

From: [LaSheila Young](#)
To: [LaSheila Young](#)
Subject: MPHCA E-Update-September 10, 2010
Date: Monday, September 13, 2010 9:13:24 AM



MPHCA e-Update- September 10, 2010

MPHCA Events/Educational Offerings

- **Registration Now Open!** November 3-5, 2010- MPHCA Fall Clinical Conference, The Riley Center in Meridian, MS.

For complete information on trainings listed above, please click on http://www.mphca.com/Training_and_Events.htm

Other Events/Educational Offerings

Medicare Billing Teleconference for Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Providers Attention: Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Providers

The National Government Services Provider Outreach and Education department will conduct the federally qualified health center (FQHC) billing teleconference on September 15, 2010. All Medicare FQHC providers are welcome to attend this FREE teleconference. However, this call is specifically directed to billers, business office managers, and admitting staff. The providers will receive an understanding of the coverage and billing criteria for submission of claims to the Medicare Program.

Session Title: Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Billing
Date: September 15, 2010
Time: 11:00 a.m. ET

Registration for this FREE event can be found by visiting our Web site at www.NGS Medicare.com. Select FQHC as your business type then select "Go." From the FQHC portal page, select the Events Calendar subnavigation under the Education and Support category (on dark blue navigation bar).

Register NOW for the 2010 Financial, Operations Management/ Information Technology (FOM/IT) Conference. With its theme, "Let the Transformation Begin: A Road Map to 2014," this is the only conference to offer health centers such a diverse magnitude of **strategies for successful Growth and Development during the dawning of Health Care Reform**. Whether it's the latest in regulatory compliance, business best practices or health technologies – the 2010 FOM/IT has it all in one place – Las Vegas.
[View more about the 2010 FOM/IT Conference.](#)

For additional information, contact Sherry Giles at sgiles@nachc.com, or (301)347-0400.

You asked, NACHC delivered! Back by Popular Demand - The "Coding Health Centers Can Use" Webinar Series

NACHC and Brown Consulting are pleased to offer the fall 2010 edition of the "Coding Health Centers Can Use" series. This three-webinar series was designed to assist health centers in the areas of billing and collections. Each session will inform health centers of the basic components of coding and how improving current billing practices and systems can translate into increased revenues. Participate in this series for a complete overview of the billing and reimbursement issues that impact coders, billers and providers in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Individuals attending this webinar will come away with:

- A better understanding of the basic components of coding;
- Knowledge of how improving current billing practices and systems can translate into increased revenues;
- An overview of the billing and reimbursement issues effecting health center operations;
- And more!

See below to find out the dates, focal points and registration links for each webinar in this dynamic series!

Webinar Dates and Descriptions

Webinar 1: Two Methods for Choosing Clinic E/M Codes

Date: October 12, 2010, 2PM EST
Online registration cutoff date: October 8, 2010
This webinar will focus on the following:

- Component Coding
- Coding Based on Counseling/Coordination of Care

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify two techniques for E/M code selection and the associated documentation requirements.

Registration Rate: 150 dollars

[Register online.](#)

Webinar 2: Diagnosis Coding To Prove Your Work

Date: October 19, 2010, 2 PM EST
Online registration cutoff date: October 15, 2010
This webinar will focus on the following:

- Acuity Rating of Your Patient Population Depends on Diagnosis Coding
- HTN Is Not Just High Blood Pressure
- The Real Coding Story on DM
- Acuity, Work and Pregnancy Coding
- HIV, MRSA and Septicemia
- New Codes for 2011

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Describe and locate ICD-9-CM Section IV Physician diagnosis coding Guidelines.
- Explain the relevance of detailed diagnosis coding.

Registration Rate: 150 dollars

[Register online.](#)

Webinar 3: Common/Frequent Coding Issues

Date: October 26, 2010, 2 PM EST
Online registration cutoff date: October 22, 2010
This webinar will focus on the following:

- Why Coding Matters to You
- Visits and Procedures On the Same Day
- Wellness and Illness on the Same Day
- Contraceptive Management
- Pregnancy Services Coding Highlights

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Compare and contrast problem oriented visit coding with preventive visit coding.
- Identify circumstances where both E/M codes and surgical procedures codes are assigned together.

Registration Rate: 150 dollars

[Register online.](#)

For further information, contact: [Sherry Giles](#) or (301) 347-0400.

NACHC Cancellation Policy:

There is a cancellation fee of \$50. The last date of cancellation is the same as the last day of registration. Cancellations received on or before the last day of registration will be assessed a \$50 processing fee. Cancellations received after the last day of registration are non-refundable and not transferable to other NACHC webcasts.

Looking for a ways to reduce your HC's workforce shortage?? Register for NACHC's new webinar on locum tenens (temporary physicians) staffing and get solutions.

HAVE STETHOSCOPE, WILL TRAVEL: THE GROWING USE OF LOCUM TENENS PHYSICIANS

Date: September 29, 2010 2:00 – 3:30 PM EDT
Registration Cutoff: September 27, 2010

[Register online here.](#)

Webinar Description

For years, hospitals, clinics and other health care facilities have incorporated temporary nurses, therapists and other clinicians in their staffing plans.

Today, this trend increasingly includes physicians, who are working on a temporary, or *locum tenens*, basis in increasing numbers. Why is the use of locum tenens physicians increasing? Why types of physicians are working as locum tenens and how can this be an integral part of your practice staffing plan to increase patient access? What are the benefits of using locum tenens? What are the costs?

Have Stethoscope, Will Travel provides answers to these questions and offers practical guidelines to health professionals interested in what is an increasingly important resource of medical manpower and expertise.

Learning Objectives: By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

- Understand why locum tenens physicians are being used in increasing numbers
- Learn the costs/benefits of locum tenens providers
- Develop strategies for integrating locum tenens physicians into an overall staff plan

Speaker: Kurt Mosley, Vice President of Strategic Alliances for Staff Care, the nation's leading locum tenens staffing firm, and for its parent company, AMN Healthcare, the largest health care staffing organization in the United States (bio attached).

[Register online here.](#)

For more information about this webinar

The AMA is sponsoring a AMA Free Webinar for treatment of patients with behavioral health issues related to the gulf oil spill. ([Click here to view ad](#)).

October 5, 2010-THE FIFTH ANNUAL FANNIE LOU HAMER CANCER FOUNDATION'S ARRESTS & JAIL LOCK-UP IN SUPPORT OF FINDING CURES

FOR CANCER & SAVING LIVES

Funding Opportunities

Award to a physician who best exemplifies the spirit, skill, and dedication of America's rural medical practitioners.

[Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program \(Project Period Start Date November 1, 2010\)](#)

Application deadline: Oct 25, 2010

Funding to provide comprehensive primary health care services to an underserved area or population.

[Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program \(Areas Served Through Grants with a Project Period Start Date of December 1, 2010\)](#)

Application deadline: Oct 26, 2010

Funding to provide comprehensive primary health care services to an underserved area or population.

[Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program \(Areas Served Through Grants with a Project Period Start Date of January 1, 2011\)](#)

Application deadline: Oct 27, 2010

Funding to provide comprehensive primary health care services to an underserved area or population.

[Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program \(Areas Served Through Grants with a Project Period Start Date of February 1, 2011\)](#)

Application deadline: Oct 28, 2010

Funding to provide comprehensive primary health care services to an underserved area or population.

[Service Area Competition Funding for Health Center Program \(Areas Served with a Project Period Start Date: March 1, 2011\)](#)

Application deadline: Oct 29, 2010

Funding to provide comprehensive primary health care services to an underserved area or population.

[2011 Minority Nurse Scholarship Program](#)

Application deadline: Feb 1, 2011

Annual scholarship program to help outstanding students complete their studies leading to a BSN degree.

[Research on Rural Mental Health and Drug Abuse Disorders \(R01\)](#)

Application deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Grants to stimulate research on mental health, HIV/AIDS and/or drug abuse problems in rural and frontier communities.

[Stimulus Assistance: USDA Rural Development Programs](#)

Application deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Grant, loan, and loan guarantee assistance to rural residents, rural communities, and rural utility systems.

Can You Submit More Than One New Access Point Application?

Is your health center considering submitting a New Access Point (NAP) application? Have you wondered whether you can submit more than one? The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) responds to this and other questions in its [frequently asked questions](#) on the 2011 NAP opportunity. HRSA indicates that while an organization can seek funding in one application for multiple sites, only one application per organization is permitted for consideration under New Access Points (HRSA-11-017) grant competition in FY 2011 and no organization may request more than \$650,000, regardless of the number of new sites proposed. If more than one new access point application is submitted for consideration under HRSA-11-017, HRSA will only accept the last application received for review, and all other applications from the same organization will not be reviewed. Other issues addressed in the FAQs include: what is required to make an application competitive; readiness versus full operational capacity; mobile van and school-based site eligibility; eligibility criteria; shortage designation requirements; population served requirements; eligible use of funds and other information.

CVS to Offer Free Flu Vaccines through Health Centers

Direct Relief USA is partnering with the National Association of Community Health Centers, the National Association of Free Clinics and CVS pharmacy to assist safety net providers obtain free influenza vaccine vouchers for their uninsured patients. Through this program, interested clinics and health centers will be provided with an allotment of CVS influenza vaccine vouchers to give to existing uninsured patients. Each voucher will enable an uninsured patient to obtain an influenza vaccine at a CVS pharmacy at no cost. If you

are interested in participating, visit the [Direct Relief website](#) to complete a brief questionnaire.

HRSA Service Area Competition Funding

Application Deadline: Due dates range from October 25, 2010 to January 10, 2011

SAC funding guidances for health center project periods starting November 1, 2010 through June 1, 2011 (HRSA 11-007 - HRSA 11-014) are now available. Please be sure to use the correct funding guidance for your project period start dates. HRSA will extend project periods for those centers with project period start dates occurring in November, December, January and February. HRSA is committed to ensuring that existing grantees maintain continuity of services and will be providing pro-rated funding to these organizations as appropriate. Guidances are available on the [HRSA grant opportunity website](#).

UnitedHealth HEROES Service Learning Grants

Application Deadline: October 22, 2010

Funding to support youth-led projects that address childhood obesity.

NACHC NEWS

Fall Advocacy Update

After a tremendously successful National Health Center Week celebration, Health Centers around the country are gearing up for a very busy fall. Congress will return from August recess next week to try to finish some remaining business before the November elections. Despite all the excitement around the implementation of health reform and the elections, we need to remember that parts of the health center federal policy agenda are still pending with only a short window for passage of issues like [FTCA for Volunteers](#), [HIT Incentives](#), and health center [Appropriations](#).

With that in mind, we are asking you, and all our health center advocates to be ready to respond when the call comes in on any of these important issues. That could begin as quickly as next week. Make sure to read the latest updates on health center policy issues on the [NACHC Health Centers on the Hill blog](#), and on the [Federal Affairs section of the NACHC website](#) so you will be ready to help.

Speaking of the elections, NACHC is once again spearheading a major initiative, [Community Health Vote \(CHVote\)](#), to empower our patients and communities and ramp up voter registration and Get-Out-the-Vote efforts at health centers around the country. NACHC, our Field Staff, and our partners are available to work with health centers to help develop and activate Community Health Vote activities and to provide technical assistance and materials to improve upon existing programs. If you are interested in [CHVote and launching voter registration initiatives](#) at your health center please check out the Community Health Vote Page and let us know how we can help by emailing us at grassroots@nachc.com.

2010 has been an incredible year so far with the passage of Health Care Reform, unprecedented investment in the Health Centers Program and an outstanding National Health Center Week celebration. But our work for 2010 is not done. We are counting on your continued support and hard work as a health center advocate to make sure we can continue our success.

Thank You.

HRSA/BPHC NEWS

HHS Extends Current Poverty Levels Through 2010

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) has announced that the 2009 Federal Poverty Guidelines will remain in effect for the remainder of 2010. Congress had passed legislation to delay the implementation until May 31, 2010 and did not extend the delay. However, HHS updated the guidelines using a modified formula of the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), which resulted in the 2009 levels being maintained for the remainder of 2010. For more information on the poverty guidelines see the [HHS website](#).

New BPHC Help Line Designed as "One Stop Shop"

The Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) has announced the launch of a new BPHC Help Line to provide assistance to BPHC grantees and stakeholders. The BPHC Help Line can be accessed by calling 1-877-974-BPHC (2742) or emailing bphchelp@hrsa.gov and are available to provide grantees and stakeholders with information and assistance in the following areas:

- BHC MIS - System in EHB (Electronic Handbook)
- Health Center Quarterly Reporting (HCQR)/ARRA 1512
- Reporting Uniform Data System (UDS)
- Federal Torts Claims Act (FTCA) for Health Centers and Free Clinics

The goal of the new, toll-free number and email is to provide a single point of contact for grantees and stakeholders with respect to the topics mentioned above. The new BPHC Help Line consolidates and replaces the previous system help numbers and the FTCA help line. The BPHC Help Line is available Monday to Friday (excluding Federal holidays), from 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM (ET), with extra hours available during high volume periods. Grantees are still encouraged to contact the HRSA Call Center for EHB related issues

such as account access, and password resetting at: 1-877-464-4772 or callcenter@hrsa.gov.

Secretaries Sebelius and Duncan Announce National Coalition to Enroll Uninsured Kids in Health Care

Sep 3, 2010 -- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan highlight the Connecting Kids to Coverage Challenge to enroll five million children in Medicaid and CHIP within five years. Also included is a newly released report from The Urban Institute on states' success enrolling target populations in Medicaid and CHIP.

Medicaid EMR Guidelines Spell Out State Help for Doctors

Aug 30, 2010 -- American Medical News article reports that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has published details for state Medicaid directors on what they should expect from the federal government as they administer the Medicaid portion of the electronic medical records (EMR) incentive program starting in 2011.

NEWS

CMS issues guidance for implementing coding initiative in Medicaid

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on Sept. 1 issued [initial guidance](#) to state Medicaid directors implementing the National Correct Coding Initiative for Medicaid claims filed on or after Oct. 1, 2010, as required by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The guidance outlines the statutory requirements, methodologies, resources and funding for implementing the program, which applies coding policies and edits to services performed by the same provider for the same beneficiary on the same date of service. The program was first implemented for Medicare Part B fee-for-service claims in 1996 to promote national correct coding methodologies and reduce improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment.

[via [AHA News Now](#)]

• [Email to a friend](#) • •

Joint Commission reminder: How to comment on standards

The Joint Commission issued a brief reminder to organizations on how to provide feedback and comments on Joint Commission standards.

[Click here](#) to read more.

CVS Caremark to Offer \$5 Million in Free Flu Shots to Uninsured Patients of Community Clinics and Health Centers Beginning September 20

CVS Caremark will partner with Direct Relief USA to issue vouchers to clinics and health centers across the country redeemable for free flu shots at CVS/pharmacy and MinuteClinic.

HHS Urges Children's Medicaid, CHIP Coverage

Recently released data from the Census Bureau shows that the number of uninsured children in the U.S. decreased from 8.1 million in 2007 to 7.3 million in 2008—the lowest since 1987. But efforts still need to be used to reach as many as 65% of (about 4.7 million) of those uninsured children who are eligible for coverage through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), said participants at a Department of Health and Human Services briefing on enrolling children in the programs.

Higher Heart Risk Seen in Younger African Americans

African Americans are known to have a higher rate of heart disease and stroke than whites, and a new study suggests that those excess risks emerge at a relatively young age.

Health Plan Won't Fuel Big Spending, Report Says

A new government study says President Obama's health care law will have negligible effects on total national health spending in the next 10 years, neither slowing nor fueling the explosive growth of medical costs. About 32.5 million people will gain coverage, and health spending will grow slightly faster than projected under prior law - at an annual rate of 6.3 percent, rather than 6.1 percent, the report said.

Challenge of Luring Physicians to Underserved Areas Highlighted in Post Article

An August 9, 2010 Washington Post [article](#) profiles a young doctor in rural Virginia as a test case for the Obama administration's goal to bring primary care doctors to underserved areas—and keep them there

Online Spirometry Course Available for Primary Care Clinicians

The University of Washington will once again be offering Spirometry 360, a set of interactive online resources designed to efficiently train clinicians and support staff to successfully perform and interpret spirometry tests in the office setting. This program has been successful in training care teams across the United States and has been highly rated by its participants. The University of Washington does have "safety-net" scholarships/sponsored licenses available for this evidence-based spirometry training and quality improvement program, a \$1500 value. The deadline for [applications](#) is October 1st for the program running January-May 2011. For more information about training activities and spirometry in general, visit the spirometry training [website](#).

Medicare to Cover Smoking Cessation Counseling as Preventive Measure

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) recently announced that Medicare will now cover [tobacco cessation counseling](#)

as mandated by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The ACA contains measures on preventing diseases before they occur. Previously Medicare only covered counseling if a patient had already been diagnosed with or showed symptoms of a tobacco-related disease. HHS will issue guidance in the next few months on a Medicaid provision in the ACA that requires states to help pregnant women quit smoking.

First Ever Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day September 25th

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and government, community, public health and law enforcement partners have announced a nationwide prescription drug "Take-Back" initiative that seeks to prevent increased pill abuse and theft. The DEA will be collecting potentially dangerous, expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at sites nationwide on Saturday, September 25th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. local time. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. Collection sites can be found on the DEA [website](#).

Commission is Likely to Set Nation's Health Workforce Policies, Say Experts

Aug 19, 2010 -- AAFP News Now article reports that one of the provisions of the recently enacted health care reform legislation is the creation of a national commission that will be dedicated to making recommendations regarding health care workforce issues and could, according to some analysts, become the dominant force in driving and shaping the nation's health care workforce policies.

Future of Family Medicine and Implications for Rural Primary Care Physician Supply (Final Report)

Examines the rural physician shortage, the effect of recent trends in specialty choice on provider supply, and major trends that are changing the dynamics that shape the delivery of health care.

Organization: WWAMI Rural Health Research Center

Date: 08 / 2010

Health Care Broadband in America: Early Analysis and a Path Forward

Addresses the content presented in Section 10.5 of the National Broadband Plan, entitled, *Closing the Health IT Broadband Connectivity Gap*. This paper further analyses and explains assumptions and methodology used and intends to solicit feedback and new ideas to enhance the understanding of health care connectivity issues. Includes aspects of the connectivity gap as it applies to rural areas and Rural Health Clinics.

Organization: Federal Communications Commission

Date: 08 / 2010

Medicare Physician Quality Reporting Initiative: Implications for Rural Physicians (Policy Brief)

Rural practices may be at a disadvantage with respect to participating in the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI), not necessarily because of their geographic location, but because they tend to be smaller, and have fewer resources and a less developed quality measurement infrastructure.

Organization: NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis

Date: 08 / 2010

Use of Emergency Departments for Conditions Related to Poor Oral Health Care

Persistent and worsening shortages of oral health care providers in rural areas, combined with limited acceptance of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), have left many patients without adequate access to dental care.

Organization: NORC Walsh Center for Rural Health Analysis

Date: 08 / 2010

Utilizing Quality Clinical Supervision as a Workforce Retention Strategy in Rural Community Mental Health

Discusses how rural community mental agencies are vulnerable to increased turnover rates for mental health care professionals. Identifies challenges that face community mental health staff that can be addressed using clinical supervision to alleviate weary clinicians and promote accountability and best-practices.

Organization: Marshall University

Date: 06 / 2010

RESOURCES

Food & Community Program

Supports local, regional and national collaborative efforts to create healthy places for children. Offers funding and other resources to improve school food systems, increase access to good food and physical activity environments, and to fuel the national healthy eating and active living movement.

Organization: W.K. Kellogg Foundation

—
[Unsubscribe](#) Mississippi Primary Health Care Association distributes the MPHCA e-Update every Wednesday to inform members and partners of issues important to Community Health Centers.

The MPHCA e-Update is the official e-bulletin of the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association. It is e-mailed weekly as a membership service to Mississippi Community Health Center executive leadership, board members, health professionals, non-clinical staff, and other MPHCA members and partners.

Mississippi Primary Health Care Association~6400 Lakeover Road~Suite A~Jackson, MS 39213~601-981-1817