

November 23, 2016

## Advocacy

### Governor Cuomo Signs Prior Authorization Bill



On November 14, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law S.4721A/A.6983A, which directs the Commissioner of Health and Superintendent of Financial Services to establish a standard prior authorization request for utilization review of prescription drug coverage. The law does not impose additional burdens on the Department of Health to create new standards but instead utilizes existing standards created by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP). This expands the use of standardized prior authorization processes across all payers, having clear implications for improved efficiency and enhanced patient outcomes. The law takes effect immediately.

This was a legislative priority for NYACP. The Chapter, working with the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY), drafted this legislation with the Senate and Assembly Legislative sponsors, and continued advocacy until it was signed into law.

## Practice Management

### Late Breaking News Regarding Employee Overtime Rules

On November 22, 2016, the US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas issued a nationwide injunction preventing the US Department of Labor from implementing regulations revising employee overtime payment rules. Until resolved, this delays the federal regulatory changes from going into effect on December 1, 2016.

For New York however, the State Department of Labor has proposed a gradual change in minimum salary levels defining exempt employees, [expected to go into effect on December 31, 2016.](#)

We will keep members informed as details change.

### Do You Have an Interest In Asthma Control?

NYACP is looking for a physician volunteer to serve on the Asthma Partnership of New York (APNY). This Advisory Group to the NYS Department of Health meets three times per year (once in person and 2 webex) and will focus on the three priority issues for 2017:



- Define the role of community health workers in supporting asthma control services
- Increase coverage of and access to medications and devices

- Develop recommendations for engaging Managed Care Organizations in supporting clinical-community linkages for asthma control services

If you are interested in an appointment representing the New York Chapter of ACP, contact Linda Lambert at [llambert@nyacp.org](mailto:llambert@nyacp.org).

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## In Need of Assistance Preparing for the New Value Based Payment Models?

Are you frazzled with your practice transformation efforts? Could you use some help? Value based payments are just around the corner and the NY Chapter ACP is committed to helping you prepare:

The CMS Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI) is designed to support clinician practice transformation over the next 4 years with support from Practice Transformation Networks (PTNS) and Support and Alignment Networks (SANS).

The NY Chapter is working with the ACP SAN to provide the tools and resources that eligible practices need. We can connect you to a Practice Transformation Network that will coach, mentor, and assist you in developing core competencies necessary to transform your practice and thrive in an emerging healthcare environment that emphasizes value of care. The PTN embraces and supports the "quadruple aim" of better care, better health, lower costs, and greater provider satisfaction.

If you are in need of assistance and currently use a 2014 Certified Electronic Health Record and are not currently participating in a Medicare Shared Savings Program, Pioneer ACO program, Multi-Payer Advanced Primary Care Program, or Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative please contact Lisa Noel, Mgr. Practice Support Services at [lnoel@nyacp.org](mailto:lnoel@nyacp.org) or 518-427-0366.

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## NYS Department of Health Releases Influenza Stat Sheet

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 a weekly report during the influenza season (***October 1 through the following May 1***)



Influenza Report During the Week Ending November 12, 2016;

- Influenza activity level was categorized as geographically sporadic (***Small numbers of lab-confirmed cases of influenza reported***). Sporadic activity has been reported for six consecutive weeks.
- There were 77 laboratory-confirmed influenza reports, a 15% decrease over the prior week.
- Of the 1,199 specimens submitted to NYS WHO/NREVSS laboratories, 9 (0.75%) were positive for influenza.
- Of the specimens tested at Wadsworth Center, none were positive for influenza.
- Reports of percent of patient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI3) from ILINet providers was 0.55%, which is below the
- regional baseline of 3.00%.
- The number of patients hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed influenza was 38, a 31% increase over the prior week.
- There have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported this season.

[To read the full report, please click here.](#)

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## Education

### Upcoming Educational Events

#### Webinars: Smoking Cessation and Treatment, A Three-Part Series

<p>Wed., November 30, 2016 (7:30 am - 8:30 am) Beyond Cigarettes: It's Not Just Tobacco Anymore</p> <p>Speaker: <a href="#">Linda Efferen, MD, MBA, FACP</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read More and Register Here</a></p>	<p>Tues., December 6, 2016 (12:00 pm- 1:00 pm) Closing the Gaps: Treatment of Tobacco Dependence</p> <p>Speaker: <a href="#">Donna Seminara, MD, FACP</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read More and Register Here</a></p>	<p>Thurs., January 12, 2017 (12:00 pm- 1:00 pm) Motivational Interviewing and Brief Action Planning for Smoking Cessation in Primary Care</p> <p>Speakers: <a href="#">Susan Lane, MD, FACP</a> and <a href="#">Steven Cole, MD, FAPA</a></p> <p><a href="#">Read More and Register Here</a></p>
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#### Advancement to ACP Fellowship – FREE Webinar for Members



Are you interested in advancing to ACP Fellowship? If so, ACP is offering a free webinar:

Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2016  
Time: 6:00pm

Webinar participants will learn about the meaning of ACP Fellowship, receive an overview of the Fellowship application process, and have the opportunity to ask questions.

ACP Members can [REGISTER HERE](#).

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#### NYACP is Hosting Eight MOC Learning Sessions in February 2017

*Earn up to 20 ABIM MOC points and 20 CME Credits™ per day or a total of 40 ABIM MOC points and 40 CME Credits™ credits during the month of February!*

##### Long Island- February 4, 2017

**The Melville Marriott, 1350 Walt Whitman Road, Melville NY 11747**

2016 Update in Endocrinology: **Michael Radin, MD** (8:00am-10:00am)

2016 Update in Nephrology: **Naveed Masani, MD, FACP** (10:30am-12:30pm)

##### Albany - February 4, 2017

**The Desmond Hotel, 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany NY 12205**

2016 Update in Hospice and Palliative Medicine: **Daniel Pomerantz, MD, FACP** (8:00am-10:00am)

2016 Update in Infectious Disease: **Charles Hyman, MD, FACP** (10:30am-12:30pm)

Manhattan - February 11, 2017

**Weill Cornell Medical College (Uris Auditorium), 1300 York Ave,  
NY NY 10065**

2016 Update in Rheumatology: **David Goddard, MD, FACP** (8:00am-10:00am)

2016 Update in Geriatric Medicine: **TS Dharmarajan, MD, MACP** (10:30am-12:30pm)

Syracuse - February 22, 2017

**The Double Tree Hotel, 6301 NY-298, East Syracuse NY 13057**

2016 Update in Geriatric Medicine: **Sharon Brangman, MD, FACP** (8:00am-10:00am)

2016 Update in Sleep Medicine: **Robert Westlake, MD, FACP** (10:30am - 12:30pm)

[Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

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## Commissioner's Medical Grand Rounds - Online and Live Event

Tuesday, November 29, 2016: 7:30 - 9:00 am

Dietary Supplements: Buyer Beware, Provider Be Wary

The Wadsworth Center-David Axelrod Institute-120 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

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

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## District Meetings

Albany: Saturday, December 3, 2016

A Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind:

(1) Treating Type 2 Diabetes in 2017: How Not to Get Lost in the Forest

(2) Closing the Gap: Treatment of Tobacco Dependence

The Desmond Hotel • 660 Albany Shaker Road • Albany, NY 12211

**8:30am Registration and Breakfast / 9:00am-11:00am**

**Educational Program**

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

SAVE-THE-DATE

Queens: Thursday, March 2, 2017

A Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind:

(1) Changes to MOC

(2) Update on MACRA

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

**Brochure and Registration information coming soon**

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!**

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## Membership

### Member Accomplishments

**Ramon E.A. Jacobs-Shaw, MD, FACP** - Named one of ACP 2016 Top Hospitalists: Serving on the NYU Langone Medical Center LGBTQ Advisory Council since its start in 2011, he helped create an online learning module to introduce staff members to

important facts about LGBTQ care, such as unequal rates of certain cancers. To date, more than 2,000 people have taken the module, "which is a tremendous amount of people, especially since it's not a mandatory part of the training here," said Dr. Jacobs-Shaw. "Since then, people are definitely more aware of the care of LGBTQ patients in particular."

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## Good News from MLMIC: Additional 20% Dividend



Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company (MLMIC) is the Chapter's endorsed medical liability insurance company. As a result of continued fiscal strength, MLMIC's board has declared a new 20% general dividend for policyholders. The dividend will apply to policyholders who are insured on May 1, 2017 and maintain continuous coverage through July 1, 2017. This decision by the MLMIC board is based on assets, surplus, and net income. This dividend clearly demonstrate that MLMIC's overall financial condition remains sound. If interested in viewing a copy of MLMIC's September 30, 2016 statutory financial statement, [click here](#).

The new dividend is separate and apart from MLMIC's agreement to become part of the Berkshire Hathaway family of companies. The acquisition process remains on track with completion not expected until the end of next year.

NYACP continues to work with MLMIC on issues of importance to our members and remains one of the Chapter's most valuable membership benefits.

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