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e-News for Friday, February 20, 2015

1. Single Drug Formulary Announced for Medicaid Managed Care Plans



The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) recently announced changes in the upcoming request for proposal (RFP) for the Medicaid Managed Care Health Plans.

Starting with the new contracts, effective January 1,

2016, pharmacy services that have been covered by the Medicaid Health Plans will be carved out. Currently, each Medicaid Health Plan has their own formulary for covering drugs. All pharmaceutical services for Michigan Medicaid beneficiaries will no longer be the responsibility of the Medicaid Health Plans and will be through a single contracted pharmacy entity. This change will result in cost savings through increased pharmaceutical rebates and administrative efficiencies at the state level; and, will also result in significantly streamlined administration for providers.

The health plans have organized around a campaign to question the need for a single drug formulary. The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) **needs your help**. In order for MSMS to act on your behalf, we are **in need of practices that will share their experiences with costs, time and administrative hassle it takes to have multiple formularies for your Medicaid patients**.

Multiple formularies have been a challenge for physicians, hospitals and patients. The complexity of multiple coverage arrangements takes time. It is yet another administrative hassle that practices absorb while accepting 60 cents on the dollar for participating in Medicaid. **If Medicaid cannot pay the costs of caring for a patient, why can't it eliminate as many hassles as possible for the provider.**

As an MSMS member, we are advocating on your behalf. Please watch your inbox for additional engagement on this issue.

For more information or to share your story, please contact

Upcoming Events



PCMH: Supporting Patients through Population Health

March 4, 2015
Troy Marriott - Troy

The Patient Centered Medical Home has become a proven method to elevate patient care. Discover how you can take the PCMH to the next level.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

ER/LA Opioid REMS: Achieving Safe Use While Improving Patient Care

May 2, 2015
Amway Grand - Grand Rapids

May 14, 2015
The Henry - Dearborn

October 21, 2015
Somerset Inn - Troy

The Collaborative on REMS Education (CO*RE) has designed a core curriculum based on needs assessment, practice gaps, clinical competencies, learner self-assessment, with shared tools, resources, and outcomes to meet the

2. New Lawmakers Reception Builds Relationships

Earlier this week, the Michigan State Medical Society hosted its New Lawmakers Reception bringing our membership in direct contact with our legislators. The reception was an incredible opportunity to educate legislators about the issues physicians face in this challenging environment.

MSMS members spoke to the legislators about scope of practice, auto no-fault, Graduate Medical Education funding, and maintenance of certification reform, among other issues.

Attendees included: Senator Tonya Schuitmaker; Senator Margaret O'Brien; Senator Peter MacGregor; Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr.; Representative Mike Callton; Representative Edward Canfield, DO; Representative Jim Tedder; Representative Bill LaVoy; Representative Tom Cochran; Representative Marcia Hovey-Wright; and former Senator Roger Kahn, MD.

3. Your Invitation to Hear AMA President-Elect Steven Stack, MD, Speak on March 4 in Ann Arbor

MSMS members are invited to join AMA President-elect Steven J. Stack, MD, at the General Session of the Washtenaw County Medical Society on Wednesday, March 4, in Ann Arbor. Doctor Stack, a practicing emergency physician from Lexington, KY, will be speaking about current AMA activities. He will begin his term as AMA President in June.

AMA Board Chair Barbara McAneny, MD, a practicing oncologist from Albuquerque, NM, also will be attending the event.

The meeting will be held at the Ann Arbor City Club at 1830 Washtenaw Avenue. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with a cash bar available. Dinner will be at 6:15 p.m. and Doctor Stack will begin speaking at 7:00 p.m. Dinner is free to Washtenaw County members and \$35 for guests. A vegetarian or gluten-free option is available.

To register, please call WCMS Executive Director Belinda Chandler at 734-668-6241, or email wcms@msms.org by noon on Friday, Feb. 27.

[Download the flyer >>](#)

4. Mridha International Physician Volunteer Award Nominations Now Open

To celebrate and inspire volunteerism, the prestigious "Mridha International Physician Volunteer Award" has been established through the MSMS Foundation. Established by Debasish Mridha, MD, a Saginaw County neurologist, and his family, the award will recognize and support one outstanding physician member of MSMS each year who provides volunteer medical care and/or

requirements of the FDA REMS Blueprint.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

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counsel outside of the U.S. Nominations must be submitted no later than March 15, 2015.

[Nomination form >>](#)

5. Take the WEDI ICD-10 Readiness Survey

The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) is conducting an ICD-10 readiness survey to determine how well the health care industry is progressing toward the Oct. 1, 2015, implementation deadline.

The survey results will be evaluated and compiled into a report for the industry, which WEDI expects to release mid-March. Providers, health plans, vendors and clearinghouses are invited to participate in this important initiative to help monitor progress.

WEDI will continue to conduct surveys throughout 2015. Information collected from these surveys will help determine where additional outreach and education is needed.

If you are interested in taking this survey, the deadline is March 6, 2015.

[Take the WEDI survey >>](#)

6. MSMS Election of Offices at 2015 House of Delegates

MSMS Speaker Pino D. Colone, MD, recently polled all incumbent MSMS officeholders whose positions are up for a vote at the 2015 House of Delegates meeting. The poll was conducted according to House of Delegates' requirements to determine which officeholders are seeking nomination for re-election.

HIGHLIGHTS

- David M. Krhovsky, MD, Kent, District #5 Director, is ineligible to run for re-election to the MSMS Board of Directors, after completing three 3-year terms.
- Scot F. Goldberg, MD, MBA, Macomb, District #15 Director, is ineligible to run for re-election to the MSMS Board of Directors, after completing three 3-year terms.
- Raymond R. Rudoni, MD, Genesee, Vice Speaker, resigned.
- The President-elect is elected annually and will become president at the following House of Delegates meeting. To date, two candidates have announced their candidacies for the President-elect position: David M. Krhovsky, MD, Kent; and Bassam H. Nasr, MD, MBA, St. Clair.
- Due to a decrease in membership, Districts #1 (Wayne), #5 (Barry, Ionia-Montcalm, Kent, and Ottawa), and #8 (Gratiot, Isabella-Clare, Midland, Saginaw, and Tuscola) will lose one seat on the MSMS Board of Directors. District #15 (Oakland and Macomb) will lose two seats on the MSMS Board of Directors.

[Complete list of offices that will be voted upon at the 2015 House of Delegates >>](#)

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REMINDER: The deadline to submit a resolution to the MSMS House of Delegates is March 1, 2015.

[Learn more and submit a resolution >>](#)

NOW OPEN: Registration for Delegates, Alternates, and others attending events at the 2015 MSMS House of Delegates is now open on the MSMS website.

[HOD registration and resources >>](#)

7. BCBSM Foundation Seeking Nominations for Student Award Program



The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation has announced its annual Student Award Program. The intent of their Student Award Program is to support the next generation of applied researchers in health and medical care.

The Student Award Program offers a one-year \$3,000 stipend to fund medical or dissertation research. All doctoral and medical students enrolled in Michigan universities are eligible. Basic research, drug studies and research involving non-human subjects are not eligible. Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2015.

[Read more >>](#)

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

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