



# TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up

The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Deadline Approaching for TACHC Outreach and Enrollment Conference

Don't miss this year's **O&E conference Putting the "Outreach" in Outreach and Enrollment**. The conference will focus on effective outreach strategies to targeted populations to educate them on health insurance options and how to enroll. Contact **Sonia Lara** for more information. **CLICK** or call 512-733-6767 to reserve your guest room rate of \$120/night by September 2nd.

## GOVERNANCE and FINANCE

## **HRSA Announces NAP Grants**

As part of National Health Center Week, HRSA announced an additional **\$169 million in New Access Point funding to 266 community health centers**, including **11 awards in Texas** totaling \$7,261,501 to serve a proposed 41,575 new patients. This brings the FY2015 Texas total to 19 awards totaling \$12,451,331 to serve a proposed 71,455 new patients.

## **TriWest Webcast– Claims and Reimbursement Processes Under the Veterans Choice Program**

A free TriWest webcast on **Thursday, September 17 from 1:00 – 2:30PM (CST)** will discuss submitting claims and ensuring reimbursement for services provided to Veteran patients under the Veterans Choice Program. Health centers interested or already enrolled are strongly encouraged to participate. In preparation for the webcast, please send questions or concerns regarding the claims submission or reimbursement process that you would like addressed on the webcast to Sonia Lara. A TriWest Claims Supervisor will be on hand to answer questions and respond to any concerns. **Click HERE for registration Information.**

## **CLINICAL AFFAIRS**

### **Medicare Proposes to Pay FQHCs for Chronic Care Management (CCM)**

CMS recently published a proposed rule on the Medicare Physician Fee schedule that includes changes that would allow FQHCs to bill for chronic care management. This has previously been unavailable to FQHCs across the board, and the proposed rule would include some requirements for providers to be eligible for these payments. The proposed rule is open for comments **until September 8th. Click HERE to submit comments.**

### **First-ever Statement on Social Determinants of Health from the AHA**

Those of us who work in community health centers are well aware of the impact of social factors on health. The American Heart Association recently released a statement that the deleterious impact of social determinants of health has the potential to reverse gains that have been made in cardiovascular health. **Their statement is available here.**

### **Call for Abstracts from the Texas Public Health Association**

The TPHA Annual Education Conference will be in Galveston in April, but the deadline to submit abstracts is coming up on September 30. If you're interested in sharing a project from your health center at this statewide conference, you can **find more information at this link.**

## **POLICY**

## **NHCW Wrap-Up**

Did your health center receive a local proclamation for NHCW? Did your health center pass a board resolution recognizing your Member of Congress for voting to end the health center funding cliff? Share them with TACHC! Send a PDF to **Andrea** or **Shelby**.

## **Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board GME Info**

The 84th Legislature directed more resources toward Graduate Medical Education in the upcoming biennium. **Click HERE for an update** from the Higher Education Coordinating Board on their GME expansion efforts.

**See Clinical Affairs** for an opportunity to provide comments to CMS on a proposed rule on the Medicare Physician Fee schedule.

## **GROUP PURCHASING**

### **Dental Supplies & Equipment Purchasing Program**

TACHC wants to remind all of the members of the dental purchasing program for supplies and equipment available to the membership in coordination with Henry Schein. There are significant savings available when using the program. For a cost analysis of the savings available, please contact **Lynn Ford**.

## **R&R**

### **Save The Date!**

Please mark your calendars for the presentation of the TACHC Compensation Survey Results for September 18th via webcast from 9:00 – 11:00 am CT. Registrations details coming soon.

## **NEWS**

Don't miss out. Follow TACHC on **facebook** and **twitter**.

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.

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