

July 20, 2016

Practice Management

New York Law Limiting Initial Opioid Prescribing Goes Into Effect Friday, July 22

In an effort to curb prescription opioid abuse, New York passed legislation that limits prescriptions of Schedule II, III, or IV opioids to seven days upon initial consultation or treatment of acute pain. This new law will go into effect on Friday, July 22, 2016. Here are additional details:

- Acute pain is defined in NYS Public Health law as pain, whether resulting from disease, accidental or intentional trauma, or other cause, that the practitioner reasonably expects to last only a short period of time.
- This rule **SHALL NOT** include chronic pain, pain being treated as part of cancer care, hospice or other end-of-life- care or pain being treated as part of palliative care practices.
- Upon subsequent consultations for the same pain, the practitioner may issue, in accordance with existing rules and regulations, any appropriate renewal, refill, or new prescription for an opioid.
- Application of co-pays for the initial prescription of an opioid are also limited by the measure. The co-pay can now be applied in one of two ways:
 1. A proportionate amount between the co-payment for a thirty day supply and the amount of drugs the patient was prescribed; or
 2. The equivalent to the copay for the full thirty-day supply provided that no additional co-pays may be charged for any additional prescriptions for the remainder of the thirty-day supply
- Pharmacists are **NOT** required to verify with the prescriber whether an opioid prescription written for greater than a 7-day supply is in accordance with the statutory requirements. Pharmacists may continue to dispense opioids as prescribed, consistent with current laws, regulations, and Medicaid policies.

Additional information on opioids and this law may be obtained by contacting the NYS Department of Health's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement at 1-866-811-7957 or by clicking [here](#).

Financial Relief for Physician Policyholders in 2016

MLMIC Announces NO Rate Increase for July 1, 2016- July 1, 2017



MLMIC recently announced great news for physician policyholders. In fact, they have *three* pieces of great news related to rates, dividends and discounts, and each will provide some financial relief in this difficult environment. Here are the details:

1. No rate increase - For the second consecutive year, there will be NO rate

increase for physician policyholders on July 1. The Superintendent of Insurance has accepted MLMIC's recommendation that the rates remain unchanged for all physician policyholders for July 1, 2016 – July 1, 2017.

2. **20% dividend credited** - The 2016 dividend appears on current physician invoices. As previously reported this year, [MLMIC declared a 20% dividend for policyholders](#) who were insured on May 1, 2016 and maintained continuous coverage through July 1. The 20% dividend is based on the standard annual rate of premium in effect on May 1, 2016 and is reflected as a credit on a physician's invoice. This is the largest dividend declared in MLMIC's history, and it will hopefully provide meaningful relief to policyholders. Since inception, MLMIC has paid over \$400 million in dividends to policyholders, a feat unmatched by competitors operating in New York State.
3. **Additional claims-free discounts** – MLMIC is also very pleased to announce the approval of a 12% discount for qualified physicians that have been claims free for ten years. This is an expansion of their 7.5% claims free discount program that was introduced in 2011. Therefore, a policyholder may now qualify for either a 7.5% or a 12% claims free discount as follows:
 - 7.5% to qualified physicians and surgeons who (1) have been continuously in practice for a minimum of five years and (2) have no open claims (or suits) and no closed claims (or suits) with indemnity or expense within the past five years (regardless of the accident date or report date).
 - 12% to qualified physicians and surgeons who (1) have been continuously in practice for a minimum of 10 years and (2) have no open claims (or suits) and no closed claims (or suits) with indemnity or expense within the past 10 years (regardless of the accident date or report date).

In order to see if the discount has been applied to your premium, please refer to the "Premium Summary" included in your renewal policy. If you are receiving the discount, a "Claims Free Discount" line item will appear as part of your premium calculation.

NYACP continues to work with the Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company (MLMIC) on issues of importance to our members and remains one of the Chapter's most valuable membership benefits.

Late-breaking news: This week MLMIC has entered into an agreement to be acquired by National Indemnity Company, a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway. Additional information and [details are available here](#) and will be discussed in future e-alerts as the agreement is formalized.

Special Medicare Reimbursement Virtual Learning Session with CMS Chief Medical Officer Thursday July 21

CMS will be conducting a two-hour virtual learning session on Thursday July 21st to provide insight into Quality Payment Programs and other Advance Payment Models (APMs) and show the value of participating in TCPI to prepare clinicians for APMs.

Whether you have already enrolled in the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI) or are considering doing so, you are invited to the virtual learning session, led by Senior CMS and Center for Clinical Standards and Quality leadership, including a presentation by Dr. Patrick Conway.

When: Thursday, July 21, 2016 from 4 – 6 PM

Where: Log onto: www.cms.gov/live

ACP members have access to online tools and resources to help you transform from volume-based to value-based, patient-centered care. Through the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative, onsite technical assistance and community based support is available to those who qualify. To learn more, please email SAN@acponline.org – tell them NYACP sent you!

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV and PrEP Text Messaging Campaign

The AIDS Institute is pleased to announce two new exciting resources on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV.

1. **PrEP for Sex Video Series** - This series of eight videos highlights the voices of men who are currently taking PrEP to prevent HIV infection. Video topics include: (1) Is PrEP Right for Me (2) Beginning the Process (3) Affordability (4) Remembering to Take PrEP (5) Condom Use (6) Why PrEP (7) Side Effects and (8) PrEP and Emotions.

These videos can be (1) Used in community education programs about PrEP (2) Run in a public space – office, hospital, clinic, etc. (3) Shared through website links (4) Viewed with patients or (5) Posted on Facebook or Tweeted.

These videos are embedded on the www.prepforsex.org website or you can find them on YouTube at: [PrEP for Sex - Video Series](#)

2. **PrEP Text Messaging Campaign** - *Text PREP to 69866 for personalized advice on getting PrEP!*

The New York State LGBT Health & Human Services Network ("the Network") has created a campaign that provides education and resources around PrEP. The campaign guides users through a pre-programed, yet personalized, conversation that helps them overcome at least 1 of 3 of the major barriers New Yorkers face to accessing PrEP: cost, eligibility or drug-to-drug interactions.

This campaign is mentioned on the www.prepforsex.org website or more information can be obtained by contacting Storm Hurwitz, Health Campaigns Specialist for the Network, at shurwitz@gaycenter.org.

Education

Upcoming 2016 District Meetings

SAVE-THE-DATE

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 - Nassau District Meeting

A MULTIPLE SMALL FEEDINGS OF THE MIND (1) Changes to MOC and (2) Navigating New Diabetes Medications

Akbar Restaurant - 2 South Street, Garden City NY 11530

6:00pm Registration • 6:30pm Dinner and Educational Program

[More information will be posted to the NYACP Education Page shortly.](#)

SAVE-THE-DATES

Friday, September 23, 2016 - Sunday, September 25, 2016

CURRENT TOPICS IN PRIMARY CARE AND NEUROLOGY: Update for the Primary Care Practitioner

The High Peaks Resort - 2384 Saranac Avenue, Lake Placid, NY 12946

Sponsored by: Albany Medical College's Dept. of Medicine, Dept. of Neurology and the Office of CME

In collaboration with: Hudson Valley Capital District of the New York Chapter American College of Physicians

[More information will be posted to the NYACP Education Page shortly.](#)

SAVE-THE-DATE

Thursday, September 29, 2016 - Brooklyn District Meeting

A MULTIPLE SMALL FEEDINGS OF THE MIND

Gargiulo's Restaurant - 2911 West 15th Street, Brooklyn NY 11224

6:00pm Registration • 6:30pm Dinner and Educational Program

[More information will be posted to the NYACP Education Page shortly.](#)

SAVE-THE-DATE

Wednesday, October 19, 2016 - Syracuse District Meeting

A MULTIPLE SMALL FEEDINGS OF THE MIND: (1) Physician Burnout and (2) Hormone Replacement

6:00pm Registration • 6:30pm Dinner and Educational Program

[More information will be posted to the NYACP Education Page shortly.](#)

Friday, October 21- Saturday, October 22, 2016

11th Annual Mid-Atlantic Hospital Medicine Symposium

**The Bonnie M. Davis, MD and Kenneth L. Davis, MD Auditorium, 2nd floor,
1470 Madison Avenue (Between 101st & 102nd Streets), New York, NY 10029.**

[Brochure and Registration Information](#)

NYACP Resident and Medical Student Forum

Saturday, November 5, 2016

Mount Sinai Hospital

One Gustave L. Levy Place

New York, NY 10029

This half day program will include the popular Resident and Medical Student Poster competition and the Resident Dr's Dilemma competition.

- **The online submission forms are available now! [To fill out and submit the form, click here.](#)**

Please Note: *The NYACP Dr's Dilemma Competition is now full!*

The following teams will be competing in the Chapter's Dr's Dilemma Competition on Saturday, November 5th at the Resident and Medical Student Forum at Mount Sinai Medical Center.

- 1. Coney Island Hospital**
- 2. SUNY Upstate Medical University**
- 3. St. John's Episcopal Hospital**
- 4. Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center**
- 5. Rochester General Hospital**
- 6. Mount Sinai Medical Center**
- 7. John. T. Mather Memorial Hospital**
- 8. Interfaith Medical Center**
- 9. Sister's of Charity Catholic Health Systems**
- 10. Staten Island University Hospital**
- 11. St. Barnabus Hospital**
- 12. UHS Wilson Medical Center**

All members are invited to attend and cheer on their team! The winning team will represent New York in the ACP IM17 Competition in San Diego next year!
