

What's Hot: Important Updates

Financial Distribution Information

We recently sent out a communication regarding the ACO Financial Distribution. In order to serve you better with direct information about the ACO performance, we have **postponed any webinars** until the distribution is sent out next month.

Along with the distribution information, we will be including a summary report card which will give you specific information on performance in key areas. We will keep you notified of upcoming webinars after the distribution has been released.

USPSTF Releases New Recommendations for Colorectal Cancer Screening

The US Preventive Services Task Force has released new recommendations for colorectal cancer screening. There are now seven endorsed strategies for reducing disease-related mortality. They include: **colonoscopy, fecal immunochemical testing (FIT) for occult blood, guaiac-based FOBT (gFOBT), sigmoidoscopy alone, sigmoidoscopy plus FIT, the FIT-DNA test, and CT colonography**. This is an update to the 2008 guidelines, which recommended only colonoscopy, FIT, FOBT, or flexible sigmoidoscopy with FOBT.

The Task Force recommends screening for ages 50-75 and emphasizes that not enough adults in the recommended age group are being screened. Evidence clearly shows that screening can reduce mortality from colorectal cancer, and therefore the USPSTF does not recommend any one screening approach over another as all screening strategies have varying risks and benefits. The best test is the one the patient is most likely to complete. Patients are encouraged to consult with their clinician and choose the best option for them.

MaineHealth offers an on-site presentation for providers around FIT screening strategies. To schedule a training, please contact Gretchen Noonan with the Preventive Health Program at gnoonan1@mainehealth.org.

Payer Updates

Below is a selection of updates shared at recent Office Manager Forums. To help stay current with payer updates, be sure to sign up directly for their provider or network newsletters.

Coventry/Aetna Updates:

- A reminder for updating provider demographics with Coventry. Please send an email to PDSDallas@aetna.com, and in the subject line write "COVENTRY REQUEST". Call Coventry Provider Service Center with questions at 1-800-937-6824 or email FirstHealthCustomerServiceMailbox@aetna.com.

- A reminder that educational content is available at www.aetnaeducation.com, including upcoming live webinars, reference tools, and interactive presentations.

Anthem Updates:

- Anthem has made an update to their [website](#). You can now find the link to the provider home at the bottom right side of the anthem.com home page, under 'Partners in health'. Select 'Tools for Providers' then select your state. Remember to bookmark your state specific provider home page for easy access in the future! In addition, some form links have changed. Be sure you update anything you had bookmarked.
- On 11/1/16, changes to AIM Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines for Cardiology and Radiology will become effective. You can submit requests via the online portal [here](#) or call 1-866-714-1107 Monday through Friday, 8am – 5pm. Online tutorials are also available.
- A reminder to providers who provide imaging services: complete your Medicare Advantage AIM OptiNet registration for x-ray, ultrasound or high tech imaging services. This initiative is effective 1/1/17. If you've already registered your radiology equipment for commercial business, you must also register for Medicare Advantage – AIM can help you transfer your commercial information. From the [Anthem ProviderPortal home page](#), select 'Access My OptiNet Registration' to start the process. For assistance you can call AIM Monday – Friday 8am to 8pm at 1-800-714-0040. Webinars are available.
- Medicare Supplement members will receive new ID cards beginning 11/1/16. Be sure to get a copy of the new ID cards to ensure claims continue to process correctly for dates of service 11/1/16 and beyond.

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Updates:

- Reminder that provider change forms, payment policies and appeals information and forms are available on the Provider Manual page of the website, visit www.harvardpilgrim.org, in the left menu panel click 'Providers', then 'Provider Manual'
- A reminder for Medicare providers – sign up to use the Stride Portal for a full range of transactions including verifying eligibility, checking claims status, submitting referrals and checking copayment amounts. For more information visit www.harvardpilgrim.org, in the left menu panel click 'Providers' then 'Products' and select Harvard Pilgrim Medicare Stride under Senior Plans.
- For provider service and support, you can call 1-800-708-4414 options 1, 7 or email provider_callcenter@hphc.org

Martin's Point Generations Advantage Rolls Out Comprehensive Visit Payment Program

Martin's Point has rolled out a Comprehensive Visit payment program that allows providers to bill for a Medicare Annual Wellness Visit AND an Annual Physical Exam all in one, extended appointment. The program encourages adequate time to discuss, document, and treat chronic diseases. There's also an additional \$100 incentive payment available! To read more about the program, click [here](#).

Louis A. Hanson, D.O. Scholarship Awarded to Dr. Cindy Avery

We are very pleased to announce **Dr. Cindy Avery, family physician**, as the recipient of the Louis A. Hanson, D.O. Scholarship. The scholarship, originally established by the MMC Physician-Hospital Organization (now MaineHealth ACO), honors Maine's most respected physician leaders and helps develop future generations of medical leaders. The scholarship was developed to carry on the leadership example and legacy of the late Louis A. Hanson, a long time Cumberland resident and a much beloved solo family practice physician.

Each year, scholarship funds are awarded to physicians who have been selected for leadership development courses through the Daniel Hanley Center for Health Leadership, an independent non-profit organization based in Portland. Over the past eight years, the Hanley Center has enrolled more than 500 physicians and other healthcare leaders in leadership courses. The Louis A. Hanson Scholarship is meant to support independent primary care physicians and physicians serving in public health roles or working for organizations that serve disadvantaged populations.

Dr. Cindy Avery has practiced in the Hancock county area since 1995 and served as Family Practice Medicine Residency preceptor at Maine Medical Center since 1999. She has a broad range of family practice experience and over the last several years, has shifted to a greater focus on community care, geriatrics and hospice. Dr. Avery volunteers as the camp doctor at the Seeds of Peace camp and is working in hospice where she conducts home visits in the Bangor area and across Washington and Hancock counties.

Dr. Avery will be starting a role through the MMC Family Practice residency program, where she will be working in Interprofessional Education, serving as mentor for members of the Interprofessional team, which includes a family practice resident, medical student, pharmacy student, physical therapist, and social worker. She is looking forward to developing her leadership skills through the Hanley Center Health Leadership Development program, so she can more effectively extend her reach and make a bigger difference here in Maine.

For more information about the Louis A. Hanson, D.O. Scholarship, contact Kathy Vezina, at kathyrnvezina@hanleyleadership.org

For more information about the Hanley Center, visit www.hanleyleadership.org or www.healthleadershipmaine.org.