Hardship Exception for 2017

CMS Quality Payment Update.

DEADLINE!
For the transition year, A MIPS-eligible clinician or group may submit a Quality Payment Program Hardship Exception Application, citing one of the following specified reasons for review and approval:
- Insufficient Internet Connectivity
- Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances
- Lack of Control over the availability of CEHRT
- This application is due by Dec. 31, 2017.

Application Link

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!

Taken for a ride? Ambulances stick patients with surprise bills
Kaiser Health News
One patient got a $3,660 bill for a 4-mile ride. Another was charged $8,460 for a trip from one hospital that could not handle his case to another that could. Still another found herself marooned at an out-of-network hospital, where she’d been taken by ambulance without her consent. READ MORE
Rural Medicare pilot tests feasibility of paying for actual cost of care
Healthcare Finance
Thirteen new hospitals are taking part in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid's rural community hospital demonstration program, joining 17 others taking part in a model that tests the feasibility of reimbursing smaller hospitals at higher Medicare rates. The demonstration pays Medicare inpatient rates that reflect the actual cost of care. READ MORE

Telehealth policy changes mean big revenue opportunities for hospitals
Healthcare Finance
Telemedicine is becoming increasingly popular as the financial benefits for providers who offer it come to light. And new policy changes in Washington and around the country are poised to rattle the reimbursement landscape and open big opportunities for hospitals and health systems to drive more revenue from virtual care. READ MORE

Debunking myths: Physicians' incomes are too high and they are the cause of rising healthcare costs
Forbes
It seems that whenever there is a discussion of healthcare costs in America, at least one critic pops up – usually more than one – who carps about physician fees, income, earnings, etc., and how they greatly impact rising healthcare costs. They don’t and it is a false narrative to claim that they do, but critics continue to throw the charges out there in the expectation that some will stick. We hope that this blog will shed some light on the subject and that it will help put an end to the misinformation. READ MORE