

From: [Mississippi Primary Health Care Association](#)
To: [LaSheila Young](#)
Subject: MPHCA E-Update
Date: Monday, February 07, 2011 1:51:15 PM

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MPHCA E-Update

19, 2011

January

Birth Defects Prevention Month

www.nbdpn.org

MPHCA NEWS

We Know You Feel Surveyed to Death, But ...

The information gained from surveys is critical to effective advocacy on your behalf. Every Community Health Center is urged to participate in several surveys currently underway. Please take the time to complete:

1. The NACHC 2011 Health Center Salary and Benefits Questionnaire. The survey can be accessed by going to www.hhcsinc.com, clicking "Survey Questionnaires" at the top of the homepage and then selecting "2011-2012 NACHC Health Center Salary & Benefits Questionnaire." This survey allows NACHC and PACHC to provide comparative data on salaries and benefits to you on request. You do not need to be a NACHC member organization to participate in the survey.
2. The George Washington University Geiger-Gibson Center HIT Survey. Sent to all Community Health Centers across the nation, this short survey is essential in providing baseline data on HIT implementation. An email was sent to each health center with an individual health center specific link to the survey. If you did not receive the email invitation to participate in the survey or have questions on the survey, please contact Merle Cunningham, MD MPH (Principal Investigator) at merlec@gwu.edu, or Dr. Cunningham's assistant, Anthony Lara, at anthony.lara@gwumc.edu.

Thank you for helping us help you!

Geiger Gibson Emerging Leaders Award Nominations

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Emerging Leader Award is fast approaching! Please remember to send your nominations in by Friday, February 11, 2011. A complete nomination packet includes:

1. Nomination Form
2. Nomination Letter (no longer than 2 pages, typed)
3. Nominee's Resume/CV
4. Any Supplemental Materials (optional)

You can also access this form on our [website](#). Please feel welcome to contact me with any

questions regarding the nomination and award process.

Kind regards,

Tishra Beeson, MPH
Managing Director
Geiger Gibson Program in Community Health Policy
Department of Health Policy
The George Washington University
School of Public Health and Health Services

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360 Million Blood Glucose Test Strips Recalled

Abbott Diabetes Care has recalled hundreds of lots of glucose test strips because they may not absorb enough blood and therefore incorrectly provide low blood glucose results. This failure could potentially cause patients to attempt to raise their blood glucose levels or neglect to treat high blood glucose. The strips are sold under the following brands: Precision Xceed Pro, Precision Xtra, Precision Point of Care, MediSense Optium, Optium, OptiumEZ, and ReliOn Ultima. The manufacturer estimates that up to 359 million test strips may be included in the recall.

MPHCA EVENTS/EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

January 26, 2011 Annual Meeting Activities

MPHCA Board of Directors Meeting @ 9:00 am
Hilton Garden Inn-Downtown Jackson

Legislative Day at the Capitol @ 8:30a.m. 2:00 p.m.
MPHCA's Growth Strategy Kick Off Committee Meeting @ 2:30 p.m - 4:00 p.m
MPHCA Grassroots Advisory Session @ 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

capitol MPHCA Legislative Reception @ 5:30 pm-7:30 pm



January 27, 2011
MississippiCAN Program @ 8:00 a.m-9:30 a.m.
Hilton Garden Inn

For more information on these activities, contact Vera Nickelberry at 601-981-1817 or vnickelberry@mphca.com.

February 24-25, 2011

Clinical Quality & Performance Improvement: The Peer Review Process
& Conducting Root Cause Analyses-[Registration OPEN!](#)
MPHCA Board Room

For more information, contact Joyce Smith at 601-981-1817 or jsmith@mphca.com.

September 21-24, 2011

MPHCA to Convene 25th Annual Conference & 30th Anniversary Celebration
Harrah's Tunica & Mid-South Convention Center/Robinsonville, MS

For more information, contact Kim Hancock at 601-981-1817 or khancock@mphca.com

Watch for more information coming soon to www.mphca.com & we hope to see you in 2011.

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

OTHER EVENTS/EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

NACHC Seminars/Conference/Wecasts, Register Today!

January 27 - Sliding Fee Scale Management / Development, webinar

February 2 - Developing Effective Federally Qualified Health Centers, Florida

Organizing a new health center or expansion program is complex enough... but how do you also ensure that the program plan will lead to patient-centered care, improved health outcomes, sustainability and continued funding.

February 9-11 - The 7th Annual 340B Coalition Winter Conference, San Diego

Register at www.340Bwinterconference.org Special discounts are available for members of 340B Coalition organizations, Apexus/Prime Vendor participants and Drug Discount Monitor subscribers.

We encourage you to make your hotel reservations now as well as our room block is limited. More information can be found on our location/hotel page. If you know of a company or organization that would be interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the conference, please encourage them to visit the exhibitor page or contact Karen Hicks at karen.hicks@snhpa.org or 202-552-5854 for more details.

If you have questions, please contact Mike Hess at mike.hess@snhpa.org or 202-552-5869.

February 10 - Charge Capture via EMR vs. Data Entry, webinar

February 23-24- Health Center Practice Operations Management, Level I training seminar in Las Vegas, NV Whether you are front line staff, or behind the scenes managing the daily operations of a community health center (CHC), our field is undergoing dramatic reform and we are all in transition. Attend the NACHC Health Center Practice Operations Management Level I Seminar (POM I) and explore possible solutions and get answers to these and other questions you may have.

March 9-10- Maximizing Revenue and Third Party Reimbursements training seminar in New Orleans, LA This seminar provides tools and techniques that will support your efforts to ensure that billing and collections procedures result in acquiring all revenues due for services provided in your health centers. The basic guidelines of what can be billed, to which payers, and how much the health center can expect to be paid will also be covered.

HRSA Health Information Technology and Quality Webinar

The successful implementation of an EHR system can result in a clinical transformation that significantly impacts a health center's operations and how patient care is provided. A key component to this success is a focused and deliberate workflow analysis.

This webinar will focus on a variety of important workflow analysis topics specific to health centers and rural hospitals. The presenters are experts in workflow analysis from both rural and urban provider backgrounds within the safety net community. They will discuss how to perform a workflow analysis and key areas that should be addressed during this process. The presentation will also address how a workflow analysis may differ based on the size of the practice, and highlight areas where provider workflow may change as a result of EHR implementation.

Presenters Include:

- Katie Kerr, MA, Kanabec Hospital, Mora, Minnesota
- Rudy Irby, MD, Communicare Health Centers, San Antonio, Texas
- Timothy Roark, CPEHR, CPHIT; Richard W. Turner, FACHE; and Jan

Wilkerson, RN, CPHQ, Georgia Association for Primary Health Care, Inc.

Registration Info:

Event address for attendees: <https://ohit.webex.com/ohit/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=995573861>

Event number: 995 573 861

Event Password: portal

Please email questions or comments to HRSA's Health IT mailbox at healthit@hrsa.gov

Interested in setting up an ACO or other type of community-based provider network?

Participate in this webinar and learn more!

Contracting with Managed Care Organizations

January 26, 2011 2-3:30 PM EST

Online registration deadline: January 24, 2011

In the past, many health centers have formed or joined different types of provider- controlled networks to contract with managed care entities as a group. These networks often have been known as independent practice associations (IPAs) or health center controlled networks (HCCNs). Health Reform further encourages providers to develop community-based networks that improve quality of care and generate efficiencies through integration, collaboration, and coordination among providers. The prime example is the Accountable Care Organization (ACO).

Upon completing this webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Identify legal requirements that apply to a provider network.
2. Describe structural options for managing a provider network.
3. Explain legal challenges for operating a provider network.

To find out more about this webinar [click here](#).

National HIV/AIDS Strategy on Improving HIV/AIDS Care in Health Centers

HRSA/BPHC Grantee TA Call SAVE the DATE

Monday, January 31, 2011

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm (ET)

Call in Number: 888-677-5723

Participant Code: 6568184

The Bureau of Primary Health Care is pleased to announce a Technical Assistance Call on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) and plans to enhance HIV/AIDS care in health centers. The NHAS and corresponding Federal Implementation Plan seek to achieve the following three goals over five years:

- Reduce the incidence of HIV infection
- Increase access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV
- Reduce HIV-related health disparities

BPHC is working with its federal partners across the Department of Health and Human Services to develop strategies to meet these goals. These strategies include key roles for Health Centers to improve and expand their services to underserved populations at risk for and living with HIV/AIDS. We invite you to join a multi-disciplinary panel of Federal staff and BPHC Health Center grantees for a HRSA/BPHC Technical Assistance Call on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. During this call, we will share information about BPHC's overall approach to the NHAS and the critical contributions we

believe can be made by Health Centers, Primary Care Associations (PCAs), national cooperative agreements (NCAs), and other partners.

Information on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/onap/nhas> as well as <http://aids.gov/>

Information on the Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plans (ECHPP) project (12 Cities Project) can be found at <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppld=56637&mode=VIEW>

Information on PHS federal guidelines for HIV treatment, care, and testing can be found at <http://www.aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines/>. In addition, HRSA HIV/AIDS care protocols can be found at <http://hab.hrsa.gov/publications.htm>

HRSA will be sending out an agenda and reminder email several days prior to the call.

Webinar: Past, Present, and Future: A Report on State CHIP Programs, January 20, 1:30-3:00 pm (ET)

[Register Here](#)

This webinar will highlight NASHP's fourth comprehensive survey of state CHIP programs, ***Charting CHIP IV: A Report on State Children's Health Insurance Programs Prior to Major Federal Policy Changes in 2009 and 2010***. Other topics will include the future of children's coverage vis-à-vis the Affordable Care Act, and state success stories implementing specific elements of the 2008 CHIPRA reauthorization.

Interested in Emergency Room care coordination?

Participate in this webinar and learn more!

Developing Successful Partnerships for Emergency Room Care Coordination

February 9, 2011 2- 3:30 PM EST

Online registration deadline: February 7, 2011

Learning Objectives:

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

1. Identify the basis for and benefits of emergency room care coordination arrangements.
2. Identify various models for providing health center alternatives to emergency room care as well as common issues and key terms.
3. Identify "real-life" challenges and solutions in developing and implementing approaches for providing health center alternatives to emergency room care.

[Click here for more information](#)

NASBHC's New Year Webinars: Confidentiality in School-Based Health Services: Understanding HIPAA & FERPA

It's a new year and NASBHC has new free webinars for you to join. To kick off the New Year our first webinar will be on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) in the context of school-based health centers (SBHCs) on Tuesday, January 25, 2010 from 3:00-4:30 pm EST.

Objectives

- Review adolescents' interests in confidentiality
- Explain confidentiality & disclosure requirements of HIPAA & FERPA
- Describe how to assess which law protects records of your SBHC
- Clarify differences in HIPAA & FERPA
- Discuss strategies for protecting & sharing health & education information in compliance with HIPAA & FERPA

Panelists

- Abigail English, Director, Center for Adolescent Health & the Law
- Rebecca Gudeman, Senior Attorney, National Center for Youth Law

Click [here](#) to register.

Or copy and paste this link into your browser: <http://www.nasbhc.org/site/lookup.asp?c=enLFJHMIFmH&b=5962245>

Upcoming Webinars

1. "Spread the Word: Using the Media to Raise SBHC Awareness" January 14, 2pm EST

Register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/205946393>

2. "National SBHC Awareness Month: A Federal Education Policy Primer" January 18, 3 pm EST

Register:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/786904160>

3. "What is School Mental Health" TBD

Mailing Address:

National Assembly On School - Based Health Care
1100 G Street NW
Suite 735
Washington, DC 20005
US

Contact Name: NASBHC

Telephone Number: (202) 638-5872

You will also hear about a new Federal HIV/AIDS initiative to enhance HIV prevention planning in jurisdictions highly impacted by HIV/AIDS. In addition, information about federal guidelines and protocols on HIV treatment, care, and testing will be presented, along with resources you can access to improve the quality of care you provide to patients living with HIV/AIDS. The call will conclude with presentations from two Health Centers, who will review their approaches to HIV/AIDS care. Ample time will be set aside for questions and comments from the national audience of BPHC grantees, PCAs, BPHC NCAs, Federal staff, and other interested parties engaged in Health Center work.

Learn About Mental Illness, the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan

Thursday, January 20

4:00 pm eastern, 3:00 pm central, 2:00 pm mountain, 1:00 pm pacific, 12:00 pm Alaska

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FREE AND GET WEBINAR ACCESS INFORMATION

Please sign in early for the live event; attendance is limited to the first 1,000 participants. A free audio recording and a copy of the webinar presentation will be available after the event.

MISSISSIPPI & MEMBER NEWS

Notice of Changes to Medicaid's Drug Prior Authorization Program

The Division of Medicaid is pleased to announce the process to obtain drug prior authorizations has been enhanced to make it easier for physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dentists, and any other prescribers to care for their patients. The attached document describes the changes that were successfully implemented December 15, 2010. [Click here to view document.](#)

Please share this information with your membership and/or colleagues.

We thank you for working with us to share this important information.

Mississippi Division of Medicaid
Administrative Policy Amendments and State Plan Amendments

The following amendments have been filed with the Secretary of State. The complete text can be viewed at <https://www.medicaid.ms.gov/Amendments/Amendments.aspx>.

AP2011-01

THE REASON FOR THE RELEASE OF THIS POLICY IS OUR CONTINUING EFFORT TO COMBINE THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN POLICY MANUAL AND THE AGED, BLIND AND DISABLED POLICY MANUAL INTO ONE PUBLISHED MANUAL. THERE ARE NO POLICY CHANGES TO ADDRESS.

17500 *Status: Proposed* *Proposed: 1/7/2011* [Notice](#) [Full Text](#)

AP2011-02

PROVIDER POLICY MANUAL/BENEFITS/EXCLUSIONS/PHYSICAL/EXAMS/WELLNESS
POLICY/IMMUNIZATIONS

17506 *Status: Proposed* *Proposed: 1/11/2011* [Notice](#) [Full Text](#)

New Horizons in Diabetes Care: A Common Bond Between US

January 22, 2011

8am - 3pm

Marriott Hotel, Jackson

Cost: \$25 for one; \$40 for two; \$10 for children 12 and younger; \$18 per person for groups of 5-9; \$15 per person for groups of 10 or more; Free for children with diabetes.

Call 1-877-DFM-CURE or 1-877-336-2873 for more information. [Click here to register.](#)

Mississippi Medicaid's EHR Registration Now Online

Registration is now available for eligible health care professionals and eligible hospitals who wish to participate in Mississippi Medicaid's Electronic Health Records (EHR) Provider Incentive Program.

For more information about EHR incentives log on to <http://ms.earaincentive.com> or phone 1-866-879-0109.

POLICY & REGULATION

For Some States (Including Mississippi) Electronic Health Record Incentives Started

Beginning Jan. 3, 2011, registration is available for eligible health care professionals and eligible hospitals who wish to participate in the Medicare EHR incentive program. On January 3, registration in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will also be available in Alaska, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. In February, registration will open in California, Missouri, and North Dakota. Other states likely will launch their Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs during the spring and summer of 2011. To prepare for registration, interested providers should first familiarize themselves with the incentive programs' requirements by visiting CMS' Official Web Site for the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. The site provides general and detailed information on the programs, including tabs on the path to payment, eligibility, meaningful use, certified EHR technology, and frequently asked questions.

CMS EHR, Meaningful Use Registration STARTED ON JANUARY 3rd! Meaningful Use Registration Now Open

Registration for the Medicare incentive program for meaningful use of electronic health records, as well as Medicaid MU programs in 11 states, started on January 3, 2011.

http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/10_PathtoPayment.asp

Path to Payment

This section shows you the steps you should take to receive your incentive payments.

1. Find out if you are eligible for either the Medicare or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs.

- Professionals and hospitals can visit the [Eligibility page](#) to check eligibility.

2. Are you a professional eligible for both programs? If so, choose a program and follow the rest of the relevant checklist below. For hospitals, proceed to the next step.

- See the [Medicare EHR Incentive Program Checklist](#)
- See the [Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Checklist](#)

Medicare EHR Incentive Program Checklist

If you're an eligible professional, become a meaningful user of certified electronic health records to qualify for incentive payments of up to \$44,000 from Medicare. Here's how to qualify:

- Make sure you're eligible for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program. View eligibility guidelines at our [Eligibility page](#).
- Also eligible for the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program? You can receive higher incentive payments, up to \$63,750, through the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. See the [Medicaid checklist](#).
- Get registered-Registration for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program opens on January 3, 2011. Visit the [Registration and Attestation page](#) for more details.

Note: Register as soon as possible. You can register before having a system installed.

- Use certified EHR technology. To receive incentive payments, make sure the EHR technology you're using or are considering buying has been certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Visit our [Certified EHR Technology page](#) for details.
- Be a Meaningful User! You have to successfully demonstrate "meaningful use" for a consecutive 90-day period in your first year of participation (and for a full year in each

subsequent years) to receive EHR incentive payments. Visit our [Meaningful Use page](#) to learn about meaningful use objectives and measures.

- Attest for incentive payments. To get your EHR incentive payment, you must attest (legally state) through Medicare's secure Web site that you've demonstrated "meaningful use" with certified EHR technology. Starting in April 2011, you can get to our secure attestation Web site through a link at our [Registration and Attestation page](#).

Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Checklist

If you're an eligible professional, in your first year of participation you may adopt, implement or upgrade or become a meaningful user of certified electronic health records to qualify for incentive payments of up to \$63,750 from Medicaid. Here's how to qualify:

- Make sure you're eligible for the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. View eligibility guidelines at our [Eligibility page](#).
- Also eligible for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program? Eligible professionals can receive up to \$44,000 through the Medicare EHR Incentive Program. See the [Medicare checklist](#).
- Get registered. Visit the ["Medicaid State Information" page](#) to see if your state is participating in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.
- If your state is already participating, you can register for the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program on January 3, 2011. Visit the [Registration and Attestation page](#) for more details.
- If your state has not yet begun participating in the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program: you may wish to register now for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program, if you're eligible for both programs. See the [Medicare checklist](#).

Note: Register as soon as possible. You can register before having a system installed.

- Use certified EHR technology. To receive incentive payments, make sure the EHR technology you're using or are considering buying has been certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Visit our [Certified EHR Technology page](#) for details.
- Get qualified! To receive EHR incentive payments in the first year under the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, you must do one or more of the following:
 - Adopt certified EHR technology; or
 - Implement certified EHR technology you have already purchased; or
 - Upgrade your current system to certified EHR technology; or
 - Demonstrate "meaningful use" of certified EHR technology for a 90-day period.

Visit your state's Medicaid agency Web site or our [Meaningful Use page](#) to learn about meaningful use objectives and measures.

- Invest in certified EHR technology. To receive your Medicaid EHR Incentive payment, you-or your employer on your behalf-has to have spent at least \$3,750 on your certified EHR technology that cost at least \$25,000 in total to acquire and implement. You can include not only the EHR software costs but also the cost for the new certified upgrade, the computer hardware and staff training, etc., as described on your state's Medicaid agency Web site.
- Attest for incentive payments. To get your EHR incentive payment, you must attest (legally state) through your state's Medicaid agency Web site that you've met all of the eligibility criteria, including having adopted, implemented, upgraded or meaningfully used certified EHR technology. Visit your state's Medicaid agency Web site for more information.

Need more information?

Other programs related to the EHR Incentive Programs have been created to provide technical assistance and best practices in EHR adoption and demonstration of meaningful use. Learn more about Regional Extension Centers, Beacon Communities, State Health Information Exchange Cooperative Agreement partners, and what is happening to further the adoption of Health IT by visiting the ["HHS Office of the National Coordinator Health IT Web site"](#).

Important Announcement - Expanded Services (ES) Application Deadline Extended until January 20, 2011!

Based on several factors, but most importantly to ensure applicants have access to all necessary resources and time to prepare applications, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will extend the deadline for Expanded Services (ES) applications in the Electronic Handbooks (EHB) system. The ES initiative will support supplemental funding requests from existing Health Center Program grantees to increase access to preventive and primary health care including oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy, vision, and/or enabling services, at existing health center sites.

The EHB deadline for ES applications has been extended an additional two weeks until Thursday, January 20, 2011, at 8:00 PM EST. However, HRSA continues to encourage all health centers to begin and/or continue working on their ES applications and submit them as soon as possible. In addition, please utilize the technical assistances resources including Instructions, Frequently Asked Questions, EHB User Guide, and a Budget Example available at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/es>.

If a health center is having difficulties accessing its ES application in EHB, please contact the Bureau of Primary Health Care's Help Line at 1-877-974-BPHC (2742) or at bphchelp@hrsa.gov.

Readiness Survey for Meaningful Use & Patient Centered Medical Home-EXTENDED

This important online survey of health center readiness to meet Meaningful Use (MU) standards & achieve Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) recognition is *being extended* by GW and NACHC. The invitation to participate in this brief 10-12 minute online Readiness Survey was sent on 12/7/10 to all health center grantees with a request for completion within 10 days. Your organization needs to complete the survey regardless of whether or not you currently have an EHR, have started preparing for Meaningful Use or have applied for PCMH recognition for any of your sites. HRSA

and the Bureau of Primary Health Care are awaiting the results to determine how best to direct resources to assure that ALL health centers meet these objectives as soon as possible. More immediately, survey findings will guide the TA and training efforts of PCAs, Health Center Controlled Networks and the national organizations with special funding to support migrant, homeless and public housing grantees.

If you have not already responded, PLEASE visit the NACHC home page (www.NACHC.com) and click on "[Readiness Survey](#)" on the Home Page to download and review the questions in the PDF "Reference Copy Only" version of the survey. Then, click on the Survey Monkey link that was provided in the "eVite" sent to your organization. That unique link will take you directly to the survey coded to your organization and is the ONLY WAY to access the survey. Please make every effort to *complete it before the end of December*.

If you have any questions, please contact Merle Cunningham, MD MPH (Principal Investigator) at merlec@gwu.edu or Anthony Lara, MHSA (Senior Research Associate) at anthony.lara@gwumc.edu.

FINANCE & PAYMENT

2011 Versions of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Crosswalks Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has posted the 2011 versions of the ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS crosswalks, formally referred to as the General Equivalence Mappings (GEMs), on the [ICD-10 website](#). The Affordable Care Act required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene a meeting before January 1, 2011 to receive stakeholder input regarding the crosswalks between ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 for the purpose of making appropriate revisions and that the crosswalks be posted to the CMS website. In addition, CMS also has posted a document, ICD-10 GEMs 2011 Version Update, Update Summary, which describes the comments received, the type of changes recommended, the types of changes made based on the comments, and the types of comments not accepted and reasons why some comments were not accepted.

HEALTHCARE HEADLINES... BUSINESS NEWS, TRENDS & ANALYSIS

SAMHSA Structure Change

You may have already seen this, but SAMHSA is planning to set up regional offices that mirror the other HHS regional offices (see link below) to facilitate coordination and collaboration. They are phasing in over 2011 and 2012, and Mississippi will be in the first phase.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/about/regions/index.aspx?from=carousel&position=2&date=12292010>

Federally Qualified Health Centers: Threat or Collaborative Opportunity?

Dec 14, 2010 -- Becker's Hospital Review article shares a white paper reprinted with permission from Quorum Health Resources about the advantages and disadvantages of Federally Qualified Health Centers in a rural setting.

[Importance of Community Partnerships \(Includes Community Health Centers\)](#) Spotlights hospitals and health systems that have successfully collaborated with local community organizations to promote care coordination, wellness, and prevention. Among the entities featured include rural hospitals and community health centers.

Organization: American Hospital Association

Date: 12 / 2010

Medscape Posts Slide Show of 2010's Medical Highlights

Medscape has posted a 25-slide show of the most significant events impacting medicine in 2010 - from chocolate reducing stroke risk to healthcare reform. Visit the site and see what the medical community views as the most significant medical highlights of the year.

NOTE: Free registration on the Medscape site may be required to access the slide show.

[Improving the Lives of Young Children: The Role of Developmental Screenings in Medicaid and CHIP](#)

Many young children have health, developmental or behavioral problems that are not identified before entering kindergarten, preventing them from receiving such services as medical care, early intervention services, or simple equipment like eyeglasses or hearing aids. Yet as health care providers and early childhood providers alike recognize, ensuring that children get the right treatment or services early on can maximize their developmental outcomes, while failing to identify and treat these problems may compromise children's ability to perform to their potential in school and lead to more costly special education and/or health care interventions later.

[Strong Medicine for a Healthier America](#)

A supplement to the latest issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine includes six articles and a broad array of commentaries that provide a fundamental understanding of the fact that where we live, learn, work and play has as much to do with our health as the health care we receive. The authors address factors beginning with early childhood education, to homes and communities, to the economic rationale for improving the lives of disadvantaged Americans. Together, the collection provides an in-depth look at why some Americans are so much healthier than others and why Americans are not the healthiest people in the world.

[Gaps Seen in Pregnancy-Related Diabetes Screening](#)

Just over two-thirds of pregnant women undergo screening tests for gestational diabetes, according to a new analysis of nearly one million patient records. Among the five percent of women who tested positive for pregnancy-related diabetes, just one in five were screened again within six months of giving birth, Dr. Jon M. Nakamoto of Quest Diagnostics Nichols Institute in San Juan Capistrano, California, and his colleagues found.

[FAQ On ACOs: Accountable Care Organizations, Explained](#)

Accountable care organizations take up only seven pages of the massive new health law yet have become one of the most talked about provisions. This latest model for delivering services offers doctors and hospitals financial incentives to provide good quality care to Medicare beneficiaries while keeping down costs. A cottage industry of consultants has sprung up to help even ordinary hospitals become the first ACOs on the block. Yet the concept is still short on details.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

2011 Nursing Education

Loan Repayment Program Applicants should visit www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/repayment/nursing/ to review the new Applications and Program Guidance before you begin your application. Deadline:

February 8, 2011.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Seeks Applications From Physicians for Clinical Scholars Program](#)

The two-year program will pay a yearly stipend of at least \$62,000 to physicians interested in working with communities, organizations, practitioners, and policymakers to address issues essential to the health and well-being of all Americans. Deadline: February 28, 2011.

HRSA Announcement: NHSC FAQs Now Available for the Current Application Cycle

Dear NHSC Partner,

Happy New Year and thank you for your continued support with outreach and recruitment efforts for the National Health Service Corps. As you know, the 2011 loan repayment application cycle launched on November 22, 2010 and will remain open until May 26, 2011. The closing date is earlier than last year so we encourage applicants to apply early.

On November 30, 2010, Rebecca Spitzgo, the Director of the NHSC led a conference call to discuss changes to the Loan Repayment Program for the current application cycle and answer your questions. For those who would like to listen to the discussion, availability of the instant replay has been extended until January 31, 2011. Call 1-866-383-3135 to listen to the call. Questions asked during the call and responses to those questions can also be accessed [here](#).

If you have any additional questions please contact the Call Center at 1-800-221-9393 or at CallCenter@hrsa.gov.

Happy New Year and thank you for your continued support,
National Health Service Corps

Clinical Recruitment and Retention Toolkit

NACHC is pleased to announce the availability of a [Clinical Recruitment and Retention Toolkit](#). This Toolkit was developed to assist Community Health Centers to:

- support the existing clinical workforce, and
- attain, groom, and retain compassionate healers who provide excellent clinical care and feel professionally at home in a Community Health Center

View a PDF of the [Toolkit](#).

View the [Toolkit Web page](#).

[NACHC offers On-Demand webinar](#)

[Have Stethoscope. Will Travel: The Growing Use of Locum Tenens Physician](#)

[Health Care Reform Law Provides Boost for NHSC, Teaching Health Centers](#)

A key goal of the new health care reform legislation is to remedy physician shortage and maldistribution problems by growing the nation's primary care physician workforce and placing those physicians in medically underserved regions of the country. The means to these ends include dramatic increases in funding for the National Health Service Corps, or NHSC, and new funding for teaching health center, or THC, residency programs that are included in the health care reform law.

Patient Centered Medical Home Implementation Guides for Safety Net Providers Available

The Safety Net Medical Home Initiative has just released four new implementation guides for Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) transformation in the safety net.

- [Continuous and Team-Based Healing Relationships](#) provides guidance on how practices can develop and sustain strong care teams.
- [Patient-Centered Interactions Part 2: Engaging Patients in their Health and Healthcare](#) presents strategies providers can use to actively engage and support patients and their families before, during, and in between office visits.
- [Patient-Centered Interactions Part 3: Communicating to Improve the Patient-Centered Experience](#) presents strategies practices can use to effectively communicate with diverse patients.
- [Enhanced Access](#) provides guidance on how practices can provide patient-centered care 24/7 by increasing capacity, decreasing unnecessary demand, and ensuring that all patients have access to care.

[Other materials](#), including implementation guides on leadership and empanelment are also available.

Seasonal Flu Guide Now Available in Spanish

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) has released the Seasonal Flu Guide in [Spanish](#) and [English](#) for Community and Faith Based Organizations. The Guide provides flu facts, every day prevention steps and ways that community leaders can contribute to the flu prevention effort. The guide is an important "fight the flu" resource for Spanish speaking community and faith-based partners. These guides may also be ordered from the [HHS Partnership Center](#).

CDC Updates STD Treatment Guidelines

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has released [updated guidelines](#) for the treatment of individuals who have or are at risk for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). These guidelines, an update of guidelines published in 2006, are intended to assist physicians and other health care providers in their role of preventing and treating STDs. Treatment is emphasized, but prevention strategies and diagnostic recommendations are also discussed. A wide range of treatment recommendations are included for issues such as bacterial vaginosis and genital warts; information on the clinical efficacy of azithromycin for chlamydial infections in pregnancy; and updates on the sexual transmission of hepatitis C.

Docs Using Patient Surveys to Improve Quality

A recent [Commonwealth Fund publication](#) explores the use of patient experience surveys and quality improvement initiatives in Massachusetts. The researchers interviewed physician groups to find out how the publicly reported patient experience surveys were used in the office's improvement initiatives. The researchers concluded that the majority of physician groups in the state are using results from patient experience surveys to pursue group-wide improvement initiatives and that physician groups engaged in these efforts were more likely to have an integrated medical group organizational model.

Telehealth Holds Promise for Elderly

An [article](#) in the New York Times reports that telehealth devices can help motivate elderly patients with chronic conditions to follow their provider's advice and take charge of their own care. The article also concludes that if telehealth is carefully ascribed to, it could help to reduce costs for those patients that account for most of the country's healthcare spending.

FUNDING AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Affordable Care Act Health Center Planning Grants Guidance Announced

On Friday, January 7th, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a \$10 million funding opportunity from the Affordable Care Act to support approximately 125 Health Center Planning Grants (HCPGGPs) in FY 2011. The HCPGs will be awarded to public or nonprofit private entities, including tribal, faith-based and community-based organizations that do not currently receive a section 330 grant. Applications are now open and will close March 18, 2011. [For more information, please see the announcement.](#)

[Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention \(NEPQR\) Program](#)

Application deadline: Jan 21, 2011

Grants are awarded to eligible institutions for projects to strengthen and enhance the capacity for nurse education, practice and retention to address the nursing shortage.

[Community Access to Child Health \(CATCH\) Implementation Funds Program](#)

Application deadline: Jan 31, 2011

Funding supports pediatricians in the initial and/or pilot stage of developing and implementing a community-based child health initiative.

[Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program](#)

Application deadline: Feb 28, 2011

Grants to provide postdoctoral training for young physicians interested in research and leadership careers in health policy and academic medicine.

[CDC Foundation Hero Award](#)

Application deadline: Mar 11, 2011

Award that recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to improving the public's health.

[RGK Foundation Grants](#)

Application deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Grants that support projects in the broad areas of education, community, and medicine/health.

[Stimulus Simplicity Program](#)

Application deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.

Grant program designed to help hospitals and physician offices accelerate Electronic Medical Records (EMR) adoption.

[HRSA Expanded Services \(ES\)](#)

Application Deadline: **Extended until January 20, 2011!**

The ES initiative will support supplemental funding requests from existing Health Center Program grantees to increase access to preventive and primary health care including oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy, vision, and/or enabling services, at existing health center sites. HRSA urges health centers to utilize the technical assistances resources including Instructions, Frequently Asked Questions, EHB User Guide, and a Budget Example available at <http://bphc.hrsa.gov/es>. If a health center is having difficulties accessing its ES application in EHB, contact the Bureau of Primary Health Care's Help Line at 1-877-974-BPHC (2742) or at bphchelp@hrsa.gov.

[Community Access to Child Health \(CATCH\) Implementation Funds Program](#)

Application Deadline: January 31, 2011

Funding supports pediatricians in the initial and/or pilot stage of developing and implementing a community-based child health initiative.

[Commonwealth Fund](#)

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis
Multiple awards, up to \$50,000 each (Small Grants averaged \$18,000 each) to support research on health and social issues and makes grants to improve healthcare practice and policy. Types of support include employee-matching gifts, program development, program evaluation and research. Support generally is given for a period of no longer than three years. Preference is given to projects that seek to solve problems, especially those affecting vulnerable groups such as the poor, young and needy. The Commonwealth Fund requests letters of inquiry to initiate the grant application process, and does not wish to review full proposals at this stage. Applicants are encouraged to submit letters of inquiry using the online form. Applicants are typically advised of the results of an initial staff review within two months. Program staff will contact applicants if more detailed information is required. Proposals recommended by fund staff are reviewed and voted upon by the board of directors, which meets three times each year. Insider's Tip: Letters of inquiry are accepted on a rolling basis; there are no deadlines. Typically, projects recommended for board approval are in development for at least four to six months before a board meeting. The fund's board meetings are held in July, November, and April of each year. The fund also awards grants through its Small Grants Fund, with decisions made on a monthly basis. The letter of inquiry is the starting point for both board-level and small grants.

[Bristol-Myers Squibb Together on Diabetes Grants](#)

Application Deadline: January 31, 2011
Together on Diabetes® is a five-year, \$100 million initiative by the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation to improve health outcomes of people living with type 2 diabetes in the U.S. by strengthening patient self-management education, community-based supportive services and broad-based community mobilization. In line with the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation's mission to reduce health disparities, this initiative will target adult populations disproportionately affected by type 2 diabetes.

[Family Planning Services Grants](#)

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.
Grants to provide family planning services.

[2011 Minority Nurse Scholarship Program](#)

Application Deadline: February 1, 2011
Annual scholarship program to help outstanding students complete their studies leading to a BSN degree.

[5th Annual Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Award for Community Health Leaders](#)

Nomination Deadline: February 11, 2011
Health centers are encouraged to nominate deserving individuals for this award to honor the next generation of community health leaders that will be presented in conjunction with the NACHC Policy and Issues Forum in Washington, DC in March 2011. Eligible nominees must currently work in a health center or primary care association (PCA), and have worked there for at least a year; not be older than 35; and not serve as the executive director/president of the organization. Nominees are sought who have undertaken or guided a specific task (or multiple tasks) that has helped the health center or PCA further the mission of providing high-quality, culturally competent health services to underserved populations in your service area. To submit a nomination, complete the Geiger Gibson Emerging Leader Nomination Form and return it and accompanying documents by fax, mail or email. Please feel welcome to contact Tishra Beeson at Tishra.Beeson@gwumc.edu or (202) 994-4238.

[Nurse I Am Scholarship](#)

Application Deadline: February 28, 2011
Scholarships to nursing students.

[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.

[CDC Foundation Hero Award](#)

Application Deadline: March 11, 2011
Award that recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to improving the public's health.

[RGK Foundation Grants](#)

Application Deadline: Applications accepted on an ongoing basis.
Grants that support projects in the broad areas of education, community, and medicine/health.

American Asthma Foundation

Private Funder:

Summary:

The American Asthma Foundation, formerly the Sandler Program for Asthma Research, offers support to develop important new pathways of investigation in basic research regarding asthma. The program aims to support highly innovative research, draw outstanding investigators from other fields into the study of asthma and support asthma research by excellent investigators who are early in their faculty careers.

The program supports work from a broad range of investigative fields. It funds basic research at two levels: Senior Investigator Awards and Early Excellence Awards. Senior Investigators will receive \$250,000 per year for three years. Early Excellence Awards are intended to support investigators who have demonstrated exceptional early accomplishment as independent investigators to expand their work in the field of asthma. Recipients will receive \$150,000 per year for three years.

Insider's Tip: Investigators may apply from any nonprofit organization in the United States or Canada that can provide the necessary facilities and infrastructure for the research.

Info: <http://www.americanasthmafoundation.org/grants/> or 415/514-0730

February 4, 2011 is The American Dental Association's (ADA) Give Kids A Smile Program

If you want to register as a full participant for the ADA's Give Kids A Smile® program please follow:

<http://givekidsasmile.ada.org/index.asp> for additional resources follow:

<http://www.cdda.com/gkas/gkas1.html>. For more information, contact R. Collins at rcollings@chcact.org

American Asthma Foundation; Opportunity: Asthma and asthma research grants; Funding Focus: Health and education; Geographic Focus: National; Eligibility: Schools and nonprofits; Funding: Requests up to \$750,000 will be accepted; Deadline: Feb. 9.

RESOURCES

AHRQ Health IT Portfolio 2009 Annual Report Now Available

The AHRQ Health IT Portfolio's 2009 Annual Report is now available online. The report is published in an abridged version ([PDF file](#); [PDF help](#)), which provides an overview of the Health IT Portfolio, and a comprehensive version ([PDF file](#); [PDF help](#)), which includes the overview and 180 individual summaries of all AHRQ health IT-funded grants and contracts that were active in 2009. Each summary provides an overview of the projects' long-term objectives, status updates on specific aims, descriptions of completed and ongoing project activities and various categories, such as the target population and strategic and business goals of the project. The AHRQ National Resource Center for Health IT (NRC) [website](#) offers the ability to search the project summaries by [various categories](#) under AHRQ funded-projects. Project summaries were also developed for grants which ended in 2007 and updated for projects which ended in 2008. Final grant reports for grants which ended in 2007, 2008, and 2009 are also available at the AHRQ NRC website. You are subscribed to Health IT for Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). This information has recently been updated, and is [now available](#).

White House New Fact Sheets on "The Price of Repealing the Affordable Care Act
The White House reports that new fact sheets are available on ***The Price of Repealing the Affordable Care Act***. These include state-by-state fact sheets on how individual states would be affected. While these fact sheets do address prevention services, they do not reference any of the benefits derived from the Prevention and Public Health Fund. We will continue to advocate for the inclusion of such information (and others should as well) in these types of documents.
<http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/repealcosts.html>

What's New on State Refor(u)m

NASHP's [State Refor\(u\)m](#) website is a hub for state-developed resources related to national health reform implementation. New resources posted include exchange-related documents from California and New York, as well as materials from Maine and Wisconsin. Click [here](#) to sign up for State Refor(u)m's email distribution list to receive weekly updates on the latest resources and new blog posts.

National Academy for State Health Policy: [State Strategies to Improve Quality and Efficiency: Making the Most of Opportunities in National Health Reform.](#)

National Academy for State Health Policy: [Strengthening Primary and Chronic Care: State Innovations to Transform and Link Small Practices.](#)

Politico: [Six States to Watch on Health Reform.](#)

Commonwealth Fund: [How the Affordable Care Act Will Strengthen Primary Care, Benefit Patients, Providers and Payers.](#)

Journal of Ambulatory Care Management: [The Future Role of Community Health Centers in a Changing Health Care Landscape \(subscription required\).](#)

Mississippi Primary Health Care Association distributes the MPHCA E-Update 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.

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