January 9, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to share some very important information from ACP:

CONTACT YOUR STATE MEDICAID OFFICE IMMEDIATELY TO QUALIFY FOR ENHANCED PRIMARY CARE PAYMENTS - ACTION

Primary care and related subspecialty physicians participating in their state's Medicaid program will receive enhanced payments for designated services beginning in 2013. Participating physicians should contact their state Medicaid office immediately to find out how to fulfill the "attestation" requirement. Each state has a different timeline and procedure and some states are requiring attestation as early as mid-January. The increased payments, which are at least equivalent to payments under Medicare, are fully funded for 2013 and 2014 by the federal government to encourage physician participation in Medicaid. Additional information regarding these enhanced payments is available on the College's new Medicaid web site at http://www.acponline.org/running_practice/payment_coding/medicaid/index.html

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROVIDERS ON JANUARY 9, 2013 AT 2 PM ET - ACTION

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is holding a Conference Call on January 9, 2013 at 2PM ET to update clinicians, hospitals and other healthcare providers on Affordable Care Act implementation efforts.

Gary Cohen, Director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, will provide an overview of the recent Insurance Exchange regulations and guidance and discuss how it impacts clinicians and hospitals.

WHAT: Affordable Care Act Implementation Update for Providers

TOPIC: Insurance Exchange Update

Gary Cohen, Director, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight

DATE: January 9th 2:00 pm ET

DIAL IN: 888-455-2963; passcode: 2954962

This call is part of a series of monthly conference calls providing an update on Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation efforts that impact doctors, nurses, hospitals and other providers of health care. Participants will receive a review of recent announcements from HHS and its agencies, explore one or two topics with senior HHS officials and have the opportunity to ask questions and share feedback.

All stakeholders are welcome to attend. For those who are not able to join on January 9th at 2pm - a recording will be available after the call for 30 days by calling 800-856-2276 (no passcode needed).

Check out the state health policy website for information on current health policy issues and how you can take action at the state level. The information will be updated regularly to bring you a timely and useful resource. So, please check regularly for the latest information at http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/state_policy.

Please contact Shuan Tomlinson at stomlinson@acponline.org or call 800-338-2746 ext. 4547 if you have questions.

Best Regards,
Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH, FACP
Governor, Arizona Chapter, American College of Physicians