

Six Tips for Safe Cloud Storage

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THE DOCTORS COMPANY

e-News for Friday, July 24, 2015

Upcoming Events

MSMS Board Discusses Blues, Preparedness & ASM at Midsummer Meeting



The MSMS Board of Directors discussed Blue Cross issues, emergency preparedness, and the Annual Scientific Meeting among other topics at its Midsummer Board meeting at MSMS Headquarters in East Lansing on July 17.

Thomas L. Simmer, MD, Vice President and Chief Medical Director, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, presented his annual report to the Health Care Delivery Committee. Issues regarding the PGIP program were discussed in detail.

Doctor Simmer noted that:

- All specialties will be eligible for the uplifts in 2016. Specialists must be nominated by their PO. Criteria vary by POs, but center on the PCMH neighborhood theme. Tiered fees are paid to practices directly and do not come out of the PGIP pool.

[Read more >>](#)

Avoid OSHA Violations In Your Medical Office



Under the Occupational and Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. According to

Robert Kulick, OSHA regional administrator, employers and employees must work together to identify and eliminate potential hazards. A serious OSHA violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a



ICD-10: Know What You Need in Order to Code

July 30, 2015
MSMS Headquarters, East Lansing

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM: Primary Care/Medical Specialty

1:00 - 4:00 PM: Surgical Specialty

With less than 100 days before implementation of ICD-10 where are you in your preparation? Physicians are the first and most important part of a practice's success at this transition and need help to understand their role in this new upgraded coding system.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

Opioids and Michigan Workers' Compensation Webinar

August 12, 2015
12:15 - 1:00 PM

No cost, but registration is

hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

On March 26, 2013, OSHA fined a New York medical practice for inadequate worker safeguards against bloodborne pathogen hazards. The citations included lack of written exposure control program outlining the protective measures used to eliminate or minimize workers' exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials, failing to provide employees training and properly fitted protective wear, failing to offer Hepatitis B vaccine to at risk employees, allowing sharps containers to overfill and allowing employees to recap non-engineered contaminated needles. This practice was cited for many of the most common violations in medical offices.

[Read more >>](#)

Employing Advanced Practice Providers: Balancing Benefits and Potential Malpractice Risks



Practices and hospitals that employ advanced practice providers (APPs), including nurse practitioners and physician assistants, can experience many benefits, such as lower operating overhead, increased physician time with patients, and improved patient education and satisfaction. However, employers of APPs should consider implementing effective risk management measures to help ensure that

the benefits of using APPs are not at the expense of increased liability exposure.

An APP is often covered under the physician's or hospital's malpractice insurance policy under vicarious liability coverage. APPs can be held directly liable for their own acts or omissions, but, in addition, under the legal theory of vicarious liability, physicians and hospitals can also be held liable for the actions of their employees, including APPs. Therefore, the physician or hospital is often named in malpractice claims involving their APPs.

[Read more >>](#)

Current Medicare Incentive Programs to be Replaced by New Quality Initiatives - Physicians Must Act Now to Sustain and Grow Fee Schedule

Effective April 16, 2015, the Medicare Access and Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), also known as the "doc fix," permanently repealed the sustainable growth rate (SGR). The Act

required

The State of Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency is pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the new Michigan Workers' Compensation reimbursement rules related to chronic opioid use. This section of the webinar will provide practitioners with a thorough understanding of the new opioid reimbursement rules and their impact on providers who treat injured workers.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

An advertisement for refinancing student loans. It features the text "Refinance Your Student Loans and Save" in blue and black. Below this is a yellow button with the text "Start Saving >". At the bottom left, it says "CFL #6054612". On the right side, there is a photograph of a smiling man in a light blue shirt.

An advertisement for Chemical Bank mortgages. It has a green background with white text that reads "MORTGAGES. MADE IN MICHIGAN. ASK ABOUT OUR DOCTOR PROGRAM." Below the text is the Chemical Bank logo, which includes a stylized 'C' and the words "CHEMICAL BANK" and "Member FDIC".



serves as a catalyst for transitioning practices to a value-based payment system.

Many physicians do not realize how quickly MACRA will affect them.

Current incentive programs that promote value in patient care, including Meaningful Use (MU), Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and the Value Based Payment Modifier (VBM), end in 2018. Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) payments will continue with a .5 percent annual increase through 2019; then FFS payments will not increase again until 2026.

[Read more and see the timeline >>](#)

Physicians Review Organization Seeks PTs, OTs and Speech Therapists to Serve as Peer Reviewers



Peer review contributes to the betterment of health care delivery, provides our reviewers with the opportunity to assist their peers, and

gives them insight as to the practice and techniques of their peers.

Due to its considerable growth and demand for review services, Physician's Review Organization is now seeking physician therapists, occupational therapists, and speech therapists.

Since its founding in 1983, Physicians Review has provided case reviews to a wide range of groups, including hospitals, physician practices, managed care organizations, and major insurance companies.

Physicians Review utilizes the expertise of its experienced staff, and more than 160 carefully selected reviewers to ensure that clients receive informed, confidential, and objective reviews. Physicians Review is fully accredited by URAC.

If you are interested in becoming a reviewer or know of someone in these areas, please contact Rebecca Blake at 517-336-5729 or via email at rblake@msms.org.

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