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e-News for Friday, March 27, 2015

Upcoming Events

Information Regarding the 2015 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule



The negative update of 21% under current law for the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule is scheduled to take effect on April 1, 2015. Medicare Physician Fee Schedule claims for services rendered on or before March 31, 2015, are unaffected by the payment cut and will be

processed and paid under normal procedures and time frames. The Administration urges Congress to take action to ensure these cuts do not take effect. However, until that happens, CMS must take steps to implement the negative update. Under current law, electronic claims are not paid sooner than 14 calendar days (29 days for paper claims) after the date of receipt. CMS will notify you on or before April 11, 2015, with more information about the status of Congressional action to avert the negative update and next steps.

Recently the House of Representatives took a serious step towards repealing Medicare's flawed sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula by overwhelmingly passing H.R. 2 (formerly H.R. 1470/S. 810), bipartisan legislation that would repeal the SGR and clear the way for a 21st century Medicare physician payment system. Now it's the Senate's turn to act. This formula is hurting physicians and patients by annually threatening payment cuts that will impact a patients' choice of physician and access to the care that they need. Please take a moment to send a customizable email urging your Senators to continue working in a bipartisan manner to protect Medicare and seniors' choice of physician by passing this legislation that would repeal the flawed Medicare SGR formula before the March 31 deadline.

[Write your U.S. Senator today >>](#)



Day of Coding Education with MSMS

April 17, 2015
Marriott, Troy

Pitfalls of E/M Documentation 2015

7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

In today's environment of audits and chart reviews, note documentation can be tedious, treacherous or trouble free. Physicians/Providers need both an understanding of the rules of documentation but also need to know where the pitfalls are that can derail their note with a single word or phrase. With this knowledge, a concise, compliant note will both maximize coding and reimbursement but will withstand an audit. This session is designed for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

CCM, CPO, TCM: Do You Know Your Alphabet of Outpatient Care Codes?

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Is your office providing care to patients after hospital discharge

Michigan Medicine (March/April) is Now Available Online



The latest edition of *Michigan Medicine* magazine may now be viewed online, where an interactive PDF version also is available.

Michigan Medicine's spring issue focuses on Practicing in Michigan. The cover story features a Q&A with Rose M. Ramirez, MD, MSMS President-elect, graduate medical education, state of Michigan programs for physicians, the many resources MSMS offers its members and why Michigan is an ideal place to practice

medicine. This edition also includes are standard features, such as: Ask Our Lawyer, HIT Corner, MDCH Update, Medical Family Matters and MSMS President James Grant, MD, Perspective.

Michigan Medicine crosses all specialty lines and hits hard on current issues affecting patient care, practice management and technology, physician reimbursement, cost controls, human resource trends and legal matters. *Michigan Medicine* also presents thought-provoking and inspiring profiles of physicians who are pursuing unique approaches to the challenges of practicing medicine today. Published since 1902, Michigan Medicine is the official magazine of the Michigan State Medical Society consistently rated among the most effective associations in Michigan by Inside Michigan Politics.

[View Michigan Medicine >>](#)

54th Annual Joseph S. Moore, MD, Conference on Maternal & Perinatal Health



This annual conference is developed by a multidisciplinary planning committee specializing in obstetrics, family practice, neonatology, maternal fetal medicine, and pediatrics. The Committee strives to provide timely educational needs that underlie the professional

practice gaps of maternal and neonatal medicine.

Register now to hear sessions on Gestational Viability; Improving Outcomes for Low Income, First Time Mothers and Babies; Single-gene Disorders; Pros and Cons of Neonatal Circumcision; Intrauterine Growth Restriction; and more.

[Download the Course Brochure >>](#)

Urge Your Lawmaker to Vote Against Senate Bill 68

Earlier this month, Anita R. Avery, MD, member of the

or with complex chronic illnesses? There are codes for payment for these services. Each of these codes is a different type of care with its own nuances of documentation and billing. As more carriers are recognizing these codes, make sure your office understands which services are now payable and what the compliance issues are with the codes. This course is for billers, coders, office managers, and billing managers.

How to Perform an Internal Audit: How To Keep It Simple But Useful

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

If CMS, WPS, the OIG or another payer came into your office tomorrow and performed an audit, what would they find? Have you done the audit that is defined in your corporate compliance plan (If you don't have one, what risk that puts you in). This course will identify and review key elements of audits, including where to start and what to audit for; moving forward with results (ie provider education) and reducing future risks. The course is designed for billers, coders, office managers, billing managers, and physicians.

[More Events >>](#)

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Michigan State Medical Society's (MSMS) Board of Directors, and Patrick J. Haddad, MSMS attorney with Kerr Russell Attorneys and Counselors, testified in front of the Senate Health Policy Committee regarding Senate Bill 68. This dangerous legislation would undermine

the team-based health care model, causing physicians to be stripped from many health care teams while reducing educational requirements for those who practice medicine.

This Bill seeks to create legislative and regulatory parity for advanced practice nurses and physicians despite the significant differences in the amount of training required by the two professions.

What Senate Bill 68 does, is provide a legislative shortcut for training that should be acquired by experience and education. Quality and safety within health care is not an accident. It is the result of intense education and many years of preparation.

Senate Bill 68 is not about access, it is not about patient care, it is not about education and training, but rather it is about the legislative priorities of advanced practice nurses.

[Please urge your lawmaker to put the needs of Michigan patients first by voting NO on Senate Bill 68 >>](#)

[Activate Your Political Voice -- Join MDPAC >>](#)

Durable Power of Attorney: You Can Now Decide in Advance about Your Health Care

Health care and legal groups urge every Michigan resident over 18 years old to complete a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care Designation Form. The forms were developed and approved by the Michigan State Medical Society, the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, and the Michigan Osteopathic Association.

The Designation Form is an eight-page booklet. The document is designed to be a 'user friendly' form. The form provides a patient with the means to appoint a patient advocate to make health care decisions for them if they become incapacitated. The short patient brochure accompanying each form covers more detailed information about the new Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care law.

For those organizations that are sales tax exempt there is a Sales Tax Exemption form included with the order form that must be filled out before the order can be processed. If your organization is not sales tax exempt, the 6% state sales tax will need to be calculated into your order's total amount.

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

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