

**December 11, 2014**

## Quality

### Efforts to Improve Patient Safety Result in 1.3 Million Fewer Hospital Acquired Conditions with 50,000 Lives Saved

*Hospital-acquired conditions decline by 17 percent over a three-year period*

A [report](#) released by HHS on December 2 shows an estimated 50,000 fewer patients died in hospitals and approximately \$12 billion in health care costs were saved as a result of a reduction in hospital-acquired conditions from 2010 to 2013. This progress toward a safer health care system occurred during a period of concerted attention by hospitals throughout the country to reduce adverse events. The efforts were due in part to provisions of the Affordable Care Act, such as Medicare payment incentives to improve the quality of care and the HHS Partnership for Patients initiative. Preliminary estimates show that in total, hospital patients experienced 1.3 million fewer hospital-acquired conditions from 2010 to 2013. This translates to a 17 percent decline in hospital-acquired conditions over the three-year period.



### National Influenza Week

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is December 7-13. This national health observance was established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination through the holiday season and beyond. Historically, seasonal flu vaccination drops significantly after the end of November. Influenza activity usually peaks between December and February and can last as late as May. As long as influenza viruses are circulating and causing illness, vaccination can provide protection against the flu and should continue to be encouraged. While patients are engaged in holiday mode, they may need to be reminded that if they haven't gotten their seasonal flu shot that now is a great time for almost everyone (6 months and older) to get a flu vaccine to protect themselves and their loved ones from flu.

To help physicians increase vaccination rates, ACP's Immunization Portal has a series of free resources for members to use in counseling patients. Find these valuable resources at [ACP Immunization Portal](#). Also, ACP's Quality Connect has a free program for medical residents that provides evidence-based strategies for increasing vaccination rates. The online program and instructions on how to implement the program are available on it ACP's [Quality Connect link](#).

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## Education & Events

**NYACP Hosts Gala to Honor 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ACP - Have you made your reservation yet?**



You're Invited....*Space is limited...Reserve your seat now!*

**Saturday, May 16, 2015**

The Thayer at West Point  
674 Thayer Road  
West Point, NY 10996  
6:00 - 11:00 pm

This Black Tie (optional) Dinner Dance will be held at the historic Hotel Thayer at West Point, New York overlooking the beautiful scenic Hudson River Valley. All members are welcome to attend, however, with seating limited at 250, you must make your reservation now for this once in a lifetime event! Along with honoring our Chapter and National leaders and our members, the evening will be filled great food, great friends and dancing! Ticket prices are \$125 per person/\$250 per couple which includes dinner and 2 hours open bar. You can make your reservation by completing the [online form](#), or contact Karen Tucker at [ktucker@nyacp.org](mailto:ktucker@nyacp.org).

**[NYACP Gala Reservation Form](#)**

**Overnight Accommodations:**

We have a block of rooms held for our guests at the special rate of \$239 per room. You may call the hotel directly to make your reservation at 845-446-4731 and mention you are with the NY Chapter ACP room block held for Saturday, May 16, 2015. The room cut off is April 16, 2015.

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**Don't miss the opportunity to share your vision in two Chapter Gala Essay Competitions  
*Past 100 Years & The Future of Medicine:***

**To All Chapter Members:**

- In the past 100 years, is there a particular medical discovery you feel shaped the advancement of medicine today?
- Do you foresee medical advancements that will shape the future?
  - Would you share your thoughts with our members in an essay?



The NY Chapter ACP is excited to honor the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American College of Physicians by hosting several activities culminating in a Centennial Gala on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at the historic Hotel Thayer in West Point, NY. To celebrate ACP's 100<sup>th</sup> year, the Chapter will sponsor an essay contest meant to foster thoughtful interest in the historical foundations of our profession and views of the future of medicine. One winner from each category will win a pair of tickets to the Gala!

***We will be accepting entries into two categories:***

**"The Past 100 Years" and "Future of Medicine - The Next 100 Years"**

**Participants:** Any member in good standing of the NY Chapter American College of Physicians may submit an essay. Each essay must be authored by a single person. A member may submit more than one essay and may submit in each category.

**Subject:** The essay should provide information on the original idea, the experimental background and/or the clinical application.

1. [Past 100 Years Essay:](#)

Submission of an original essay describing an innovation related to medical progress having the most significance during the past 100 years. The description of a concept, a discovery or a development that represents the most significant advancement in the applied medical sciences since 1915. The essay must be contained within 1,000 words. Please go to: [Past Essay Form](#) to submit.

2. [Future of Medicine - Next 100 Years Essay:](#)

Submission of an original essay describing medical progress moving into the next 100 years. "The Future of Medicine" essay must be contained within 1,000 words. Please go to: [Future Essay Form](#) to submit.

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## The Countdown to E-Prescribing



As the March 27, 2015 mandate draws near, there are several ways physicians can prepare themselves for implementation of e-prescribing of all substances required by prescription. The New York Chapter ACP website has a wealth of resources on the subject including registration procedures, restrictions, and state regulations regarding controlled substances, all of which can be read [here](#).

For physician practices who don't already have an electronic medical record system that can provide electronic prescriptions, [see a list of "stand alone" e-prescribing software here](#). Watch soon for an announcement of a stand-alone product vendor discount for members.

In addition, the NYACP has hosted several webinars covering the e-prescribing mandate, the recorded versions can be viewed [on our website](#).

### ***Coding for ICD-10-CM: More of the Basics MLN Connects™ Video***

In a video on [Coding for ICD-10-CM: More of the Basics](#), Sue Bowman from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and Nelly Leon-Chisen from the American Hospital Association (AHA) provide a basic introduction to ICD-10-CM coding. The objective of this video is to enhance viewers' understanding of the characteristics and unique features of ICD-10-CM, as well as similarities and differences between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-CM. The video covers:

- How to assign a diagnosis code using ICD-10-CM
- ICD-10-CM code structure
- Coding process and examples: Combination codes, 7th character, placeholder "x," excludes notes, unspecified codes, external cause codes
- Resources for coders

### **Keep Up to Date on ICD-10, effective October 1, 2015**

Visit the [Medicare Fee-For-Service Provider Resources](#) web page for a complete list of MLN Connects videos on ICD-10. To receive announcements for MLN Connects videos and the latest Medicare program information, [subscribe](#) to the weekly *MLN Connects Provider eNews*.

Visit the CMS [ICD-10 website](#) for the latest news and resources to help you prepare. Sign up for [CMS ICD-10 Industry Email Updates](#) and [follow us](#) on Twitter.