

September 17, 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.

Attention Members of the Hudson Valley Region: **Have You Voted for the Next Hudson Valley Region Governor of the NYACP Yet?**

Are you aware that voting is already underway for the Hudson Valley Region Governor-elect of the NYACP? If you're part of the voting membership in the Hudson Valley region (Masters, Fellows, Members, and Resident/Fellow members elected no later than 8/1/2012) and haven't voted already, you can do so online at www.directvote.net/ACP or by mail. If you choose to mail in your ballot, your ACP Member Number and Election Passcode will be required with your ballot in order to cast your vote. The deadline to vote is November 5, 2014 at 11:59 EST.

Our two candidates for Governor are Marla Koroly, MD, FACP; and Louis S. Snitkoff, MD, FACP. You can read more about them [here](#).

Advocacy

If Your Group Practice Has Plans to Participate in the 2014 PQRS GPRO, Act Immediately!

The deadline for groups to register to participate in the CMS 2014 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) is **September 30, 2014 11:59 pm EDT!** If your group has 10 or more eligible professionals, participation in the 2014 PQRS GPRO allows your group a waiver for the automatic 2% reduction in payments that would occur in 2016. If your group practice did not participate in 2014, you can avoid the automatic payment adjustment in 2016 if the eligible professionals in the group participate in the PQRS as individuals and at least half of the eligible professionals meet the requirements. Additional information about these requirements can be found [here](#).

How Has New York's Health Benefit Exchange Affected Your Practice?



With New York heading into its second open enrollment period for its New York State of Health Healthcare Exchange starting November 15, it's important for us, working with MSSNY, to gain a better understanding of the experiences physicians have had in the first year of its existence. This way we can inform state policymakers about how a practice has handled the new health care exchange infrastructure. You can find the survey [here](#), and it only takes a few minutes to fill out.

Health and Public Policy Meeting

Early last week Chapter Leaders from around the state met in Albany to discuss health and public policy. Issues discussed included access to care, the implementation of ISTOP, quality of care and electronic prescribing. The committee members were updated on the 2014 legislative session.

Practice Management

Free Smoking Cessation Learning Module Available Online!

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S., and as physicians, you are in the best position to help patients successfully quit smoking, while simultaneously lowering their risk of heart disease, stroke, COPD and other diseases.

Recently, the NYC Health Department has developed an excellent and free online learning module to assist physicians by enhancing your knowledge on how to effectively assess, counsel, and address tobacco use, greatly improving patients' chances of successfully quitting. For medical residents, this module meets five of the six Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education core competencies and is able to be placed in your learning management system. For attending physicians, this module provides 1 CME credit.

Highlights of the module include:

- The "5 A's" model of treating tobacco use
- Provider/Patient communication techniques
- Treatment options and guidance, including combination therapy
- New York State Medicaid Benefits
- Billing information for smoking cessation counseling

Click [here](#) to access the online module and [here](#) to access additional provider resources.

Education

New Webinars Offered!

Please mark your calendar for the following programs offered by the Chapter:

Update on the New York Electronic Prescribing Mandate by the DOH Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

This webinar will enhance physicians' understanding of the new e-prescribing requirements, and familiarize them with actions they need to take to ensure readiness for the e-prescribing mandate effective March 27, 2015.

Tuesday: September 30 from 5:30- 6:30 pm: [Register Online Here](#)

Tuesday: October 14 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm: [Register Online Here](#)

The presenter will:

- Define Electronic prescribing and describe why New York is implementing mandatory electronic prescribing.
- Review the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Interim Final Rule on Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances.
- Review New York State Regulations on electronic prescribing of controlled substances
- Explain the difference between electronic prescribing software certification and registration of certified software with the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement

Understanding the Changes to ABIM's MOC Program

Tuesday, September 30 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm: [Register Online Here](#)

In an effort to help NYACP members understand the recent changes to the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program, ABIM staff member Kevin Caviston will give a presentation focused on the MOC program and will discuss the reasons behind the changes to the program, how the changes impact board-certified physicians and identify ways in which physicians can meet the MOC requirements.

How Does The Physician Payment Sunshine Act Impact You?

What Needs To Be Reported And By Whom?

Tuesday, October 7, 2014 from 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm: [Register Online Here](#)

Topics will include:

- (1) The requirements of, and information to be disclosed under, the Physician Payment Sunshine Act and "Open Payments" program
- (2) Important developments and trends regarding public access to industry reporting of payment information
- (3) The legal risks and practical implications arising from increased transparency of health care provider payment information and the steps providers can take to minimize risks and ensure compliance

Did you Miss the Following Webinars?

In Search of Joy in Practice: Innovations in Ambulatory Care Webinar?

You can view it now on the Chapter's Website under [Recorded Webinars!](#)

A Video to Help Prepare You and Your Patients For Flu Season

The New York State DOH Bureau of Immunization sponsored a webinar this past Thursday, September 11 to prepare physicians and their patients for Influenza season entitled ***Influenza Vaccine for the 2014-2015 Season: What you need to know.*** If by chance you missed it, you can view it and other informative videos [here](#).
