



Thursday, December 31, 2020

Printer-Friendly Version

In This Issue:

Happy New Year!

Price Transparency Rule Will Go Into Effect on Schedule

HHS, DOD Collaborate with Merck to Continue the Development and Large-Scale Manufacturing of Investigational COVID-19 Treatments

Education Updates

Update Archives

Happy New Year!



2020 has been a year of unprecedented challenges for hospitals and for the communities they serve. As we ring in the New Year, we are proud to know that hospitals will contribute in a significant way to ending the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, restoring health and prosperity to our communities. We wish you a peaceful New Year, with the promise of a bright 2021.

Price Transparency Rule Will Go Into Effect on Schedule



The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals has denied a bid by the American Hospital Association (AHA) and others to invalidate the Trump Administration's new hospital price transparency requirements. The [rule](#) requires nearly all hospitals to publicly post their gross charges, discounted cash prices, payer-specific privately negotiated payment rates, and de-identified minimum and maximum negotiated rates. In addition, the rule requires hospitals to provide information on a list of 300 "shoppable" services or access to an Internet-based price-estimator tool for patients.

AHA had argued that disclosure of privately negotiated rates will potentially confuse or even mislead patients trying to understand and anticipate the costs of services. AHA also argued that the rule will likely accelerate anticompetitive behavior among commercial health insurers and impose an undue burden on hospital's pandemic-stretched staffs.

However, the judicial panel [ruled](#) that the Trump Administration's reporting requirements were aligned with the intent Congress laid out in the Affordable Care Act to increase price transparency and bring down the costs of health coverage.

The rule is scheduled to go into effect at the end of this week, and the Trump Administration has pledged to begin monitoring compliance immediately. It's unclear how the Biden Administration might adjust its approach to pricing transparency.

HHS, DOD Collaborate with Merck to Continue the Development and Large-Scale Manufacturing of Investigational COVID-19 Treatments



The pharmaceutical manufacturer Merck is working on a new investigational therapeutic for hospitalized patients with severe or critical COVID-19, with the [support of the federal government](#). The therapeutic, called MK-7110, is a protein and immune modulator that works to minimize the damaging effects of an overactive immune response to COVID-19. According to the announcement, this overactive immune response can contribute to the severity of the illness.

Interim analysis of a Phase 3 clinical trial in September indicated that patients who received a single dose of the therapeutic had a 60% greater chance of clinical recovery than those who received a placebo, as well as a 50% reduced chance of respiratory failure or death. The study is ongoing, but Merck and the federal government are targeting distribution of the drug in the first half of 2021.

Education Updates

Safety Starts with Me Train-the-Trainer

- Tuesday, January 5, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 12, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, January 19, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Virtual Sessions

Safety Starts with Me Train-the-Trainer is a model for spreading training from an internal content expert to other staff in an organization. The training is scripted. It requires an enthusiastic participant who is willing to make time to train others within the organization. Many hospitals in Connecticut have trained educators, frontline managers, and senior leaders, including the CEO, to be part of the training contingent. Train-the-trainer sessions are for hospitals and ambulatory practices.

Three (3) 90-minute virtual train-the-trainer sessions will review the CHA CHAMP patient safety and error prevention training material. This material has been revised and updated to ensure it is timely and relevant to the challenges confronting today's healthcare leaders, staff, and physicians. Registrants must participate in all three sessions—whether in real-time or via the recordings.

Continuing education credits will be provided to those who participate in the live training.

Safety Starts with Me Train-the-Trainer will be held on the following dates from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- Click [here](#) to register for the Tuesday, January 5, 2021 session
- Click [here](#) to register for the Tuesday, January 12, 2021 session
- Click [here](#) to register for the Tuesday, January 19, 2021 session

These sessions are only offered to CHA HRO members.

Fair and Just Culture

January 21, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Session

This Fair and Just Culture session is a 60-minute coaching session, tailored to HR business and safety department professionals, and will help participants to identify and discuss key elements required for sustaining an effective fair and just culture program as part of organizational high reliability efforts.

Continuing education credits will be provided to those who participate in the live training.

- Click [here](#) to register for the Thursday, January 21, 2021 coaching session from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This session is only offered to CHA HRO members.

Safety Coaching

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Virtual Session

Safety Coaches are peer mentors, trained to recognize and acknowledge good high reliability behavior and to remind people about opportunities to improve behavior that does not stay true to high reliability concepts. In a successful program, Safety Coaches are key change agents in building a culture of safety.

A 90-minute education session for frontline Safety Coaches will be virtually facilitated, focusing on their roles and responsibilities as peer influencers, encouraging their colleagues to adopt safe and reliable practices as daily habits.

Continuing education credits will be provided to those who participate in the live training.

Safety Coaching will be held on the following date:

- Click [here](#) to register for the Tuesday, January 26, 2021 session from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. for frontline staff who will be Safety Coaches

This session is only offered to CHA HRO members.

Apparent Cause Analysis

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Thursday, January 28, 2021 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Virtual Sessions

Apparent Cause Analysis (ACA) methodology is used to evaluate and better understand the causes of precursor events at the microsystem level. Analyzing events using this tool will help direct the front-line leader to the appropriate improvement activities. This course is for front-line leaders—nursing and physician—and quality managers. After attending this virtual program, the participant can serve as a local expert and provide coaching on ACAs to others in their setting.

Continuing education credits will be provided for those who participate in the live training.

Click [here](#) to register for the Wednesday, January 27, 2021 and Thursday, January 28, 2021 sessions from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

These sessions are only offered to CHA HRO members.

21st Century Cures Act Update: Preparing for the CMS Patient Interoperability and Patient Access Final Rule, and the ONC Information Blocking Final Rule

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 27, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Virtual Sessions

CHA is pleased to offer a virtual, multi-disciplinary issue-based educational forum to update members on the 21st Century Cures Act. Join colleagues for this three-part series designed to provide practical guidance in preparing for regulations that will have a substantial impact on hospital operations when implementation and enforcement begin in the spring of 2021.

There is no fee to attend, but pre-registration is necessary.

- To register for session one, [click here](#)
- To register for session two, [click here](#)
- To register for session three, [click here](#)