

July 28, 2014

News

Your Chapter in Action is a streamlined communication distributed every two weeks to members of the New York Chapter of [the American College](#) of Physicians. Each communication is focused on the Chapter's three core missions: **Education, Advocacy** and **Quality Improvement** and provides you with resources, tools and ways to connect. For more information or direct discussion of any issue listed – call our office at 518-427-0366.

Advocacy



Chapter Leaders Meet With Acting NYS Health Commissioner Zucker

On Monday, July 14th, Chapter Leaders met with New York State Acting Health Commissioner Howard A. Zucker, MD, JD in his Manhattan offices. Those attending presented a brief overview of the Chapter's mission and focus on physician education, advocacy and quality improvement/patient safety. Dr. Zucker briefly addressed his vision for the future of healthcare in New York and discussed at length his concerns over physician workforce capacity in the area of primary care and general internal medicine. The Chapter was asked to prepare a list of options that could assist the Commissioner as he seeks ways to build and maintain physician capacity, with some emphasis on ways to support small practices.

Mandatory Electronic Prescribing Effective March 27, 2015

Amendments to Title 10 NYCRR Part 80 Rules and Regulations on Controlled Substances have been adopted and became effective as final regulations on March 27, 2013. The amendments authorize a practitioner to issue an electronic prescription for controlled substances in Schedules II through V and allow a pharmacist to accept, annotate, dispense and electronically archive such prescriptions.

The amendments require the following:

- **Computer applications utilized must meet federal security requirements.** The federal requirements are included in the Drug Enforcement Administration Interim Final Rule regarding Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances. The rule may be accessed via the [U.S Department of Justice DEA Office of Diversion Control website](#). Contact your software vendor to determine if your [application](#) meets the above mentioned requirements.
- **Computer applications meeting federal security requirements must be registered with the Department of Health, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement.**

- To meet the New York State Public Health Law data submission requirements for electronic prescribing of controlled substances, the pharmacy must submit controlled substance dispensing data to the Department of Health, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, using the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) format Version 4.2 or greater.
- **Pursuant to Public Health Law section 3302(37), an electronic prescription for controlled substances may only be issued in accordance with Department of Health regulations, as well as NYS Education Department regulations and federal requirements.** [NYS Education Department regulations](#) may be accessed electronically.

[New York State Regulations related to Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances](#) may also be accessed electronically. Specific regulations pertaining to issuing electronic prescriptions for controlled substances may be accessed in [10 NYCRR 80.64](#)

By March 27, 2015, all prescriptions (including prescriptions for non-controlled substances) issued in New York State must be electronically transmitted, with certain limited exceptions. Please continue to visit this webpage for information pertaining to electronic prescribing of controlled substances.

If you have met all federal security requirements and would like to register the application with the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, send an email to narcotic@health.state.ny.us. Include "Electronic Prescribing" in the subject.

- [Letter to Pharmacies Regarding Electronic Prescribing Registration](#)
 - [Pharmacy EPCS Registration \(DOH-5120\)](#)
- [Letter to Practitioner Regarding Electronic Prescribing Registration](#)
 - [Practitioner EPCS Registration \(DOH-5121\)](#)
 - [Instructions for Practitioner EPCS registration form](#)

Member Benefits

Providing Value for our Members - Highlight of NYACP Chapter Benefits

1. **DOT Medical Examiners Training Course** –The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has recently established a National Registry of [Certified](#) Medical Examiners that now requires all medical examiners who conduct physical examinations for interstate commercial motor vehicle drivers [to complete](#) a training course and pass a certification examination. To assist physicians in [completing](#) the necessary training course, NYACP is collaborating with the California Academy of Family Physicians to offer a convenient [online course](#) option. The cost is \$350 for ACP members and \$500 for Non-ACP Members. More information can be found by clicking [Here](#).
2. **Infection Control Course** – This NYS Health Department approved training course is easy to use and offers a maximum of 4.0 AMA PRA Category I Credits™. For only \$50 physicians and all licenses health care professionals can successfully complete an approved infection control course that is required every four years as part of their license renewal mandate. This convenient online course offering is provided by NYACP in collaboration with MSSNY. More

information can be found by clicking [Here](#).

3. **Auto Insurance Reduction Course** – A 6-Hour Insurance and Point Reduction course that is approved by the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles and available to NYACP members, their families, office staff and friends. This convenient online member benefit allows registered “students” the ability to start and finish the course within 30 days for only \$42.00. The benefit includes a 10% reduction on your automobile insurance (liability, no-fault and collision) and up to 4 points off of your driving record (if applicable). More information can be found by clicking [Here](#).

Additional information and registration details for all of the above online courses as well as all of the benefits of belonging to the Chapter can be found at:

<http://www.nyacp.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3293>.

Quality

Infection Control - Hand Hygiene Recommendations Released

Several professional societies, including the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, recently released recommendations on preventing health care-associated infections through hand hygiene.

The recommendations were sponsored by SHEA and aimed to provide practical advice based on updated scientific evidence and to help health care facilities implement programs to improve hand hygiene adherence. Recommendations on basic practices for hand hygiene at all acute care hospitals included the following:

- Routine hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand rubs (AHRBs) should involve a product with at least 62% alcohol.
- Antimicrobial or nonantimicrobial soap should be available/accessible in all patient care areas for routine hand hygiene.
- Clinicians should be involved in choosing products for hand hygiene to improve adherence.
- Unit- or institution-specific barriers to hand hygiene should be assessed with clinicians to identify locally relevant interventions.
- Hand hygiene adherence should be measured by direct observation, product volume, or automated monitoring.
- Preferential use of soap and water should be considered during norovirus outbreaks by clinicians caring for patients with known or suspected infection, in addition to contact precautions.
- Hot water should not be used for hand washing because of skin irritation.
- AHRBs should not be used when hands are visibly soiled.
- Triclosan-containing soaps should not be used.

The recommendations also included sections on recommended strategies for hand hygiene improvement, performance measures, and implementation strategies. The full text was published July 16 by *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* and is available [online](#).

Source: <http://www.acpinternist.org/weekly/archives/2014/7/22/index.html#5>

Education

NYACP Weekend Board Review Course - earn up to 27 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM - Space is still available!

The NYACP Weekend Board Review Course will earn you up to **27 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM**! Chapter members who are preparing for Board Recertification or first-time Certification can take advantage of this unique IM Board Review course. Based upon recommendations from Chapter members who have attended previous Board Review courses, the weekend class is being offered over 3 days (Friday Evening-Sunday). Registration will begin at 5:30 pm on Friday and 7:30 am on Saturday and Sunday. You can choose to go to one, two or all three days, please indicate on your registration form..



Course Schedule and Topics Covered

Friday August 1, 2014 <u>6:00 pm - 10:00 pm</u>	Saturday, August 2, 2014 <u>8:00 am - 8:15 pm</u>	Sunday, August 3, 2014 <u>8:00 am - 7:15 pm</u>
Cardiology Nephrology	Gastroenterology, Hematology/ Oncology, Infectious Disease, General Internal Medicine	Endocrinology Pulmonary Rheumatology Neurology

Location-Theater Room
Lenox Hill Hospital
100 East 77th Street
New York, NY 10065

Faculty
Conrad Fischer, MD, FACP
Chris Paras, DO
Niket Sonpal, MD

CME Accreditation:

The American College of Physicians is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American College of Physicians designates this educational activity for a maximum of **27 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Registration Information:

The registration fee for the three day program is \$540 per member, which includes all materials, continental breakfast and lunch, or you can choose to attend one day only for \$200 per day. Residency Programs sending multiple residents can contact the Chapter to find out about special registration pricing for five or more residents from the same training program, please contact Karen Tucker at ktucker@nyacp.org. Registrants will be responsible for making their own hotel and travel plans. For more information, contact the Chapter office at 518-427-0366.

To Register:

Online: [Register Here](#)

By Mail or Fax: [Download Brochure](#)

Mail or Fax To:

NYACP
744 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207
Fax: 518-427-1991

Save the Date:**International Medical Graduate Symposium****Thursday, August 14, 2014****Time: 5:30 - 7:30 PM**

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
The Leon and Norma Hess Center for Science and Medicine
Davis Auditorium, 2nd Floor
1470 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10029
To Register and for more information- [click here for flyer](#)

Practice Management

Open Payments Sunshine Program Increases Transparency in Health Care

As part of the Open Payments program, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will soon make data about the financial relationships between the health care industry and physicians (e.g. including medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, dentists, chiropractors, and others) and teaching hospitals available to the public. Open Payments, previously known as the Sunshine Act, is a federal transparency program enacted by Congress in 2010. Under this program, CMS collects and publicly reports data about payments ("transfers of value"), ownership, or investment interests between drug and device manufacturers and physicians and teaching hospitals. Beginning with the last five months of 2013, CMS will collect this data annually from industry and make it publicly available, downloadable, and searchable. Every year CMS will continue to release this financial information as it becomes available about the prior year (e.g. by June 30, 2015 for 2014 data).

These financial interactions can happen for many reasons: research, conference travel and lodging, gifts, and consulting. They can foster collaboration among physicians, teaching hospitals, and industry manufacturers that may contribute to the design and delivery of life-saving drugs and devices. However, they also can potentially lead to conflicts of interest in how health care providers prescribe medications or give medical care.

While CMS doesn't make assumptions or draw conclusions about the reported information, the Agency will take steps to ensure that only accurate information is made public. For example, as part of this initial data collection process, CMS has engaged stakeholders as pilot users to ensure that reporting systems are user-friendly and performing properly. In addition, CMS will give physicians and teaching hospitals an opportunity to be sure that information reported about them is accurate. In order to review the data and make corrections if necessary, physicians and teaching hospitals must first register in CMS' Enterprise Portal starting on June 1, 2014. Then, starting in July, they must register in the Open Payments system (via CMS' Enterprise Portal). This voluntary review and dispute period is open for 45 days. CMS **strongly encourages** physicians and teaching hospitals to register in our Enterprise Portal and Open Payments systems so they can review their specific data. Any data that physicians or teaching hospital dispute, but is not corrected by industry within the

dispute resolution period, will be included when the data is made public and marked as disputed.

It is important that physicians or teaching hospitals know about this program, how and what financial relationships are reported, and how to answer questions from patients. Visit: <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/National-Physician-Payment-Transparency-Program/index.html> to get more information about Open Payments (the Sunshine Act) and the resources available to understand the program. Health care providers and others with questions and concerns can be emailed to openpayments@cms.hhs.gov.

This information is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

[Home](#)

Last update: 7.28.14
