NEWS FROM THE GA ACP

MGMA: Physician practices must evaluate risk before moving to value-based care
Medical Group Management Association
Value-based care models are here to stay. But how aggressively a physician practice should pursue these arrangements depends on how much risk the practice wants to assume, according to Michael Cuffe, M.D., president and chief executive officer, physician services at HCA Physician Services Group in Brentwood, Tennessee. Speaking Monday at the Medical Group Management Association's annual conference in Anaheim, California, Cuffe said it makes sense to pursue risk if you're a clinician looking for ways to provide better comprehensive care — and the fee-for-service framework hasn't created that ability. READ MORE

Scribes significantly improve physician satisfaction
Annals of Family Medicine
Scribes were associated with significant increases in all aspects of physician satisfaction evaluated in a recent study published in Annals of Family Medicine. According to study background, there will be one scribe for every nine physicians by 2020. “Despite the recent exponential growth of the scribe industry, there has never been a randomized controlled trial done on scribes and their effects on physicians and patients,” Steven Lin, M.D., of the division of primary care and population health, department of medicine at the Stanford University School of Medicine, told Healio Family Medicine. “Our study is the first... to explore this in a scientifically rigorous way.” READ MORE

PRODUCT SHOWCASE
Hiring for Hospitalists

Envision Physician Services is hiring for Hospitalist at Memorial Satilla Health in Waycross, GA. Come join our team of exceptional hospitalists today!

INDUSTRY NEWS

Help your patients enroll in insurance

click #ACA below

Georgia Enrollment Information

1-800-318-2596  TTY 1-855-889-4325

# ACA

Begins November 1, 2017

Ends December 15, 2017

Enroll online at

www.healthcare.gov

Fighting physician burnout: How tech can undo the damage done by EHRs

Healthcare IT News

When it comes to doctor burnout, technology is both the problem and a potential solution. “Let’s not dance around it – we all know how much the electronic health record has contributed to the physician burnout epidemic,” said Bridget Duffy, M.D., chief medical officer at Vocera, co-founder of the Experience Innovation Network and former chief experience officer at the Cleveland Clinic. “Physicians who once were absorbed in speaking with and examining their patients found themselves spending more time clicking through screens and pecking away at a keyboard.” READ MORE

EHRs figuring in more malpractice claims
Interoperability is an ongoing issue and a major barrier to the goal of seamless integration of patient information and care coordination across disparate organizations. The federal government’s interoperability roadmap is designed to eliminate obstacles to data sharing and increase the use of recognized interoperability standards, but much remains to be done. But systems aren’t entirely to blame. User error — such as data entry and copy-and-paste mistakes and alert fatigue — is also a big problem, showing up in 58 percent of the claims the researchers looked at. Still, this is a 6 percent improvement over the previous study. READ MORE

Deadline approaching for physicians and practices to form virtual groups for 2018

There’s no time to waste for physicians or group practices that want to form a virtual group for 2018 as a way to participate in the Merit-based Incentive Payment System. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has set Dec. 1 as the deadline by which solo and small group practices must tell the agency they want to elect to participate in a virtual group — a concept introduced in the proposed rule outlining changes to MACRA for 2018. READ MORE

Study: Opioids can cause harm in hospitals beyond addiction risk

Errors in opioid prescriptions and use during patients' hospital stays may be the cause of more harm than previously thought, according to a new analysis. The study, released recently by patient safety research organization ECRI Institute, found approximately 35 percent of adverse events involving opioids stemmed from errors in administering the highly addictive drugs during a hospital stay. Those issues included problems with providers administering the wrong medication, the wrong dosage or inadequately assessing the patient for potential adverse effects prior to giving them an opioid. READ MORE