

February 3, 2017

Statement from NYACP Leaders Regarding Federal Immigration Policies

Dear Colleagues in ACP and Members of the New York Chapter,

In light of the concerning events over the past week, there has been turmoil, anxiety, insecurity and concern in the medical community, especially in New York, where we have a diverse physician and patient population and many international medical students and residents/fellows in training.

Many have been looking to national organizations for leadership in this matter, and we would like to [share the public statement](#) that ACP President, Nitin S. Damle, MD, FACP released this week, highlighting the College's perspective on this issue, as well as a recent [Immigration Position Statement](#).

National ACP and your New York Chapter are committed to supporting our diverse physician membership at both the Federal and State level, assuring healthcare access for vulnerable populations and advocating for all of our patients who depend on our care.

Respectfully,

Nick Fitterman, MD, FACP
President, NYACP
Governor,
Long Island Region

Donna Seminara, MD, FACP
Governor,
Brooklyn/Queens/Staten
Island Region

Lynn Cleary, MD, FACP
Governor, Upstate Region

Maria Carney, MD, FACP
Governor-elect,
Long Island Region

Parag Mehta, MD, FACP
Governor-elect Designee,
Brooklyn/Queens/Staten
Island Region

Leslie Algase, MD, FACP
Governor-elect Designee,
Upstate Region

Lawrence Phillips, MD, FACP
Governor, Manhattan/Bronx Region

Louis Snitkoff, MD, FACP
Governor, Hudson Valley Region

Practice Management

CMS Open Payments System Update

The [Open Payments system](#) will be updated shortly. Physicians must register first in order to review any payments and other transfers of value attributed to them. If physicians registered last year, they do not need to register again. If it has been over 180 days since a physician has logged onto the Enterprise Identity Management System (EIDM), the account has been deactivated for security purposes. If an account must be reactivated, physicians and teaching hospitals can contact the Help Desk. Beginning today, the Help Desk has extended hours from 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. (EST).

The review and dispute period is targeted to start in April 2017, following the close of data submission (the Program Year 2016 data submission window begins on February 1, 2017 and ends on March 31, 2017).

You can learn more about the Open Payments system enhancements by viewing the Open Payments Overview and Enhancements presentation. Additional updated resources are located at:

<https://www.cms.gov/OpenPayments/About/Resources.html>.

Ransomware: What to Do When Your Systems are Hijacked

Article courtesy of Health IT Smartbrief

Electronic healthcare security systems were put to the test in 2016, as record numbers of hospitals, facilities and physician practices fell victim to ransomware attacks. The increasing number of ransomware attacks on providers is particularly troublesome because hackers can essentially lock out users from their EHR systems. Once a system is infected, providers feel compelled to pay the ransom rather than sustaining an interruption to patient care. For these reasons, providers should learn about the risks of ransomware and develop strategies to prevent and manage such malicious cyber-attacks.



Preventing ransomware is a complex undertaking, as this particular strain of malware is constantly evolving and infiltrating even those systems that follow recommended security measures. HHS guidance recommends that providers follow the HIPAA security rule to prevent ransomware infections. In particular, providers should implement a robust and frequent data backup plan, which would enable providers to restore previous "infection-free" versions of their electronic data. Providers should also invest in reputable security software (e.g., firewalls, e-mail filters, anti-virus programs) and promptly install updates, which periodically update the software's ability to recognize and detect new ransomware attacks.

[To read more, please click here.](#)

New York DOH Weekly Influenza Report

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) collects, compiles, and analyzes information on influenza activity year round in New York State (NYS) and produces this weekly report during the influenza season (October through the following May).



During the week ending January 28, 2017:

- Influenza activity level was categorized as geographically widespread. This is the sixth consecutive week that widespread activity has been reported.
- There were 5,235 laboratory-confirmed influenza reports, an 20% increase over last week.
- Of the 1,873 specimens submitted to NYS WHO/NREVSS laboratories, 406 (21.68%) were positive for influenza.
- Of the 66 specimens tested at Wadsworth Center, 41 were positive for influenza. 31 was influenza A (31), 2 were influenza A (not subtyped), 4 were influenza B (Yamagata), and 4 were influenza B (Victoria).
- Reports of percent of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI3) from ILINet providers was 9.19%, which is above the regional baseline of 3.00%.
- The number of patients hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed influenza was 961 a 4% increase over last week.
- There was one influenza-associated pediatric death reported this week. There have been four influenza-associated deaths this season.

[Read the entire report here.](#)

SAMHSA Updates Rules on the Sharing of Identifiable Substance Use Disorder Patient Information



On January 18, 2017, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration published its final rule implementing changes to the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records regulations. These changes promote data sharing in order to allow patients to access new care delivery models in the evolving health care industry and encourage much-needed research of substance abuse disorders.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

ACP's High Value Care Initiative



High Value Care improves health, avoids harm, and eliminates wasteful practices or procedures. The ACP's High Value Care initiative has developed 5 new modules to help physicians understand the and apply the core concepts of high value care. As a member you have *free* access to these modules that are available online and eligible for CME and MOC credits.

To learn more about how to eliminate unnecessary health care costs and improve patient outcomes while earning free CME and ABIM MOC patient safety and medical knowledge points, visit [High Value Care](#).

Quality Payment Program Listserv Available Now Through CMS



Have you subscribed to the CMS Quality Payment Program (QPP) Listserv? The QPP listserv will provide news and updates on:

- New resources and website updates
- Upcoming milestones and deadlines
- CMS trainings and webinars

To subscribe, visit the Quality Payment Program [portal](#) and select "Subscribe to Email Updates" in the footer. The [Education & Tools](#) page includes program resources to help you learn more about eligibility and how to participate.

CMS Offers Two Practice Management Opportunities in February 2017

1. Getting Started with the QPP: An Overview of MIPS for Small, Rural, and Underserved Practices

On Wednesday, February 1st at 1:00 PM ET, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is inviting small, rural, and underserved practices to join the "Getting Started with the Quality Payment Program: An Overview of MIPS for Small, Rural, and Underserved Practices" webinar to learn more about participation in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) track of the Quality Payment Program.

CMS will provide information about the following MIPS topics:

- Participation in 2017
- Data submission methods
- Performance categories
- Resources for small, rural, and underserved practices

[Register here](#)

2. Chronic Care Management Services Conference Call

On Tuesday, February 21st at 1:30 PM ET, the CMS Medicare Learning Network is hosting the “Understanding and Promoting the Value of Chronic Care Management Services” MLN Connects® Call.

During this call, CMS experts will discuss the benefits of providing Chronic Care Management (CCM) services and changes for CCM in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) [final rule](#). A new outreach and education campaign from the CMS Office of Minority Health increases awareness about the value of CCM, encourages adoption, and provides an opportunity for health care professionals to ask questions.

Agenda:

- Value of CCM services
- 2017 Medicare PFS final rule changes
- CCM resources to support you
- Question and answer session
- Next steps

[Register here](#)

Education

Upcoming Educational Events

Two New Educational Opportunities in Strategies for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction

Jointly Provided by the NYU Langone Medical Center and NYACP

Thursday, May 11, 2017

**ADVANCES IN CARDIOVASCULAR RISK REDUCTION:
IMPROVING TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES**
Offering 7.50 Hours of AMA PRA Category I Credits™
7:45am - 4:30pm

[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

Friday, May 12, 2017

**DIETARY AND LIFESTYLE STRATEGIES
FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RISK REDUCTION**
Offering 5.0 Hours of AMA PRA Category I Credits™
7:15am - 1:30pm

[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

SAVE-THE-DATE! NYACP Weekend Board Review Course in Buffalo

Co-sponsored by NYACP and Catholic Health Systems

Earn up to 27 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)!™

NYACP Weekend Board Review Course

Friday, March 24- Sunday, March 26, 2017

Catholic Health Administrative & Regional Conference Center

144 Genesee Street

Buffalo, NY 14203

The NY Chapter ACP and Catholic Health Systems are excited to announce that a Weekend Internal Medicine Board Review Course has been scheduled for Friday, March 24 – Sunday, March 26 in Buffalo, NY. Chapter members who are preparing to take the exam for the Board Recertification or first-time Certification can take advantage of this unique IM Board Review Course.

Faculty:

Conrad Fischer, MD, FACP

Chris Paras, DO

Niket Sonpal, MD

Course Content:

This three-day course will cover pertinent topics you need to review for the upcoming exams. The topics will include: Cardiology, Nephrology, General Internal Medicine, Oncology, Hematology, Rheumatology, Neurology, Pulmonary, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology and Infectious Disease

[Registration Information and Brochure](#) • [Register Here](#)

Need additional information?

Please contact Karen Tucker at ktucker@nyacp.org or 518-427-0366.

CME STATEMENT

Accreditation - This Activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians (NYACP)

The University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Certification - The University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 27.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity

District Meetings

SAVE-THE-DATE

Queens: Thursday, March 2, 2017

A Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind:

(1) Changes to MOC

(2) Proving LGBT-welcoming Care

(3) Update on MACRA

Il Toscano Ristorante • 42-05 235th Street • Douglaston, NY 11363

Brochure and Registration information coming soon

SAVE-THE-DATE

Nassau: Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Kidney Disease: What's the Big Deal?

K Pacho Restaurant • 1270 Union Turnpike • New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Brochure and Registration information coming soon

SAVE-THE-DATE

Hudson Valley South: Wednesday, April 19, 2017

A Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind:

(1) CKD

(2) Update on New Medications for Diabetes

(3) Update on VTE

Westchester Burger Company - 275 S. Ridge Street, Rye Brook NY 10573

Registration details to be posted shortly.

Bronx: Tuesday, May 9, 2017

14th Annual Doctors' Recognition Day Symposium, Poster Presentations & Physicians' Exposition

Hosted by: Bronx County Medical Society, Westchester County Medical Society and the New York Chapter ACP

Mercy college, Conference Center - Bronx Campus - 1200 Waters Place, Bronx NY

Poster Session, Physicians Exposition Opens 3:30pm - Symposium 6:00pm

Additional details to be posted shortly.

SAVE-THE-DATE

NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting & Poster Competition: Saturday, June 3, 2017

Hyatt Regency Hotel

125 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604

Registration Information and Brochure coming soon!
