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INDUSTRY NEWS

Important year-end CMS deadlines approaching on Dec. 31
ACP
As 2018 comes to an end, physician practices should be aware of important quality reporting deadlines that all fall on Dec. 31. The Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians and groups have until Dec. 31 to apply for the 2018 Promoting Interoperability (PI) Hardship or an Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Exception. READ MORE

ACP releases principles to guide patient partnership in healthcare
ACP
In a new position paper published in Annals of Internal Medicine, ACP has released a set of principles that aims to solidify the role of patients and families in their care plans. In “Principles for Patient and Family Partnership in Care,” ACP cites increasing evidence that patient and family partnership in care can improve health outcomes, practice efficiency, and patient and professional satisfaction. The paper outlines recommendations for how to implement each
principle in daily practice. A related ACP toolkit provides practical resources to help physicians implement ACP’s principles for patient and family partnership in care in their practice. READ MORE

PRODUCT SHOWCASE

Hospitalist Opportunity
Envision Physician Services is seeking dedicated hospitalists to join our team at Cartersville Medical Center! Contact us today about this exciting opportunity.

Why telehealth should focus on population health, treatment plan adherence as the model evolves
Telehealth
Telehealth should stop thinking of itself as telehealth. The care model, which harnesses technology to provide remote care via video conferencing and other means, is proving to be more and more effective, especially in rural areas that lack brick-and-mortar care options. Elderly patients often find it useful since it eliminates the need for transportation. READ MORE

Anthem ER policy could deny 1 in 6 visits if universally adopted, JAMA study warns
As healthcare costs rise, insurers continue to seek ways to stem payments for emergency care, which hit their pockets the hardest. Anthem’s approach, taken in the summer of 2017, is to disincentivize what it deems to be unnecessary ER visits by denying coverage for patients with non-emergent ER discharge diagnoses. READ MORE

CDC should stick with its stand on pneumococcal vaccine for seniors
Georgia Health News
Imagine a potentially deadly bacteria that infects about 1 million Americans every year. Vaccines exist to prevent it, but the CDC is potentially considering changing an important recommendation helping older people to get vaccinated against it. READ MORE