**Association Health Plan Coming to Missouri**

MSMA has joined other state medical associations in forming a nationwide Association Health Plan (AHP) to benefit members. The AHP coverage options provided through Blue Cross Blue Shield (BC/BS), will:

- Include both traditional and HSA offerings.
- Offer fully insured, ACA compliant plans.
- Allow independent practices to band together under the new AHP rules to provide health insurance coverage that is comprehensive, affordable and stable.

Active MSMA members who are interested in learning more about participating in the AHP are asked to complete a member census, which will help establish the rates offered by BC/BS. Now is the time to submit your census information without committing to actually joining. As of now, this is a group plan, so we cannot write individuals.

MSMA Insurance Agency is the designated managing general agent in Missouri for the new AHP, which will have medical and specialty products designed to meet the needs of MSMA members. Organizers in the member states have set a July 1, 2019, launch date.

Learn More! Visit www.msma.org/AHP to download AHP summary and download the census form. Return the form to Ronnie Staggs of MSMA Insurance Agency at rstaggs@msma.biz or fax it to 573-634-4062 by March 1, 2019.

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**MIPS Data Submission Now Open**

CMS has officially opened the data submission period for Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who participated in Year 2 (2018) of the Quality Payment Program. With the exceptions noted below, data can be submitted and updated through April 2, 2019. CMS Web Interface users need to report their Quality performance category data between Jan. 22 and March 22, 2019.

For clinicians who reported quality measures via Medicare Part B claims throughout the 2018 performance year, CMS will receive your quality data from claims processed by your Medicare Administrative Contractor, and claims for services furnished during 2018 must be processed within 60 days after the end of the 2018 performance period. Visit www.shineofmissouri.com for more information or call Jonathan Smith at 816-492-8398.

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**Fees for Medical Records Effective 2/1/19**

The new maximum fees for copying medical records will be $25.34 plus $0.58 per page for the cost of labor and supplies for copies provided in paper form, and $23.72 for additional costs if records are maintained off-site. The new maximum fees for copies provided electronically will be $25.34 plus $0.58 per page, or $113.03 total, whichever is less. For more information, go to https://health.mo.gov/atoz/fees.php

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), a covered entity may only charge an individual or the individual’s personal representative a reasonable cost-based fee. The Office for Civil Rights has posted guidance regarding what a covered entity provider may charge an individual or the individual’s personal representative at https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/353/if-patients-request-copies-of-medical-records-are-they-required-to-pay-for-copies/index.html

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**Got a Headache from Prior Authorization? Contact MSMA!**

Many MSMA members are telling us about their increasing exasperation with the prior-authorization process in Missouri. Legislation that would streamline the process, improve patient care, and decrease administrative headaches is in the works so physicians and their staff can spend valuable time treating their patients.

We need to hear from you! Share your own story about a prior-authorization headache with the MSMA lobbying team. Email Heidi Geisbuhler at heidi@msma.org or call 800-869-6762.
MSMA Council met via conference call for its January Council Meeting due to inclement weather. Below are the highlights.

Advocacy

MSMA President Joseph Corrado, MD, is representing MSMA around the state, visiting at nearly all county medical society meetings. He reminded members to attend the White Coat Rally Day on March 5. You can sign up at www.msma.org/white-coat-rally.

MSMA intervention helped end Medicaid’s Opioid Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) program on Opioid Prescription Intervention and its mass letter campaign. Opioid letters have now stopped, thanks to the involvement of MSMA at the committee meetings in Jefferson City. MSMA has thanked Governor Parson for his approach in holding opioid prescribing committee hearings in lieu of the letters. MSMA will remain involved and work with OPAC.

Annual Convention

MSMA’s 161st Annual Convention registration is open and participants need to make hotel reservations by March 4. Six General Sessions will feature topics on Near-Death Experiences, Non-Opioid Pain Medicine, Physician Suicide, Alcoholism, Generational Differences, and Physician Employment Negotiations. Visit www.msma.org/annual-convention for more information.

SHINE

Show-Me Health Information Network (SHINE) is growing throughout Missouri. A Kansas City health system, Prime Health, which includes St. Joseph Health Center, St. Mary’s-Blue Springs, and the three hospitals on the Kansas side, have signed up to utilize the HIE. This is the second health system in Kansas City, with St. Luke’s already being on board. There are a number of independent physicians in Joplin who are expressing interest.

Association Health Plan

MSMA has joined other state medical associations in forming a nationwide Association Health Plan (AHP) to benefit members. Active MSMA members who are interested in learning more about participating in the AHP, visit www.msma.org/AHP for more information. See story, page 1.

Resolutions

Resolution #6 – Medical Records Custodial Storage

Because there are vendors who handle medical records and storage, the resolution was not adopted. MSMA will publicize information regarding the storage of medical records upon retirement or relocation in Progress Notes and on www.msma.org.

Alliance

MSMA Alliance President Gillian Waltman thanked all who participated in the Holiday Sharing Card campaign, and reported that more than $3,000 was raised among 38 participants. The Show-Me Alliance News and Missouri Medicine listed those who contributed. During MSMA’s Annual Convention, the Alliance will host a fundraiser with the theme “The British Invasion” on Friday night. Tickets may be purchased in advance, and funds raised would benefit MSMF.

Reports

The Council approved the following reports: Commission on Continuing Education, Physicians Health Committee, Publications Committee and Editorial Board, Actions and Recommendations on Resolutions from the 2018 Annual Meeting, and the AMA Report.

Next Council Meeting

The next meeting will be April 4 at the Westin Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City.

DON’T MISS OUT!

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

...has moved to email unless you “opt-in” for a paper copy.

Opt-In for paper OR get Legislative Report by email!
Email cwilliams@msma.org or call 800-869-6762
New MO HealthNet Provider Revalidation Portal Open

Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance announced a new Provider Revalidation Portal opened January 7. Federal and state regulations require all physicians to revalidate their Medicaid enrollment at least every five years. Physicians should complete their revalidation applications using the same eMOMED portal that is used to submit electronic claims to MO HealthNet.

Starting January 2019, emails were sent to physicians and administrators directing the physicians and administrators to sign onto eMOMED and access the Revalidations Portal to see which of their physicians need to revalidate. Visit Missouri Medicaid Audit & Compliance at https://mmac.mo.gov.

Thank You to the following
MSMA CME Accredited Providers that offer CME at the local level!

- Boone Hospital Center
- Cape Girardeau County Area Medical Society
- Capital Region Medical Center
- Center for Behavioral Medicine / UMKC School of Medicine
- Children’s Mercy Hospital
- CoxHealth
- Esse Health
- Greene County Medical Society
- Hannibal Regional Hospital
- Institute for International Medicine (INMED)
- Lake Regional Health System
- Mercy Hospital Joplin
- Mercy Hospital South
- Mercy Hospital Springfield
- Mercy Hospital St. Louis
- Mosaic Life Care
- North Kansas City Hospital
- Phelps Health
- Saint Francis Healthcare System
- SoutheastHEALTH
- St. Louis STD/HIV Prevention Training Center

Think Before You Click!
Avoid Email Scams and Phishing

Practice the tips below to identify spam email.

- Use two-step verification.
- Think before you click.
- Don’t trust email links. Just type in the website address in a browser.
- Don’t reply to spam messages.
- Be alert for scams using death notices, credit card templates, and fake invoices.
- MSMA does not share member emails with outside entities.

If you are in doubt about the authenticity of a message, email MSMA’s Patrick Mills or call 800-869-6762.

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

- Kyle Ostrom, MD, Washington
- Nathaniel Barbe, DO, Jefferson City
- Michael Lowe, MD, St. Louis
- Matthew Stinson, MD, Springfield
- Jennifer Allen, MD, Hermann
- Louis DelCampo, MD, Springfield
- Steven Shields, MD, Chesterfield
- Damien Ricklis, MD, St. Louis
- Matt Kincade, MD, Springfield
- Bruce Fearon, MD, Lee’s Summit

Get involved as the Physician of the Day during the legislative session. Meet your local legislators and get introduced in the House or Senate chambers. It’s a great experience and a great service. All specialties are welcome and encouraged to serve!

SIGN UP!
www.msma.org/physician-of-the-day

MSMA: Advocating for ALL Medical Specialties

Maternal Health Legislation

Along with hundreds of other bills, your MSMA lobbying team is monitoring a handful of bills of interest to obstetricians and gynecologists in particular.

House Bill 664 would establish the Healthy Mothers Initiative. That program would aim to improve data collection and reporting with respect to maternal mortality in the state. With that data, a board of various health professionals appointed by the director of the Department of Health and Senior Services would submit an annual report with suggestions regarding methods and practices to prevent death and severe complications in new mothers.

Another bill, House Bill 305, would establish the Maternal CARE Act, which would create pregnancy medical homes in the state. These pregnancy medical care homes would be non-residential facilities that offer care to pregnant women with a specific aim to reduce preventable morbidity and mortality in new mothers who are participants in the MO HealthNet program.

MSMA will continue to monitor these bills and will keep you updated if they progress.
Coverage for Affluent Homes

Experience the peace of mind that comes from working with an insurance professional who understands your unique needs.

MSMA Insurance cares for physicians and covers their personal and professional needs.

Contact Ronnie Staggs | 866-676-2467 | www.msma.biz | rstaggs@msma.biz

AND, your free subscriptions to Missouri Medicine and the weekly Legislative Report will end. You will also no longer have access to valuable member-only resources.

Stay informed about what’s happening in health care. Renew your MSMA membership today.

• Call MSMA at 800-869-6762
• Email cwilliams@msma.org
• Visit www.msma.org/joinrenew

Stand united with your colleagues in forming a powerful force that represents your patients and your profession. RENEW TODAY!