
Announcements:

- Patient Story: Leila Amin, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance provided a case and lessons learned about a missed diagnosis due to test findings being overlooked upon internal review of a report from an outside facility. Case resulted in a more proactive approach to case review and system wide changes to processes. The implementation of new EHR system will incorporate triggers to provide greater technology support to clinicians.
- September's minutes were approved without changes.

Presentation: TeamSTEPPS Course for Improving Diagnosis – Chris Goeschel and Bryan Buckley from the Medstar Institute for Quality and Safety (MIQS)

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is currently developing an iterated TeamSTEPPS® Course focused on improving diagnosis in ambulatory and acute care settings. They are recruiting 20 organizations to pilot test strategies for improving diagnosis in outpatient clinics and hospital units beginning in February. Recruitment is through January 22nd, 2021.

- *About the Course: 7-modules delivered in a train-the-trainer format similar to TeamSTEPPS® for office-based practices.*
- *About the field test:*
 - *Recruiting up to 20 field test sites*
 - *A mix of outpatient clinics and hospital units*
 - *Looking for organizations with a range of experience with TeamSTEPPS®*
 - *First cohort to start in February 2021 with monthly ECHO® learning sessions to support the implementation (CME/CE offered)*
 - *Stipend to organizations to support evaluation activities*

Questions can be sent to MIQSInfo@medstar.net.

CMS update - Nancy Fisher, Regional CMS CMO, Regions 8,9,10. Nancy focuses on WA, ID, OR and WA.

- CMS has done environmental scanning of needs of local medical community regarding COVID-19.
- Increased collaboration with other agencies in effort to coordinate COVID guidelines.
- Sec. Alazar Revised Federal directives to not hold back on 2nd dose of COVID-19 vaccinations and expand testing.
- Discussed President Elect Biden's proposed COVID-19 stimulus package.
- Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). CMS expanded use of Buprenorphine by reducing paperwork to prescribe. Additionally, CMS will address medical school training for OUD screening and monitoring and an advisory council will be formed for this.
- CMS is focusing on nursing homes and assisted living facilities to increase vaccinations for staff.
- CMS is looking into ways to address telehealth safety issues related to COVID-19 such as medical student supervision and delivery of healthcare to patients.
- CMS is addressing vaccine hesitancy by holding fireside chats with caregivers and community members who can talk with CDC and CMS medical professionals to dispel misinformation.
- Million Hearts Campaign: campaign is below its goal of 75% reduction in hypertension. CMS would like suggestions on how to improve the campaign. Please email Nancy with ideas.
Nancy.Fisher@cms.hhs.gov

CMS resources:

Vaccine communication toolkit: FAQ, slides, posters, stickers, info for clinics, medical centers, nursing homes, LTC

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/health-systems-communication-toolkit.html#slides>

Patients over paperwork: prior authorization burden reduction;

The final rule is available to review today at: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/11521-provider-burden-promoting-patients-electronic-access-health-information-e-prior.pdf>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Partner Resources

<https://www.cms.gov/outreach-education/partner-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-partner-toolkit>

Link to Physician Fee schedule and there is a download for telehealth services (about 16-17th down the list)

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-fee-service-payment/physicianfeesched/pfs-federal-regulation-notices/cms-1734-f>

For information on the COVID-19 waivers and guidance, and the Interim Final Rules, please go to CMS COVID-19 flexibilities webpage: <https://www.cms.gov/about-cms/emergency-preparedness-response-operations/current-emergencies/coronavirus-waivers>

Updates

- Educational programming advisory committee forming

Steve discussed educational committee to provide advice and guidance to develop on-going educational content. Looking for 3-4 members. 1st meeting targeted for February. Committee charter was distributed.

- WPSC website

Steve and Nick provided update on redesigned WPSC member website. Site is available for members to look at and critique. Goal is to have site go-live before March meeting.

- Conference

Jonathan told the group that the 18th annual patient safety conference will be virtual the 1st week of October. Two half days either Oct 5-6 or 6-7. Will be patient focused. If you'd like to be on the committee let Nick know.

- Patient Safety Round Table: Challenges in identifying and addressing stigma and bias in the organization
Steve told the group that the Stigma and Bias Patient Safety Round Table will be held January 28th. We have 20 RSVPs. Room for 10 more. Information was distributed.

Other business, next steps

- March 19th meeting

Member spotlight – Jac Davies, Northwest Rural Hospital Network

Patient story – Kellie Hamblin, Quality Program Manager, Saint Francis Hospital

- March meeting will feature a presentation from Nehath Sheriff, MPH, MAPS-MCRC Clinic Director of the MAPS-MCRC Clinic