



TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

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UPCOMING EVENTS

TACHC Policy & Issues Forum January 26-27, 2015

REGISTER NOW! This conference provides health center CEOs, Board Members and other high level staff the opportunity to visit with legislators to engage them on the health center legislative agenda, learn about TACHC's legislative agenda for the upcoming state legislative session, and receive in-depth information on health policy issues in Texas that impact health centers. This year, **TACHC is asking that health centers bring a patient advocate with them to the P&I Conference to help tell the health center's story.** Please contact **Shelby Massey** with questions or comments.

NEXT WEEK! OC3 CPI Webcast: Ending Invisibility: Improving Access and Care For Your LGBT Patients Part 1

Registration is now open! Community health centers have a history of assisting with closing gaps in disparities, and many health centers may already be serving the LGBT in their communities but do not even know it. This 2-Part CPI session for January 16 and February 20, 2015 will offer health centers an introduction to the LGBT population, including definitions and concepts, the disparities they experience, and the importance of addressing the health care needs of this population. Learn from our guest experts how to end the invisibility of these patients by implementing methods to identify them, customizing your services, creating a welcoming environment, and providing culturally-sensitive care.

TACHC Health Information Technology Summit, February 12-13, 2015

Hotel reservation deadline is Monday, January 12th.The **2015 TACHC Health Information Technology Summit** is designed to disseminate best practices and share innovative projects within the FQHC environment that directly supports health information technology efforts. Topics will include using technology to improve patient experience; Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement; ICD-10 preparation; data security; Meaningful Use; and Health Information Exchanges. Contact **TACHC IT Director Todd Radloff** for more information.

ATTENTION CLINICIANS: ICD-10 Transition Webcast Clinicians, 6-part series begins 1/29/15

See Clinical Affairs

ATTENTION BILLING & CODING STAFF: TACHC ICD-10-CM Code Set Training for Coding and Billing Staff, February 12-13, 2015

See Clinical Affairs

GOVERNANCE and FINANCE

2015 TACHC Membership Dues Notice

2015 TACHC membership dues notices have been emailed to each Executive Director with an attached invoice and supporting documents. As stated in the invoice, payment, either in full or part, is due to TACHC by 3/1/15. If you have any questions about the dues payment process or have not received the email, please contact **Lynn Ford**.

CLINICAL AFFAIRS

Register Now for the Clinician's Guide to ICD-10 Transition Webcast Series

TACHC will host a Clinician's Guide to ICD-10 Transition webcast series from January through June 2015. Marilyn Masick, M.Ed., CPC, CCP will walk through the most common ICD-9 codes for FQHC providers, crosswalk them to ICD-10 and discuss the associated documentation needs to aid in making the transition to ICD-10 a smooth one for the medical staff at your centers. Each webcast will be recorded and made available for you to share with your medical staff that are not able to attend the live sessions. Each will also include a post-test to ensure your medical staff has learned the key items from the lessons. The webcast series is \$400 for members, \$500 for non-members. **Click Here to Register**. For more information, please contact **Britt Kushner** or **Davelyn Eaves Hood**.

TACHC ICD-10-CM Code Set Training for Coding and Billing Staff, February 12-13, 2015

Code Set Training will consist of introductory ICD-10 information and chapter by chapter code set training. The training is tailored for FQHCs and contains a lot of practice on how to look up codes, including chapter specific exercises at the end of each chapter. At the conclusion of the two days, there will be case notes (as opposed to coding lookup exercises) that will be coded.

In order to keep working page numbers consistent we will use 2014 AAPC Draft ICD-10-CM. Every person attending needs to bring a copy of same. All attendees should also bring small post-its and colored highlighters. Post-it tabs would also be helpful.

Participants will also be given a copy of the Coder's Reference Lookup List for FQHCs developed by Masick with coding frequency information provided by several Texas FQHCs. For more information, contact **Britt Kushner**.

Provider's Role in Pandemic Preparedness: Application of Lessons Learned Through the Ebola Crisis and Other Pandemics

Toward Mitigating the Damage of the Next Big Public Threat
With the Ebola crisis far from over, an article in the **American Journal of Critical Care** urges healthcare providers to apply lessons learned through this and previous pandemics toward mitigating the damage of the **next big public health threat**. "Our duty is to use all our knowledge and skills to protect ourselves, our patients and the public, and to be ready for the next challenge," wrote Cindy L. Munro, R.N., Ph.D., and Richard H. Savel, M.D., both editors of the AJCC. In addition to emphasizing the importance of hand hygiene, personal protective equipment and pristine technique, Munro and Savel advocate research to develop diagnostic tools, new therapies and vaccines as well as to improve the understanding of animal connections to disease outbreaks, according to the article. **Read the full story from Fierce Healthcare.**

POLICY

Bill of the Week

With the state legislative session kicking off next Tuesday, legislators have been pre-filing bills that indicate their priorities for the upcoming session. TACHC will highlight a bill relevant to health centers each week during the session, starting this week with **bills filed to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.**

Sunset Advisory Commission Adopts Recommendations for Health and Human Services Agencies

The **Sunset Advisory Commission adopted recommendations** to consolidate the Health and Human Services Commission with the four agencies it oversees into a single agency. The set of recommendations also included substantial changes to state-funded women's health programs.

GROUP PURCHASING

TACHC and 340Basics Now Partnering

As a TACHC membership benefit, you are eligible to take advantage of our 340B pharmacy purchasing program, called 340Better. TACHC is delighted to inform you there is **a new added 340Better benefit available only for FQHCs** to help you provide your patients access to **critical, affordable, low-cost medications.**

340Basics is a cost-effective, efficient, **TACHC-endorsed** 340B virtual inventory software solution that works as a 340B program administrator product to meet your health center's retail pharmacy contracting needs. This solution offers compliance through a secure interface with your health

center's EMR which enables HRSA 340B program compliance.

340Basics will administer your network and develop your pharmacy plan **all for a minimal flat fee!**

January 15th is the deadline to register clinic sites and retail pharmacies for 340B pricing with an April 1st start. Your next opportunity to register with the OPA will be April 1st-15th. **To take advantage of this new benefit, immediately contact Lynn Ford or Colleen DiClaudio, Executive Vice President at 340Basics.** There is more information at: www.340Basics.com.

If you have any questions about the 340Better pharmacy program and how 340Basics are now collaborating together, please contact **Lynn Ford**.

HRSA's 340B Registration Window

January 1st through January 15th is your next window to register with the Office of Pharmacy Affairs (OPA) for a new site to be eligible for 340B pricing. This is also the window if you want to add a retail pharmacy to contract with for pharmacy services ("bill to/ship to"). When registering in this window of time, the new site/pharmacy will be eligible for 340B pricing effective April 1st.

The registration process occurs electronically via the **OPA website**. There are additional bullets listed under the 'Covered Entities' section to use for registering. A guide to registering can be found **HERE**. Remember that you cannot register a site to be eligible for 340B pricing till it listed in the EHB and must have the site ID (found in the EHB). For more information, contact TACHC Purchasing Program Coordinator **Lynn Ford** or (512) 329-5959.

R&R

Recruitment & Retention: 2014 Review

TACHC's R & R Department would like to thank all of the TACHC member centers who utilized the R & R program in 2014 helping the department complete a total of 17 placements for the year! We look forward to assisting you with your Recruitment & Retention needs in 2015!

Congratulations to Cross Timbers Health Clinics, Inc. for a New Hire!

Dr. Chan a TACHC referral accepted an offer for the Cross Timbers Health Clinics, Inc. Dentist position!

TACHC Upcoming Staff Recruitment Activities

- University of Texas Dental School (Job Fair in Houston 1/15/15)

Does your center have openings for clinical providers or executive management that you would like us to help you recruit for? Complete the **TACHC online position profile**. Contact **Danielle Ramos**, TACHC Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant for more information.

IT

TACHC Health Information Technology Summit, February 12-13, 2015

See Upcoming Events.

NEWS

Happy TACHCiversary to Elizabeth Endres who celebrated two years with us on January 3rd!

Send **NEWS** about your health center to be considered for inclusion in the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up to TACHC Communications Director **Andrea Abel**.

SUBSCRIBE to the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up.

UNSUBSCRIBE.

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