

November 25, 2014

## Quality

### Newly Released NYACP Paper

#### *From Hospital to Home: A Transitioning Care Partnership*

The New York Chapter, through the work of our Hospitalist Task Force and workgroup, has just released a white paper outlining suggested roles and responsibilities between hospitalists and ambulatory care physicians when transitioning patients. The finished pamphlet can be [viewed here](#), and is available for download as a PDF. Please take the time to read through this helpful resource and use it as appropriate in your own medical community.



## Practice Management

### Hardship Exception Applications

Deadline: November 30, 2014

CMS reopened the submission period for hardship exception applications for eligible professionals and eligible hospitals to avoid the [2015 Medicare payment adjustments](#) for not demonstrating meaningful use of Certified Electronic Health Record Technology (CEHRT).

The deadline is **11:59 PM EST November 30, 2014**.

Eligible professionals and eligible hospitals that have never met meaningful use before may apply during this reopened [hardship exception application](#) submission period if they meet both of the following:

- The provider was unable to attest by July 1, 2014 (for eligible hospitals) or October 1, 2014 (for eligible professionals); **AND**
- The provider has been unable to fully implement 2014 Edition CEHRT by the dates above due to delays in 2014 Edition CEHRT availability.

These are the only circumstances that will be considered for this reopened hardship exception application submission period.

### Applications Details

Providers who would like to submit an application should review the following guidance:

- The application is available on the [Payment Adjustments and Hardship Exceptions webpage](#).
- The completed application must be attached to an email and sent to [ehrhardship@provider-](mailto:ehrhardship@provider-)

[resources.com](http://resources.com).

- For eligible professionals without Internet connectivity, submit this application and all supporting documentation via fax to 814-464-0147.
- Submit the application no later than 11:59 PM EST November 30, 2014.

### More Information

Visit the [Payment Adjustments and Hardship Exceptions webpage](#) for more information about Medicare EHR Incentive Program payment adjustments

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### Guideline for Dietary and Pharmacologic Management of Recurrent Nephrolithiasis

The American College of Physicians (ACP) developed [this guideline](#) to present the evidence and provide clinical recommendations on the comparative effectiveness and safety of preventive dietary and pharmacologic management of recurrent nephrolithiasis in adults.

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### Virtual Patient Visits Becoming More Prominent

[In a recent article](#) published by the ACP Internist, Charlotte Huff investigates the impact of virtual consultations on the medical field. An excerpt:

"Unlike the e-mail consults that some doctors already provide their patients, these virtual consults essentially offer a way to bypass the family doctor or any in-person interaction entirely. For a fee, frequently out of pocket, patients with a "live" video connection can run their symptoms by a doctor without leaving their home or office. The service can be driven by patient demand for convenience, lack of access to in-person care, and sometimes both, experts said."

The full article can be accessed [here](#).

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## Education

**NYACP Annual Meeting Faculty Highlights**  
Friday, February 6, 2015

**ABIM's Maintenance of Certification SEP Module Session: 2014 Update In Internal Medicine**

(10:00 - 12:00 noon and repeated from 3:30 to 5:30 pm)



### Nicholas Berbari, MD, FACP

Senior Associate Program Director, Winthrop University Hospital  
Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine Stony Brook School of Medicine

Dr. Nicholas Berbari, MD, FACP is a graduate of Stony Brook School of Medicine 1993 and completed his Internal Medicine Residency training 1993-1996 and Chief Residency in 1997. Board Certified in Internal Medicine since 1997. Dr. Berbari directed the Ambulatory Care Clerkship at the Winthrop

Campus for over four years from 2010-2014 and served as Associate Program Director of the IM Residency Program from 2003-2013. He lives in Greenlawn, Long Island with his wife of 23 years, Betty, and their three children, Georgina, Elias and Emmanuel.

He is currently the Senior Associate Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program and enjoys teaching and mentoring Internal medicine residents and our Winthrop Campus students in various inpatient and outpatient settings. He was awarded the department of medicine Outstanding Attending of the year in 2003-2004, was recognized as one of Castle Connolly's Top Doctors, Internal Medicine 2009 through 2014, and served as Winthrop Gala Medical Chairman in 2012. Dr Berbari also works on research project presentations with our students and residents which have been presented locally and nationally. Nicholas is Director of Practice Operations at Winthrop Internal Medicine Associates and Director of the newly opened Winthrop Medical Affiliates Urgent Care Center.

He also serves on multiple committees at Winthrop University Hospital and at the Stony Brook SOM where he is a faculty senator of the Executive Committee. Dr. Berbari is an active member of AAIM/APDIM and a Fellow and Faculty of the American College of Physicians. He has enjoyed teaching the ACP SEP sessions and serves as one of the ACP's abstract reviewer. Dr. Berbari is a recipient of the NYACP 2015 Laureate Award.

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**ABIM's Maintenance of Certification SEP Module Session: 2014 Update In Internal Medicine**

(10:00 - 12:00 noon and repeated from 3:30 to 5:30 pm)

**Jitendra Barmecha, MD, FACP, MPH**

Assistant Professor, Clinical Medicine  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine - Yeshiva University

Attending Physician, Internal Medicine

Chief Information Officer  
SVP - Information Technology & Clinical Engineering  
SBH Health System, Bronx, NY



Dr. Jitendra Barmecha began his clinical and healthcare leadership career at SBH Health System as Chief Medical Resident after completing three years in the Internal Medicine Residency Program. Following his chief medical residency, he earned his MPH degree in Health Management and Policy at New York Medical College, while continuing to provide patient care and medical education services as faculty in the Department of Medicine at St. Barnabas Hospital.

In 2001, he joined Partners in Health - a Medicaid Managed Care health plan affiliated with SBH as an Assistant Medical Director and was subsequently appointed the Medical Director of the health plan in 2005. While continuing to manage the medical management of the health plan, he was appointed the Chief Medical Officer of Union Community Health Center (UCHC). During his tenure, he was instrumental in assisting the leadership team in receiving the designation of Federally Qualified Health Center- Look Alike (FQHC-LA) and implemented the Emergency Preparedness program at all three sites of UCHC. In 2006, he was appointed as Medical Director - Case Management at SBH where he revamped the utilization management and social work departments into a single Care Transitions Department by incorporating health information technology into the workflow.

In 2011, as Vice - President of Medical Informatics & the Chief Medical Informatics Officer, he assisted in SBH & UCHC Ambulatory Care's application for Level 3: Patient Centered Medical Home designation. His team implemented and integrated the Allscripts electronic health record in the emergency department, acute care, ambulatory care and pharmacy into a single database thereby achieving Stage 1 meaningful use of the Electronic Health Record (EHR).

Presently, as Chief Information Officer and Senior Vice President of Information Technology & Clinical Engineering, his team completed the upgrade of electronic health records to comply with Stage 2 Meaningful Use of EMR and attestation for the reporting period of April - June 2014. He is involved in upgrading the systems technical infrastructure; ensuring clinical information systems and patient monitoring devices are well integrated into the electronic health records for the future. He co-chairs the ICD 10 implementation at SBH health system. As a chair of the clinical committee, he provides clinical leadership to the Bronx Regional Health Information Exchange (RHIO) & Bronx Regional Informatics Center.

Dr. Barmecha has been a member of the ACP since 1996. In 2003, he was one of two clinicians from New York State chosen by the national ACP to learn about and subsequently provide education on the patient safety movement in the state. Currently, he serves on the advisory panel for the PCMH and ACO at the national ACP. He is also the chair of the NYACP's PCMH / ACO committee. While continuing his passion for bedside patient care as a hospitalist, he enjoys teaching clinical staff and medical students, and routinely provides lectures on health care management, technology and policy.

For a complete schedule of the 2015 NYACP Annual Meeting go to - [Chapter Annual Meeting](#)

Watch your mail for the NYACP Annual Meeting brochure and you can easily register online now at: [Register Here](#)

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