



November 10, 2017

Issue 1010

To all Veterans....



2017 Annual Starfish & Snowflake Gala



Save the Date

The Starfish and Snowflake Gala is the Annual Installation of the Palm Beach County Medical Society leadership and a fundraiser for Palm Beach County Medical Society Services programs including Project Access. The event will be held at the Kravis Center, December 2, 2016, 6:30pm.

Brandon Luskin, MD will be installed as the 2018 Palm Beach County Medical Society President. Shawn Baca, MD, 2017 President, will be honored.

[Click here](#) for sponsorship opportunities.

PBCMS 2017 Excellence in Medicine Award

The PBCMS *Excellence in Medicine Award*, the highest honor awarded by the Society, recognizes

Palm Beach County Medical Society members whose lives encompass the true spirit of being a physician. The award will be presented to a physician who exemplifies the highest values of altruism, compassion, leadership and dedication to patient care. The Honoree will be inducted into the PBCMS Hall of Fame. The award will be presented at the PBCMS Installation Gala, December 2, 2017. [Click here](#) for nomination form. Any auxiliary biographical material in electronic or hard copy attachments must be limited to 3 typed pages. **Nominations must be received by 5pm, Friday, November 10, 2017.** Email complete nomination forms to tennaw@pbcms.org.

Festival of Trees

This year's Starfish and Snowflake Gala will feature our 3rd Annual Festival of Trees and Lights Display. Designers, Friends of the Society and local businesses will display an amazing array of beautifully adorned Pine and Palm Trees. You can participate by purchasing an artificial 4 ft. pre-lit tree for only \$35. Decorating ideas and complete details can be found by clicking here or call Deanna Lessard at (561) 433-3940 ext. 105. There are a limited number of trees available so [click here](#) to purchase your tree today!

News From the AMA

On October 18, CMS opened the 30-Day Preview Period for the 2016 performance information targeted to be publicly reported on [Physician Compare](#) starting in December 2017. The preview was scheduled to end on November 17 at 8pm ET. Due to a technical issue preventing the data from properly displaying in the preview portal, the [Provider Quality Information Portal \(PQIP\)](#), all data were not viewable for the first week of preview. **This display issue has now been resolved.** We are extending preview through **Friday, December 1** at 8pm ET to provide more time for clinicians and groups to preview their performance data as a result of this technical issue.

Additionally, the Physician Compare team is currently outreaching to all clinicians and groups that have already accessed PQIP to preview their data to share the information above. We would appreciate the AMA helping us disseminate the Physician Compare preview extension information to stakeholders. The Physician Compare team will also be disseminating this information via our listserv.

For more information about preview and the measures available for preview, visit the [Physician Compare Initiative](#) page.

For assistance with accessing PQIP, or obtaining your EIDM user role, contact the QualityNet Help Desk at [866-288-8912](tel:866-288-8912) or qnetssupport@hcqis.org.

If you have any questions about Physician Compare, public reporting, or the preview period, please contact us at PhysicianCompare@Westat.com.

Final Rules on QPP and Physician Fee Schedule Released Today

This afternoon the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released both the final 2018 Quality Payment Program rule and the final 2018 Physician Fee Schedule rule. Combined, the regulations are approximately 3,000 pages in length. AMA staff will review both regulations and develop summaries. In the meantime, here are the links to the regulations.

[QPP Information](#)

[PFS Information](#)

News on Opioids

Why Isn't It Mandatory For Doctors To Use A State Drug Monitoring Database?

The governor and state lawmakers are proposing new prescription limits to fight opioid abuse. But they also want to require physicians use a long-standing drug monitoring database—raising the question, why wasn't it mandatory to begin with?

Florida Blue To Stop Covering OxyContin To Prevent Opioid Abuse

Florida's largest health insurance company will stop covering OxyContin, the brand name for prescription opioid, beginning Jan. 1, Miami Herald reported.

Prescription Monitoring Expansion Only Partial Answer To Opioid Crisis

More than a week after President Donald Trump declared a public health emergency over the opioid epidemic; Florida lawmakers are considering implementing one of his federal recommendations on the state level.

Help Hurricane Affected Communities

PBCMS is accepting donations for hurricane affected communities. Drop off items at the PBCMS office located at 3540 Forest Hill Blvd., Suite 101, West Palm Beach, FL 33406. *We are not accepting donations of clothing, food, glass containers, medical supplies.* [Click here](#) for a list of recommended items. Contact Karen Harwood 561-433-3940 x122 with any questions.

Palm Beach County Cares

Palm Beach County Cares is hosting "Rescue is Real" to rescue and restore the people of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands devastated by Hurricane Maria. The event will be held on Saturday, November 11, 2017, from 5 to 7pm at Bear Lakes Country Club, 1901 Village Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33409. To register for this event please visit www.unitedwaypbc.org/events

CME Requirements for Relicensure

The Florida Department of Health in conjunction with the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine sets the CME requirements for physician licensure in Florida. Each Board specifies a certain number of hours, including a few mandatory topics, that must be completed within each two year license term. Half of Florida allopathic (MD) licenses expire January 31st of every even-numbered year and the other half expire January 31st of every odd-numbered year. All osteopathic (DO) licenses expire March 31st of every even numbered year. Visit www.FLhealthSource.gov to verify a Florida license or confirm a licensure expiration date. Choose Licensee/Provider, then License Verification.

Open Enrollment for the ACA Health Insurance Coverage is Now!

It will be a Shorter Enrollment Period: From Nov 1- Dec 15, 2017. If you are uninsured or need help with re-enrollment or shop for a new health plan, please contact Aramis Labarga, our onsite Licensed Navigator, at (561) 568-3203 or visit www.enrollpbandtc.org to find a Navigator or Certified Application Assistor near you.

Doctors Can Have Say On Managed Care Plans

State Medicaid officials are soliciting physicians to share their experiences with Medicaid managed-care plans by Nov. 20. The [Agency for Health Care Administration](#) is in middle of a procurement process for health plans to serve Medicaid beneficiaries in 11 regions of the state. As part of that process, the agency is slated to post the names of plans that replied to an "invitation to negotiate" by Nov. 3. It wants physicians to answer a questionnaire about what it's like to work with them. The responses will be taken into consideration when the state is scoring the proposals. AHCA will post its intent to award contracts on April 16.

Community Events

MIPS Workshop

Acevedo Consulting and the Broward County Medical Association will be hosting a full day workshop "**MIPS – How to Succeed in 2017... or at least not get penalized**" on Wednesday, November 15th - 8:30 am – 4:00 pm at Keiser University in Fort Lauderdale. This event, approved for 5 AAPC CEU's, will not only focus on MIPS for 2017, but also discussion about how to prepare for success in 2018. This is an event you don't want to miss! For more information or to register [click here](#).

The Florida Department of Elder Affairs is seeking to hire physicians to review cases for Level of Care determination for our clients in accordance with Florida Administrative Code Section 59G4.290 and 59G-4.180. Currently we have a vacancy at 4400 N. Congress Avenue Suite 102 West Palm Beach, FL 33407. For more information contact Nancy Partin Regional Program Supervisor/Region 4 Department of Elder Affairs/CARES partinn@elderaffairs.org or call 561-840-3158.

Physician Needed

Palm Glades Rural Health Associates, Inc. is looking for a retired Pediatrician or Internist/Family Medicine Physician to work a couple of days a month at their clinic. This is a paid position with flexible hours serving the most vulnerable population in PBC. If you are interested please contact Keith Hurbs, CEO at Palm Glades Rural Health 561-992-4888

2017 Palm Beach County Medical Society
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