



TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Outreach & Enrollment Conference

Please join us June 12-13th for an opportunity to unite with outreach and enrollment staff in FQHCs across the state. In this two-day training you will have the opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned during the first open

enrollment period. TACHC will provide any federal and state policy updates, a special train-the-trainer session to help educate patients, friends, and family for how to understand and use their insurance, and how and when to file an exemption. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend break-out sessions on various topics such as assisting immigrant families in the Marketplace, a review of HRSA reporting requirements and TACHC online reporting tool, and a review of the basics for helping consumers understand eligibility and enrollment in the Marketplace. A tentative agenda is available. Space is limited, so please **REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE** as soon as possible and make plans to join us.

TACHC has a block of sleeping rooms reserved at a rate of \$179/night for single or double occupancy. Call the hotel at 512-832-4197 to make your reservation by Wednesday, May 21, 2014. For more information contact **Sonia Lara**.

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

ICD-10 Implementation Delayed!

Over the past week, both the House and Senate have passed a bill that, among other healthcare-related efforts, delays the implementation of ICD-10 until October 1, 2015. While TACHC will be restructuring its ICD-10 Transition training program, this is no time for complacency. Make the most of this valuable time by checking out the ICD-10 Readiness Training at www.tachc.org/products for excellent material that will help ensure your center is fully prepared for the potential revenue cycle impact of this major change. Stay tuned for changes to the previously scheduled ICD-10 related trainings. For more information, contact **TACHC Director of Clinical Affairs Davelyn Eaves Hood, MD, MBA**.

Funding to Design & Implement Health Care Disparity Reduction Policies

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is looking for organizations to develop and implement a combined payment and delivery change model that includes a focus on meeting disparities reduction benchmarks and targets while also meeting general quality improvement expectations.

Applicants should have an active collaboration with at least one payer (e.g., health plan, insurance company, employer, government payer) and one or more provider/health care organizations (e.g. health centers/clinics, provider organizations, hospitals, network of physician offices, regional coalition of providers and health care organizations).

How to Apply:

- Proposals for this solicitation must be submitted via the RWJF online system.
- Click **HERE** to read the CFP and access the Apply Online link. If you have not already done so, you will be required to register **HERE** before you begin the

application process. **Deadline April 18, 2014.** For questions, please contact **Scott Cook** at (866) 344-9800.

CLINICAL AFFAIRS

DSHS Expands Adult Immunization Safety Net Program

Texas Department of State Health Service (DSHS) Immunization Branch is expanding the Adult Safety Net (ASN) Program; this program provides publicly purchased vaccine at no cost to medical providers for the immunization of uninsured adults. Providers may charge ASN clients an administration fee of up to \$25.00 per dose but cannot deny the vaccine if a client is unable to pay the administration fee. Medical facilities with the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and Rural Health Center (RHC) designations are eligible to enroll in the ASN program. Click **HERE** for more information.

POLICY

Are Your Centers Experiencing Delays in Medicare Site Certification?

We need to hear from you! We have heard that it can often take 6, 9 or even 12 months go through the Medicare site certification process, which gives health centers the identification numbers they need in order to appropriately bill Medicare. NACHC is collecting examples of these delays across the nation (length of time, impact on health center, etc.) in order to demonstrate the severity of this problem to both CMS and HRSA. If your center has recently experienced long delays, please send details to **Shelby Massey** by **Thursday, April 10th**.

FQHC Reimbursement for Telemedicine/Telehealth Services under Texas Medicaid

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) recently made changes to reimbursement policy for FQHC billing for telemedicine / telehealth services which expands health centers' ability to be reimbursed for these services under Texas Medicaid. Click **HERE** for a TACHC summary on the current policy.

GROUP PURCHASING

HRSA's Office of Pharmacy Affairs Registration Window

April 1st through April 15th is your 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 July 1st.

The registration process occurs electronically **via the OPA website**. Under the 'Covered Entities' section there are additional bullets listed to use for

registering. A guide to registering can be found [HERE](#) and then click on 'pharmacy'. 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.

TACHC 340Better Contract with Merck

TACHC is thrilled to announce a new contract available on the 340Better pharmacy program with Merck. **Effective April 1, 2014**, the TACHC 340Better pharmacy program will have available Merck's Dulera, Nexplanon and NuvaRing. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

OUTREACH

Outreach & Enrollment Conference

See [Upcoming Events](#).

R&R

TACHC Upcoming Staff Recruitment Activities

With great enthusiasm, we continue in our mission to support member organizations in fulfilling their clinical and administrative staff workforce needs.

As such, TACHC recruitment staff will be speaking with students at the University of Texas Pan Am Physician Assistant Program this April 17th. If your center has a **new Physician Assistant opportunity** that you would like us to help you recruit for at this event, click [HERE](#) and complete the easy online position profile **by COB Friday, April 11th.** Have questions or need assistance? Contact **April Sartor, Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant at TACHC.**

NEWS

Please join us in welcoming **TACHC's new deputy director Olga Rodriguez!** Olga comes to TACHC from the Texas Department of State Health Services where she was director for the Center for Program Coordination and Health Policy.

Barbara Clark is the new interim executive director at Ellis County Coalition for Health Options dba Hope Clinic. Thanks to **Mackie Owens** for her contribution to improving access to health care for Ellis County residents by starting the clinic as a volunteer charity clinic and growing it into a federally qualified health center.

[CLICK HERE](#) to subscribe to the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up.

We are experiencing technical difficulties with the UNSUBSCRIBE link. If you

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