

August 25, 2017

Practice Management

CMS is Making Billing for Chronic Care Management Fees Easier



Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) has created the Connected Care campaign to assist with both physician and patient understanding of Chronic Care Management rules and fees. Physicians can download posters and postcards about CCM from the [Connected Care](#) website or request printed copies at no cost from the [CMS Product Ordering](#) website:

- [Postcard for Health Care Professionals](#) (Pub # 909444): An overview of CCM, the four billing codes for payment, and how to learn more about implementation
- Postcard for Consumers ([English](#) and [Spanish](#), Pub #909443): Helps you explain CCM and its benefits
- Poster ([English](#) and [Spanish](#), Pub #909445): Display in office or waiting room to get your patient's attention and help start the conversation

There are also some new videos:

- [Physician Testimonial](#): A rural physician shares her experience offering Chronic Care Management (CCM) services (2 minutes)
- Connecting the Dots ([English](#) and [Spanish](#)): This animated video provides CCM services information for Medicare beneficiaries living with multiple chronic conditions (30 seconds)

For More Information:

- [Connected Care](#) website
- [Connected Care Health Care Professional Toolkit](#)
- [Partner Toolkit](#)
- Email ccm@cms.hhs.gov

ACP's New Online Tool Helps Practices Get Ready for CMS's Quality Payment Program



Take advantage of ACP's new [Quality Payment Advisor](#)SM (QPA), a free online tool for ACP members that helps clinicians navigate CMS's value-based payment system, the Quality Payment Program (QPP). Starting with determining who is eligible for the QPP and which reporting track is best, the QPA provides a systematic approach to preparing for the new program. In addition, the QPA identifies performance gaps and details specific actions to take for successful participation.

[Get started today - click here!](#)

August is National Immunization Awareness Month - New Resources Available!



August is National Immunization Awareness Month, and in the interest of increasing immunization rates, NYACP offers internists the following resources:

- [Immunization patient education materials](#);
- ACP's [I Raise the Rates](#) initiative to increase adult immunization rates in primary care (it includes [webinars](#) and [videos](#) that cover the latest vaccine recommendations and how to use the entire health care team in organizing immunization services);
- Examples of [quality improvement projects in adult immunization](#);
- The [ACP Practice Advisor Adult Immunization Module](#) within ACP's Practice Advisor, which focuses on steps that staff in primary care offices can take to improve the rates of immunization; and
- [ACP Adult Immunization & Quality Improvement for Residents](#), featuring evidence-based strategies for increasing vaccination rates.
- [Recommended adult immunization schedule issued by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#), published in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

In addition, here are useful immunization links from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):

- [NYSDOH Vaccine and Immunization Information](#)
- [List of New York City Immunization reporting](#)

NEW! - [Medicare Part B payment allowances for influenza and pneumococcal vaccines](#)

6 Steps for Practices to Improve Adult Vaccination Rates *Excerpt courtesy of the American Medical Association (AMA)*

While school-entry requirements often obliged parents to vaccinate their children or at least submit an opt-out form, there is no requirement for adults to be up to date on their immunizations. Despite a growing public health need for adult vaccinations, administrative and financial burdens hamper physician efforts to implement adult vaccination programs. About 25 percent of physicians believe age-based vaccination recommendations for adults are difficult for patients to follow, according to the CDC.

Physicians can follow these six steps to create a successful team-based adult immunization program:

1. Get your health care team on board

Physicians set the tone for advocating adult vaccinations. The main influencing factor in deciding to get vaccinated is a physician's recommendation. By conveying strong support for vaccination, team members and patients will be on the same page. From asking team members for their opinions on vaccinations to requiring staff vaccinations, physicians can work with their team to begin an immunization program.

2. Team training

To providing training for their practice, physicians can use the "[Adult Immunizations: Team Training Program](#)." The STEPS Forward module offers five training sessions with speaker notes including:

- Vaccine fundamentals.
- Communicating benefits and risks of vaccines.
- Preparation, administration and adverse event reporting.
- Storage and handling.
- Billing, coding and documentation (includes standing orders).

Each session is about 30–60 minutes in length and can be used as is or with modifications to meet the team's needs.

In addition, there are four other steps: 3. Prepare to address common patient questions; 4. Implement a standardized process; 5. Document vaccines given and reduce financial risk; 6. Recognize and reward team participation

[Read about these steps](#) at AMA Wire.

Medication Dosing Errors Continue to Rise in the U.S.

Excerpt Courtesy of MLMIC News

A recent report published in the *Journal of Toxicology* found that patients in the United States are making errors in dosing medications at home.

The medications most commonly associated with non-healthcare facility medication errors include cardiovascular drugs, analgesics and hormones/hormone antagonists, such as insulin. The analgesics explored in the study were mostly over-the-counter painkillers, and dosing errors were unintended. Errors in the dosing of liquid medications were also common. These errors resulted in emergency room visits, hospitalizations and even death.

Physicians, should be cognizant of the need for patient and caregiver education in the proper administration of both prescribed and over-the-counter medications. Teaching patients and caregivers effective strategies to assist in the proper administration of medications in the home environment, including using "the teach-back method," will improve effective medication management and health outcomes.

To read an article from *The Washington Times* that explores this study in more depth, click [here](#).

Education

District Meetings

Syracuse - Friday, September 15, 2017
MLMIC 2017 Risk Management Seminar

- 1. Effective Coordination of Care: The Role of the Hospitalist**
- 2. Managing the Behavioral Health Patient in the ED**
- 3. EHRs: The Next Generation**
- 4. 2017 Healthcare Law Review**

Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center
801 University Avenue, Syracuse NY 13201
10:00am - 2:15pm

[Event Brochure](#)

Brooklyn - Tuesday, September 19, 2017
Paint-n-Sip ... A Social and Networking Event
Pinot's Palette - 2911 W 15th Street, Brooklyn NY 11224

6:00pm - Registration and Networking / 6:30pm - Paint-n-Sip
[Event Flyer](#) / [Online Registration](#)

Bronx: Wednesday, October 11, 2017

A Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind

1. Delaying Progression of Chronic Kidney Disease and Early Detection
2. The Artificial Pancreas Treatment

6:00pm - Registration / 6:30pm - Dinner and Educational Program

Additional information and registration details will be posted shortly

Commissioner's Medical Grand Rounds Archived Video Seminars

Online video Grand Rounds co-sponsored by NYACP and archived by the New York State Department of Health are available for your review. By accessing these videos at your convenience, you can receive CME credits:

- Dietary Supplements: Buyer Beware, Provider Be Wary (1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)
- Baby Boomer Health: Undiagnosed conditions of persons born between 1945 and 1965 (1.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)
- Technology Changes Our Connection: Physician and Patient Communication (2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)
- From A to Zika: An Update on Zika Virus for Primary Care Providers (2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)

The School of Public Health, University at Albany is accredited by the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

[To access the courses click here.](#)

Member Benefits

Auto Insurance Reduction Course

Do you have points on your driving record or would you like a 10% reduction on your personal automobile insurance?

If so, you will want to read about the online Auto Insurance Reduction Course that is currently available as an exclusive NYACP benefit to our members and others!

NYACP continues to offer 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.](#)



