

May 13, 2015

Advocacy

NYACP Members Contribute Toward ACP E-Cigarette Policy Paper

With control over e-cigarettes being hotly debated over recent months at both our State and National level, the American College of Physicians has just released a policy paper, "Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems: Executive Summary of a Policy Position Paper From the American College of Physicians."

The ACP last issued a position on electronic nicotine delivery systems in 2010. With more products on the market and more research data, the College was encouraged to update their existing position statement. The ACP believes flavored e-cigarettes should be banned and governments at all levels should extend no-smoking rules to include all electronic nicotine delivery devices. The College also supports educational efforts to explain the risks of e-cigarettes and believes the products should face the same advertising restrictions as traditional cigarettes.

Two New York Chapter leaders, Susan Stewart MD, FACP, Chair of Tobacco Prevention Task Force, and Roy Korn Jr., MD, FACP, were instrumental in creating a Chapter resolution that led to this policy paper update.

E-cigarettes have become more popular than ever, especially among young people, according to a report issued on April 16 by the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The number of middle and high-school students using the products tripled from 2013 to 2014, the CDC reported -- from about 4 percent to more than 13 percent of high school students and from 1 percent to nearly 4 percent of middle school students. Sales have been estimated to be nearly \$2 billion in 2014.

To read the American College of Physicians full policy paper, please click [here](#).

Quality

Seeking Nominees for 2015 PATH Awards



New York eCollaborative (NYeC) is seeking nominations for the 2015 "Promoting Advancement of Technology in Healthcare" (PATH) Awards. The PATH Awards recognize achievement and honor advances relating to health information technology by individuals and organizations. We know many of our Chapter members have been involved in the IT revolution in healthcare. Please submit a nomination for physicians who have "lead the way"!

The NYeC Gala & PATH Awards ceremony will occur on **November 18, 2015** at Capitale in New York City during the NYeC Annual Conference.

Categories for consideration:

-**Public Health Service:** An individual or organization that has successfully achieved community health goals through public health IT programs and initiatives.

-**Emerging Innovator:** Designing and successfully deploying solutions to improve healthcare. Has demonstrated successful strategies for meeting the needs of patients and other stakeholders by championing treatments and procedures.

-**Distinguished Achievement:** Excellence in the adoption, implementation, and use of health IT.

The deadline to nominate is 11:59 pm ET on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

[2015 PATH Awards Nomination Form](#)

Practice Management **Five More Facts About ICD-10**

Last week, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) shared five facts about addressing common misperceptions about transitioning to ICD-10. Here are five more facts addressing common questions and concerns we have heard about ICD-10:



1. **If you cannot submit ICD-10 claims electronically, Medicare offers several options.**
Prepare for the transition and be ready to submit ICD-10 claims electronically for all services provided on or after October 1, 2015. But if you are not ready, Medicare has several options for providers who are unable to submit claims with ICD-10 diagnosis codes due to problems with the provider's system. Each of these requires that the provider be able to code in ICD-10:
 - Free billing software that can be downloaded at any time from every Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC)
 - In about half of the MAC jurisdictions, Part B claims submission functionality on the MAC's provider internet portal
 - Submitting paper claims, if the Administrative Simplification Compliance Act waiver provisions are met

If you take this route, be sure to allot time for you or your staff to prepare and complete training on free billing software or portals before the compliance date.

2. **Practices that do not prepare for ICD-10 will not be able to submit claims for services performed on or after October 1, 2015.**
Unless your practice is able to submit ICD-10 claims, whether using the alternate methods described above or electronically, your claims will not be accepted. Only claims coded with ICD-10 can be accepted for services provided on or after October 1, 2015.
3. **Reimbursement for outpatient and physician office procedures will not be determined by ICD-10 codes.**
Outpatient and physician office claims are not paid based on ICD-10 diagnosis codes but on CPT and HCPCS procedure codes, which are not changing. However, ICD-10-PCS codes will be used for hospital inpatient procedures, just as ICD-9 codes are used for such procedures today. Also, ICD diagnosis codes are sometimes used to determine medical necessity, regardless of care setting.
4. **Costs could be substantially lower than projected earlier.**
Recent studies by [3M](#) and the [Professional Association of Health Care Office Management](#) have found many EHR vendors are including ICD-10 in their systems or upgrades—at little or no cost to their customers. As a result, software and systems costs for ICD-10 could be minimal for many providers.

5. It's time to transition to ICD-10.

ICD-10 is foundational to modernizing health care and improving quality. ICD-10 serves as a building block that allows for greater specificity and standardized data that can:

- Improve coordination of a patient's care across providers over time
- Advance public health research, public health surveillance, and emergency response through detection of disease outbreaks and adverse drug events
- Support innovative payment models that drive quality of care
- Enhance fraud detection efforts

The first "Five facts about ICD-10" were printed in our previous YCIA and can be accessed [here](#).

Keep Up to Date on ICD-10

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

Education

NYACP Holds Successful District Meetings Across the State

Nassau

A Chapter District meeting in Nassau County, Long Island, was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at K Pacho Restaurant in New Hyde Park, New York. The event offered attendees an opportunity to network and dine with their physician colleagues and obtain timely information on two important medical topics.

Maria Carney, MD, FACP spoke about "How to Address Advance Directives in the Office Setting", and recommended ways to initiate these often difficult physician-patient conversations. Dr. David E. Bernstein, MD, FACP provided a thorough and informative update on Hepatitis C using a unique "story telling manner". A spirited question-answer segment followed. Drs. Carney and Bernstein were highly praised for their outstanding presentations, and the participant evaluation forms once again validated the interest and value of local district meetings.

Buffalo and Rochester

The Buffalo District hosted a "Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind" on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at the Protocol Restaurant in Williamsville. The program agenda included a presentation by Anthony D. Martinez, MD on the treatment for Hepatitis C, as well as a presentation on the "Use of Social Media in Healthcare" by Frances A. Ciardullo, Esq. In addition to the presentations, there was an interactive question and answer session.

The Rochester District met on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at the Woodcliff Hotel & Spa in Fairport. Michael D. Mancenido, DO provided an update on the treatment of Hepatitis C; the epidemiology of HCV, laboratory testing and diagnosis, and therapeutic regimens.

All events were well attended by our members, who took advantage of the opportunity to interact with the speakers as well as network with their colleagues.

Upcoming Meetings for May & June- *meeting details can be found on each link below:*

[May 13 - Queens District](#)

[May 16 - Garden City, NY](#)

[May 21 - Syracuse, NY](#)

[June 25, 2015-Bronx, NY](#)

Program/ Clerkship Director Update

There are several upcoming events in 2015 that should be on all Program and Clerkship Director's calendars:

Wednesday, September 16 (6-8 pm) - Annual NYACP Medical Student Event

New York University 50 First Ave New York, NY	6:00 - 6:45 pm 6:45 - 7:30 pm 7:30 - 8:00 pm	Registration and IM Residency Fair Panel Discussion with Program Directors Residency Fair and refreshments
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The NYACP Internal Medicine Residency Fair and Forum is designed for 3rd and 4th year Medical Students. The Chapter will be hosting a panel comprised of Program Directors who will discuss and facilitate questions to help students become prepared for their selection in a residency training program. All IM residency programs are invited to display an exhibit table to share information about their programs. Please indicate if you would like to exhibit your program and/or participate on the panel on this form - [Medical Student Fair Form](#)

Attention all Program Directors:

Please send the following information to your Residents and Medical Students:

Saturday, November 14 - NYACP Resident and Medical Student Poster Competition, Education Forum and Dr's Dilemma Competition
SUNY Upstate Medical University

Abstract Competition

If you have worked on a research project or have an interesting clinical case, don't miss out on submitting your abstract for a chance to present at the NYACP Poster Competition on Saturday, November 14th in Syracuse, NY. Separate poster competitions for Residents and Medical Students will be held for selected entries in the following categories:

- Research
- Clinical Vignette
- Public Policy/Advocacy
- Quality, Patient Safety/outcomes Measurement

If your abstract is chosen during the preliminary judging, you will be invited to present your abstract at the NYACP Resident and Medical Student Forum on Saturday, November 14th at the SUNY Upstate Medical University. All submission forms are available online now on the Chapter's Website at: [Call for Abstracts](#)

The winners in Research and Clinical Vignette category will represent New York in the ACP IM16 competition in Washington DC!

This is a great opportunity to enhance your CV with a Scholarly Activity!

Judges Needed

We are looking for judges to grade abstracts either online or onsite (SUNY Upstate - Nov. 14th) for both Residents and Medical Students. If you are interested, please contact Karen Tucker at ktucker@nyacp.org for more information. If this is your first time reviewing abstracts, the Chapter Poster Committee will be hosting a webinar on the criteria and grading process for the different categories. We will send you more information once the webinar is scheduled.

Dr's Dilemma Competition

Space is still available for Residency Programs interested in competing in the Chapter's Annual Dr's Dilemma Competition also to be held on Nov. 14th. You can submit your Residency Program team name now and send the Resident members of your team at a later date. Please contact Karen Tucker at ktucker@nyacp.org or fax the [Dr's Dilemma Registration form](#) to 518-427-1991.
