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Official CMS news from the Medicare Learning Network®

Thursday, September 17, 2020

News

- SNF Healthcare-Associated Infections Measure: Submit Comments by October 14
- Participate in Medical Documentation Interoperability Pilot
- COVID-19 Lessons Learned & Infectious Disease Surge Annex Template
- Healthy Aging® Month: Discuss Preventive Services with Your Patients
- Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Events

- Dementia Care Call — September 22

MLN Matters® Articles

- October 2020 Update of the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Payment System
- New Waivers for Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospitals, Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs), and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs) due to Provisions of the CARES Act — Revised
- Update to Hospice Payment Rates, Hospice Cap, Hospice Wage Index, and Hospice Pricer for FY 2021 — Revised

News

SNF Healthcare-Associated Infections Measure: Submit Comments by October 14

CMS seeks input on a draft measure for the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Quality Reporting Program: [Healthcare-Associated Infections Requiring Hospitalizations](#). Visit the [Public Comments](#) webpage for more information. Submit comments to QM-Public-Comment@acumenllc.com by October 14.

Participate in Medical Documentation Interoperability Pilot

Standardize Provider-to-Provider Documentation Exchanges

CMS encourages you to participate in an interoperability pilot to test medical documentation exchanges. The [Electronic Medical Documentation Interoperability \(EMDI\) Initiative](#) is designed to reduce provider burden by helping you standardize your workflow, so you can send and receive documentation electronically:

- Implementing interoperable workflows
- Providing educational sessions and workgroups
- Connecting you to collaboration with other providers
- Creating resources
- Supporting CMS policies, regulations, and initiatives

You'll have an opportunity to test interoperable solutions by piloting one or more three use cases:

- Ordering
- Requesting medical documentation from another provider
- Requesting physician signatures

For More Information:

- Register for an [EMDI Introduction Webinar](#)

- Email EMDI_team@scopeinfotechinc.com

COVID-19 Lessons Learned & Infectious Disease Surge Annex Template

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) released:

- [The Exchange, Issue 11: COVID-19 Lessons Learned](#): Resources on managing patient surge, safety and staff health, operations, telehealth, and what's next
- [Healthcare Coalition Infectious Disease Surge Annex Template](#): Voluntary template for developing a surge annex
- [Interim Guidance: SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\) and Field Trauma Triage Principles](#): How COVID-19 impacts triage for first responders

For More Information:

- [ASPR TRACIE](#) Fact Sheet
- [ASPR TRACIE](#) website
- [ASPR TRACIE Novel Coronavirus Resources](#) webpage

Healthy Aging® Month: Discuss Preventive Services with Your Patients

Healthy Aging Month focuses national attention on all aspects of growing older. Talk with your patients about adopting a healthy lifestyle, including use of appropriate Medicare-covered preventive services; care coordination for chronic conditions; behavioral health integration; and cognitive assessment and care planning.

For More Information:

- [Medicare Preventive Services](#) Educational Tool
- [Chronic Care Management Services](#) Booklet
- [Connected Care: The Chronic Care Management Resource](#) webpage

Visit the [Preventive Services](#) website to learn more about Medicare-covered services.

Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Prostate cancer is the most common non-skin cancer among American men. Talk to your Medicare patients about the nature and risk of prostate cancer and help them make an informed decision about screening.

For More Information:

- [Medicare Preventive Services](#) Educational Tool
- [CDC Prostate Cancer](#) website
- [National Cancer Institute Prostate Cancer](#) website

Visit the [Preventive Services](#) website to learn more about Medicare-covered services.

Events

Dementia Care Call — September 22

National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care and Quality Assurance Performance Improvement
Tuesday, September 22 from 1:30 to 3 pm ET

Register for [Medicare Learning Network events](#).

During this call, learn about the unique challenges facing nursing home residents living with dementia during the COVID-19 pandemic and best practices to support them. A question and answer session follows the presentations.

Speakers:

- Cathleen Lawrence and Dara Graham, CMS
- Kara Jacobs Slifka, MD, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Douglas Pace, Alzheimer's Association

Target Audience: Consumer and advocacy groups; nursing home providers; surveyor community; prescribers; professional associations; and other interested stakeholders.

MLN Matters® Articles

October 2020 Update of the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Payment System

CMS issued a new MLN Matters Article MM11963 on [October 2020 Update of the Ambulatory Surgical Center \(ASC\) Payment System](#). Learn about billing instructions and updates to Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System codes.

New Waivers for Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Hospitals, Long-Term Care Hospitals (LTCHs), and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs) due to Provisions of the CARES Act — Revised

CMS revised MLN Matters Special Edition Article SE20015 on [New Waivers for Inpatient Prospective Payment System \(IPPS\) Hospitals, Long-Term Care Hospitals \(LTCHs\), and Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities \(IRFs\) due to Provisions of the CARES Act](#) to add guidance on notifying your MAC when there is no evidence of a positive laboratory test.

Update to Hospice Payment Rates, Hospice Cap, Hospice Wage Index, and Hospice Pricer for FY 2021 — Revised

CMS revised MLN Matters Article MM11876 on [Update to Hospice Payment Rates, Hospice Cap, Hospice Wage Index, and Hospice Pricer for FY 2021](#) to correct typos related to revenue codes 652 and 656.

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