicine" and announce an initiative to realize it.

"I want the country that eliminated polio and mapped the human genome to lead a new era of medicine -- one that delivers the right treatment at the right time," he said. The initiative would help to "give all of us access to the personalized information we need to keep ourselves and our families healthier."

According to a White House document accompanying the speech,

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the initiative would involve increased investment, though it's unclear what agencies the money would be channeled through.

[Read more from Modern Healthcare >>](#)



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