



AoA Aging news Update Monday, August 15, 2011

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Special AoA Affordable Care Act Program Updates

ACA Webinar to Focus on QIOs and the Aging Network

On Tuesday, August 23, the Administration on Aging (AoA) will continue its series of webinars focused on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as the Affordable Care Act, or ACA) and its impact on the aging network, focusing on the launch of the 10th Scope of Work for Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) and the relationship between QIOs and the aging network.

Title: Defining Communities: Care Transitions Partnerships between QIOs and the Aging Network

Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2:00-3:30 pm Eastern

Description:

Improving care transitions, reducing hospital readmissions, and integrating care for populations and communities require strong community partnerships. The recently-released 10th Scope of Work for CMS-funded Quality Improvement Organizations (QIO) focuses on these important aims. This next session in our ACA webinar series will outline the 10th Scope of Work, discuss lessons learned from the 9th Scope of Work, and spotlight a successful partnership between a QIO and an Area Agency on Aging.

To register for the online event

1. Go to <https://aoa-events.webex.com/aoa-events/onstage/g.php?d=938686073&t=a>
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Once your registration is approved, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how to join the event.

Please note: Space is limited, so please register as early as possible. This webinar will also be recorded and posted at http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/Health_care_reform.aspx soon after the webinar.

AoA Care Transitions Toolkit Now Available

The Administration in Aging (AoA) is pleased to present a new resource for organizations within the Aging Network that are interested in developing a care

transitions program. *The Aging Network and Care Transitions: Preparing Your Organization Toolkit* provides information, tools and case studies developed for and by AAAs, SUAs and ADRCs currently implementing care transitions programs. Chapters for the toolkit include:

Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee shared a copy of this toolkit with Dr. Don Berwick, CMS Administrator, in a recent meeting. They each share the vision of an integrated approach to care transitions and see these materials as critical tools in engaging and preparing the Aging Network in being full partners in both clinical and non-clinical settings. AoA continues to coordinate closely with CMS and other HHS operating divisions to ensure that the people we serve are at the center of all care coordination and we encourage all of the Aging Network to be part of the 'Partnership for Patients' efforts around care transitions.

Getting Started

Taking Time to Plan

Developing Effective Partnerships with Health Care Providers

Measuring for Success

Building Organizational Capacity

Implementation and Day-to-Day Operations

The toolkit can be downloaded by sections or in its entirety from

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/HCLTC/ADRC_CareTransitions/Toolkit/index.aspx

Additional ACA News

Check out the latest edition of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) eNewsletter from AoA online. Below is the Table of Contents. You can read the August 2011 ACA eNews in its entirety by clicking on:

http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Aging_Statistics/docs/ACA_Enews_0711.pdf

Federal Notices

[New data available on Medicare Prevention services and Part D prescription drug coverage and premium rates](#)

[CMS launches tools and initiatives to help improve quality under Hospital Compare](#)

[10th Scope of Work Launched under the CMS Quality Improvement Program Final Rule Published for Hospital payments under Hospital Readmission Reduction Program](#)

[Home Health Services; Policy Changes and Clarifications Related to Home Health New Initiatives for Medicare-Medicaid Enrollees](#)

State and Local Resources and Activities

[New NASHP Issue Brief: Building Partnerships—State Officials and Advocates Working on Health Reform](#)

[Medicare's Sustainable Growth Rate Report now available from the National Health Policy Forum](#)

[NASUAD Medicaid Reform Tracker](#)
[Affordable Care Act Pre-Conference Intensive materials available from n4a](#)
[NASUAD Information Guide on Medicare's Preventive Services](#)
[Update on The Innovation Center—Briefing materials available from Alliance for Health Reform](#)

What Are You Hearing?

Other AoA News

HHS Secretary Sebelius Keynotes the Tenth SMP National Health Care Fraud Control Conference



Secretary Kathleen Sebelius addressing the Senior Medicare Patrol at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC on Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Last Tuesday, August 9, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius kicked off the tenth Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) National Health Care Fraud Control Conference hosted by the Administration on Aging.

“Creating Medicare was a historic achievement,” said Secretary Sebelius. “We know that one of the most effective and direct steps we can take to improve Medicare’s long-term health is ridding the program of waste, fraud, and abuse. For the past 14 years, the Senior Medicare Patrol has been on the front lines of that fight.”

The Secretary shared in her remarks an SMP success story from Miami in which tips from seniors helped take down a scheme that led to a judgment of \$3.8 million and a recovery of \$1.6 million. One defendant was sentenced to 3 years in prison and 3 years probation.

“Those tips likely would never have been made without the extensive outreach and educational efforts of the Florida Senior Medicare Patrol,” said Sebelius, “the same outreach and educational work that so many of you do every day. More often than not, you are preventing fraud before it even takes place.” Secretary Sebelius was joined by Dr. Peter Budetti, Deputy Administrator for Program Integrity for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Cindy Padilla, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging at the Administration on

Aging; and Barbara Dieker, Director of the Office of Elder Rights at the Administration on Aging. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging Edwin Walker and Jennifer Trussell, Director of the Investigations Unit for the HHS Office of the Inspector General also gave remarks.

The theme of this year's SMP training conference was "Leading the Grassroots Fight Against Fraud." Ten SMP volunteers were recognized on August 10 by the Administration on Aging for their outstanding contributions. Cindy Padilla presented the awards at a recognition ceremony luncheon to the following exemplary SMP volunteers:

Larry Bauer, West Chicago, IL (Illinois SMP)
Linda Burney, Detroit, MI (Michigan SMP)
Venancia R. Colet, Mangilao, Guam (Guam SMP)
Douglas Cooper, Lewiston, ME (Maine SMP)
Tom Guamer, Olmsted Falls, OH (Ohio SMP)
Winnie Greenshields, Bigfork, MT (Montana SMP)
Felice Hannah, Queens, NY (New York SMP)
Richard Hotinski, Plano, TX (Texas SMP)
Dr. Harold Ishler, Denham Springs, Louisiana (Louisiana SMP)
Ray Jones, San Francisco, CA (California SMP)

"I'd like to congratulate and thank the volunteers who are being recognized this year and all SMP staff and volunteers," said Assistant Secretary for Aging Kathy Greenlee in a written statement. "The Senior Medicare Patrol program is a success because of your time, energy, and unwavering commitment in the fight against health care fraud."

The conference was held August 9-11 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. Over 200 SMP project directors, staff, and volunteers, AoA program officers, and partners including CMS and OIG, attended the conference to share exemplary SMP outreach practices, gain information on the latest in fraud trends, and learn about how to make effective referrals of potential fraud to CMS and the Office of Inspector General.

The Senior Medicare Patrol Program was established in 1997 under the Older Americans Act to prevent fraud in Medicare by educating and empowering older Americans, their family members and caregivers on how to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, error and abuse.

For more information about the Senior Medicare Patrol program, please visit the sites noted below:

Stop Medicare Fraud at <http://stopmedicarefraud.gov/>

AoA Senior Medicare Patrol Program at
http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/aoa_programs/elder_rights/smp/index.aspx

The National Consumer Protection Technical Resource Center: The Center of Service & Information for SMPs at <http://www.smpresource.org>

Other HHS News

HRSA to Host Informational Webinars on Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative

The Department of Health and Human Service Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Patient Safety and Clinical Pharmacy Services Collaborative (PSPC) is hosting a series of Informational Webinars to inform all stakeholders about this breakthrough effort. The webinars will discuss how PSPC works, lessons learned through its past three years of experience and what to expect from PSPC in the coming year. You will hear from PSPC participants and learn why you should join this effort!

The dates/times of the Webinars are as follows:

August 18th 3PM EDT
August 30th 12PM EDT
September 8th 2PM EDT
September 15th 12PM EDT
September 20th 12PM EDT

To register, please go to
<http://www.healthcarecommunities.org/FAQs.aspx?id=11082>

HHS Awards Affordable Care Act Funds to Expand Access to Health Care

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently announced awards of \$28.8 million to 67 community health center programs across the country. These funds, made available by the Affordable Care Act, will help to establish new health service delivery sites to care for an additional 286,000 patients. Community health centers work to improve the health of the nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by ensuring access to comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services.

To view the list of awardees listed by organization and state, please go to
<http://www.hrsa.gov/about/news/2011tables/110809newaccesspoints.html>

To learn more about community health centers, please go to <http://www.hrsa.gov/ourstories/healthcenter/healthcenterweek.html>

Medicare Prescription Drug Premiums Will Not Increase in 2012

Medicare average prescription drug premiums will not increase in 2012. The recent announcement from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) comes as more people with Medicare are receiving discounts on prescription drug costs and no-cost preventive services. New data indicates that 17 million people with Medicare have received free preventive services this year while 900,000 Medicare beneficiaries who hit the prescription drug donut hole have received a 50 percent discount on their prescription drugs.

HHS also announced that the cost of the average Medicare prescription drug plan premium in 2012 will be about \$30. The average premium in 2011 is \$30.76. The announcement was based on bids submitted by Part D plans for the 2012 plan year.

The national and regional premium data in the announcement can be found at: <http://www.cms.gov/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/RSD/list.asp>

For state-by-state information on the number of Medicare beneficiaries who have seen lower out-of-pocket costs in the donut hole, please visit http://www.cms.gov/newmedia/03_partd.asp

For state-by-state information on utilization of free preventive services and the annual wellness visit, please visit http://www.cms.gov/newmedia/02_preventive.asp

More News

AARP Launches New, Fully Bilingual Contest/Sweepstakes

AARP Create The Good has launched a new, fully bilingual contest/sweepstakes, *Win & Do Good*, to encourage service and to support the tremendous work of community non-profit organizations. The contest is a great way to encourage volunteers to share their inspiring stories – **and to possibly win up to \$15,000 for the charity of their choice!**

There are two ways to enter:

Share Your Story: From now through September 30, encourage your volunteers to visit the *Win & Do Good* website to share their most inspiring volunteer experience. It's easy, just 250 words or less. A panel of judges will choose seven finalists, each of whom will receive \$5,000 for the charity they

designate. Then we'll give the general public an opportunity to vote for the finalist who inspires them most. That Grand Prize winner will receive an additional \$10,000 for his or her charity. Bear in mind that submissions need to come from volunteers.

Play the daily Volunteer Match Game: Participants can also play our Volunteer Match Game, matching up facts about volunteerism in America for the chance to win the daily prize of two \$25 gift cards – one to keep and one to share with the charity of their choice. They can enter up to once a day through November 18. This is a fun and easy way to engage your volunteers that could raise awareness of your efforts and, who knows, could result in \$15,000 to support your cause!

To sign up for this contest, please go to <http://aarp.promo.eprize.com/createthegood/>

To access the Spanish language version of the *Win & Do Good* contest, please go to http://aarp.promo.eprize.com/createthegood/?locale=es_US

JAMA's Care of the Aging Patient Series Articles Focus on Elder Abuse

The most recent issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* includes the release of the two most recent articles in JAMA's Care of the Aging Patient series, produced with support from The SCAN Foundation. The theme of both articles is elder abuse; recent estimates suggest that one in 10 older adults experience physical, psychological or sexual abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation. These articles help to define the problem and call for the expansion of national policy and programs to address this issue. Both articles were co-authored by Dr. XinQi Dong, who for the past year has been serving as a Health and Aging Policy Fellow with the Administration on Aging.

To read an abstract of the first article, "Elder Abuse and Self-Neglect: 'I Don't Care Anything About Going to the Doctor, to Be Honest...'" is available at <http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/306/5/532.short>

The full text of the second article, "Enhancing National policy and Programs to Address Elder Abuse" can be accessed at <http://jama.ama-assn.org/content/305/23/2460.full>

Dedication on the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial

The Dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC will take place on Sunday, August 28. The Memorial will be a lasting tribute to Dr. King's legacy and will forever serve as a monument to the freedom, opportunity and justice for which he stood.

To learn more about the week of activities leading up to the dedication, please go to the Washington, DC Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation, Inc. at <http://www.dedicatethedream.org/site/c.4nJHJQPoEiKWE/b.6715605/k.BDE7/Home.htm>

Conferences

August Aging-Related Conferences

17: *Aging Gracefully: Health Care Services for Older Adults*

Sponsor: Alabama Department of Public Health

<http://www.adph.org/ALPHTN/index.asp?id=1884>

17-18: *Utah Aging Alliance Annual Meeting & Conference*

Sponsor: Utah Aging Alliance

http://www.utahagingalliance.org/Conference2011_VendorSponsorInvite.pdf

19-20: *21st Annual Caring for the Frail Elderly Conference*

Sponsor: University of Missouri Interdisciplinary Center on Aging

<http://medicine.missouri.edu/cme/>

22-23: *The Martin Luther King, Jr. Health Equity Summit*

Sponsor: Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine

http://www.iammm.org/MLKsummit2011_00.html

23-24: *33rd Annual New Mexico Conference on Aging*

Sponsor: New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department

<http://www.nmaging.state.nm.us/CoA/2011CoAPosterContest.pdf>

23-25: *National Title VI: Training and Technical Assistance Forum and Listening Session*

Sponsor: US Administration on Aging

<http://www.cvent.com/events/administration-on-aging-title-vi-national-training-and-technical-assistance-forum-and-listening-session/event-summary-7c47bbc0ab28470fad16c39ef5b6ddd.aspx>

24: *2011 Harmony Users Conference for Aging and Adult Services Professionals*

Sponsor: Harmony Information Systems

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2011/6/prweb8524139.htm>

24: *Aging in Place in Suburbia*

Sponsor: Project Independence, North Hempstead, NY

<http://www.tonhprojectindependence.net/itemdetail.aspx?id=134&disp=&p=9>

26: *New Frontiers in Treatment Strategies for HIV Care & Aging Related Issues*

Sponsor: National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Project (NATAP)

<http://www.natap.org/>

Stay up to date with the latest aging meetings and conferences by visiting the AoA events calendar at:

http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/events/events_List_Day.aspx#title

Please direct submissions to the AoA Calendar of Events to Paulette Nowden at Paulette.Nowden@aoa.hhs.gov

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