

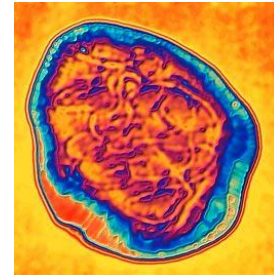
February 13, 2015

Practice Management

NYS Health Commissioner Releases Advisory on Measles, Influenza in New York

Last week, New York State (NYS), outside of New York City (NYC), reported five confirmed measles cases in 2014 and one in January of 2015. In 2014, NYC reported 27 confirmed measles cases; two have been reported in 2015. You can read the measles advisory [here](#).

In addition, Howard A. Zucker, MD, JD, NYS Health Commissioner released an advisory regarding the status of influenza prevention, surveillance, and control. This advisory contains updated information about influenza activity in New York with links and references to important influenza resources. You can read the advisory [here](#).



Medicare EHR Incentive Program Attestation Deadline is February 28!

If you are an eligible professional participating in the Medicare EHR Incentive Program, you have until February 28, 2015 to attest to demonstrating meaningful use of the data collected during your EHR reporting period for the 2014 calendar year. If you are participating in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, please refer to your [state's deadlines](#) for attestation information.

The [CMS Attestation System](#) is open and fully operational, and includes the [2014 Certified EHR Technology \(CEHRT\) Flexibility Rule](#) options. Medicare eligible professionals can attest to 2014 data any time until 11:59 p.m. ET on February 28, 2015.

Reminder: You must attest to demonstrating meaningful use every year to receive an incentive and avoid a Medicare payment penalty.

Payment Adjustments

Payment adjustments were applied beginning January 1, 2015 for Medicare eligible professionals that did not successfully demonstrate meaningful use in 2013 (or 2014 for first-time participants) and did not receive a 2015 hardship exception.

Medicare eligible professionals that did not successfully demonstrate meaningful use in 2014 and do not receive a 2016 hardship exception will have payment adjustments applied beginning January 1, 2016. The application period will open in early January 2015. For more information, please review the [payment adjustment tipsheet](#).

If you are eligible to participate in both the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs, you **MUST** demonstrate meaningful use to avoid the payment adjustments. You may demonstrate meaningful use under either Medicare or Medicaid.

If you are only eligible to participate in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, you are not subject to these payment adjustments.

Attestation Resources

- [Stage 1 Eligible Professionals Meaningful Use Table of Contents \(2014 definition\)](#)
 - [Stage 2 Eligible Professionals Meaningful Use Table of Contents](#)
 - [2014 Stage 1 Attestation User Guide for Eligible Professionals](#)
 - [2013 Stage 1 Attestation User Guide for Eligible Professionals](#)
 - [Stage 2 Attestation User Guide for Eligible Professionals](#)
 - [CEHRT Flexibility Attestation Guide](#)
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Advocacy

Update on E-Prescribing

As the March 27th effective date for New York's mandate on physicians to electronically prescribe medications approaches, there are extensive activities underway to urge the Legislature to enact a one year extension of the deadline. Significant challenges with EMR readiness, nursing home, long term care and home care readiness, and residency training program procedures have been identified that will impact care delivery if the deadline remains in effect.



All of these issues, in addition to the challenges private practices face with the transformation to e-prescribing from paper based systems or from EMR systems that are not compatible with the new rules, have been the focus of much public discussion during the Legislature's budget hearings and in one on one meetings with legislative leaders. This week the Senate passed a one year extension of the deadline, and a companion bill in the Assembly was reported out of the Health Committee and will go to the Assembly floor for a vote when they return to session after the President's Week break.

NYACP Meets with NYS DOH Patient Safety Center

On January 26th, the Chapter met with key representatives from the New York State Department of Health's Patient Safety Center to (1) share the Chapter's mission of quality and patient safety, education and advocacy and (2) share NYACP's interest in exploring collaborative opportunities in the area of patient engagement and quality improvement. Tobacco cessation, shared decision making, and pre-surgical clearance were a few of the topics discussed. The Chapter's Near Miss Registry under the ACP PSO was also of great interest, since it has evolved significantly from its initial demonstration under the confidentiality protections of the Department several years ago.

NYS Meningococcal Vaccine Bill

On January 30th the Chapter met with other interested stakeholders to review a legislative proposal that would add meningococcal immunizations to the list of other required immunizations a child would receive before entering the 6th grade and a booster dose before entering 11th grade in New York State. The legislation has been introduced by Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and a Senate bill is expected soon. Planned activities include two advocacy days on February 25 and on April 21 to raise awareness and promote support for the legislation, timed to align with recognition of World Meningitis Day on April 24, 2015.

Education

NYACP Annual Scientific Session Roundup - *In case you missed it!*

Friday, February 6 - Renaissance Hotel, West Harrison, NY

Testimonials from our attendee's

"Excellent Meeting, SEP's Very helpful"

"Great Variety! Almost wish it were two days so I could do SEP and Breakout Sessions"

"I cannot quantify the importance and impact of this weekend"



The Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting was held last week at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel in Westchester County. The program was attended by over 250 physicians who participated in an exciting day that included plenary talks by Steven Abramson, MD, FACP, Louis Aledort, MD, FACP and Joseph Finns, MD, MACP. The morning and afternoon breakout sessions were delivered to packed rooms with great audience participation!

Keep an eye on the NYACP website for the dates for next year's Annual Scientific Meeting!

Congratulations to the 2015 NYACP Poster Competition Winners:

Resident/Fellow Clinical Vignette

1st Place: Hassan Tariq - Bronx Lebanon Hospital

2nd Place: Diego Adrianzen Herrera - Mt. Sinai- St. Luke's Roosevelt

3rd Place: Chukwudi Obiagwu - Maimonides Medical Center



Resident/Fellow Research

1st Place: Ahmad Farooq - University at Buffalo, Catholic Health System

2nd Place: Mansi Nabar - Montefiore New Rochelle and Albert Einstein College of Medicine

2rd Place (tie): Jason Ling-Stony Brook University Hospital

Resident/Fellow Patient Safety, Quality and Outcomes Measurement

1st Place: Clara Kwan - Maimonides Medical Center

2nd Place: Vahe Shahnazarian - NY Methodist Hospital

3rd Place: Jarred Marshak - Winthrop University Hospital

Medical Student Clinical Vignette

1st Place: Adam Johnson, MS IV - Flushing Hospital Medical Center

2nd Place: Amy Spallone - Albany Medical College

3rd Place: Junaid Habibullah - SUNY Upstate Medical University

You can check out all the abstracts that were presented at the NYACP Scientific Meeting Poster Competition here: [2015 Poster Competition Booklet](#)

Medical Student Research

1st Place: Lu Chen - NY Methodist Hospital

Watch ACP Clinical Shorts, Earn CME & MOC Online!

The American College of Physicians has recently launched **Clinical Shorts**, a set of 28 videos that physicians can watch from their smartphone, tablet, or computer on clinical dilemmas often seen in practice. Designed to assist busy physicians who can watch the videos at convenient times, each "Clinical Short" is only 10 minutes. Combined, the Clinical Shorts are worth a total 7 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ and 28 ABIM MOC Points. To learn more, click [here](#)