

# Progress Notes

JULY 2018

MSMA Reporting the Progress of Missouri's Medicine

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## MSMA Represented on the MO HealthNet Opioid Policy Advisory Council

Your MSMA will be strongly represented at the next meeting of the MO HealthNet's Opioid Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) on July 25. A number of MSMA members have offered

to travel to Jefferson City and provide guidance on the Opioid Prescription Intervention (OPI) program as MO HealthNet continues its opioid prescribing outreach efforts. MSMA's website ([www.msma.org](http://www.msma.org)) has a number of opioid resources online including the AMA's End the Epidemic website ([www.end-opioid-epidemic.org](http://www.end-opioid-epidemic.org)) which provides free online CME. MO HealthNet OPI details are online at: [dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/opi-program.htm](http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/opi-program.htm).

## New Resources Available from CMS

CMS has posted new resources on [CMS.gov](http://CMS.gov) to help eligible clinicians and groups understand their Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) final score, performance feedback, and payment adjustment, as well as the targeted review process.

The new resources include:

- MIPS Performance Feedback Fact Sheet: Offers an overview of what performance feedback is, who receives the feedback, and how to access it on the Quality Payment Program website at [www.qpp.cms.gov](http://www.qpp.cms.gov).
- Targeted Review of the 2019 MIPS Payment Adjustment Fact Sheet: details what a targeted review is and when and how to request a targeted review.
- Targeted Review of the 2019 MIPS Payment Adjustment User Guide: provides an overview of the targeted review process, and how to access and complete the targeted review request form.

For more information, visit the Quality Payment Program Resource Library to review new and existing Quality Payment Program resources at [CMS.gov](http://CMS.gov). Contact the Quality Payment Program at [QPP@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QPP@cms.hhs.gov) or 1-866-288-8292 (TTY: 1-877-715-6222).

Just a reminder that CMS reporting for the Quality Payment Programs can be simplified using the tools and resources of SHINE, the Show-Me Health Information Network of Missouri. For more information on SHINE, contact Jonathan Smith at [jsmith@shineofmissouri.com](mailto:jsmith@shineofmissouri.com) or visit [www.shineofmissouri.com](http://www.shineofmissouri.com).

## CMS Medicare Learning Network Newsletter

The CMS Medicare Learning Network newsletter MLN Connects has a variety of information for physicians who treat Medicare beneficiaries. To sign up, go to [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov), scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your email address into the "Receive Email Updates" box. You'll be prompted to accept the CMS terms of service, then shown a list of types of updates you'd like to receive. Select the MLN Connects option, and then submit your request.

You may view archived editions of the newsletter on the CMS website at <https://go.cms.gov/2u6uJBP>.

## What Bills Passed? What Bills Died?



Coming out this month, the 2018 *Legislative Review* illustrates how your MSMA membership advocates for the best of medicine.

## Amicus Brief Filed in Expert Witness Testimony

MSMA and the Litigation Center of the American Medical Association and State Medical Societies have joined together and submitted an amicus brief in a case before the Missouri Supreme Court.

The issue in *Shallow v. Follwell* is whether the defendant physician's expert witness testimony resulted in prejudicial cumulative testimony. The defense offered the testimony of four physicians who practiced in different specialties who testified to separate aspects of the case. After the jury returned a verdict for the physician, plaintiff attorneys appealed on the theory that the four witness' testimony amounted to repetitive testimony, and should have been barred. The Court of Appeals agreed. Oral arguments before the state Supreme Court were held on May 24, 2018, and we expect a decision in the coming months.

