



TACHC

Texas Association of Community Health Centers

TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up Volume: 8 Issue: 45

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UPCOMING EVENTS

TACHC Telemedicine Webinar, Wednesday, December 7, 11am–12pm CST

This free webcast will be an overview on community health center telemedicine use, including regulatory, reimbursement and technology considerations.

Topics covered will include: What services can be provided via telemedicine? What types of providers can provide services via telemedicine? What physical arrangements are permitted when using telemedicine? How does reimbursement for telemedicine work for community health centers? What type of technology is needed for telemedicine? **Registration is now open.** For more information, please contact TACHC Policy & Research Associate **Mary Allen**.

Do you have NCQA PCMH recognition? Webcast: December 14, 12pm-1pm CST

Join us for a special **OC3 webcast to address the new NCQA PCMH 2017 standards and application process** on December 14, 12pm-1pm CST. Caitlin Feller, M.P.P., Director of Clinical Strategy at Community Health Solutions, Inc. will lead this presentation. Ms. Feller is an NCQA PCMH Certified Content Expert and will discuss key issues for health centers currently recognized in the NCQA PCMH program and those considering seeking PCMH recognition through NCQA. Important deadlines,

considerations for different levels of recognition and changes to the application process will be part of this presentation. For more information, please contact TACHC's [Verne LaGrega](#).

REGISTER NOW! TACHC Policy & Issues Forum, January 30-31, Austin

Building strong relationships with elected officials is key to the long-term well-being of your health center. Learn the latest on upcoming policy issues and effective advocacy tools. Then, join us to meet with your members of the Texas Legislature for Texas Health Center Day at the Capitol. *Board members are encouraged to attend.* [More information and to register for the forum.](#) To make Omni Austin hotel reservations at the group rate of \$199/night, please call 1-800- 843-6664. The reservation deadline is Friday, January 6th at 5:00 PM. Contact [Mary Allen](#) with questions.

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

NEW Nurse Triage Service Available Through TACHC Group Purchasing: Meet HRSA Requirements & Be More Cost Effective

[Envolv](#)e is a nurse advice line for health center patients to use after hours. The service is available through TACHC Group Purchasing and will go live in early 2017. But you can sign up NOW! Patients will be able to go through triage protocols with registered nurses and be directed to appropriate care options (home care, appointments with their PCP, emergency room, 911). This option will help centers meet the HRSA program requirements and be more cost effective since it is through group purchasing. To sign up or learn more about this exciting new service, contact TACHC's [Nancy Gilliam](#) or [Corinne Medina](#).

Letter of Support Requests

If you would like to request a Letter of Support from TACHC, please email TACHC's [Corinne Medina](#) along with the project abstract. Once the request and abstract have been received, please allow 2-3 business days for turnaround.

CLINICAL

Updates on Treating Opioid and Substance Use Disorders

SAMHSA is providing up to \$77.2 million in funding over several years to programs promoting screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) programs to enable healthcare workers in primary care centers and other community settings to better identify the signs of underlying substance use problems and provide early intervention before more severe consequences occur. HHS has recently expanded training opportunities with a 24-hour curriculum for NPs and PAs interested in prescribing buprenorphine and has raised the caps on the number of patients that NPs, PAs and MDs can treat with buprenorphine. Whether you're already prescribing buprenorphine, treating substance use disorders with other modalities or looking to expand these important services, Project ECHO can be a great resource for your providers. A new ECHO clinic on opioid addiction treatment is starting soon – check out the introductory session on **December 6, 2-3pm CT.** [LEARN MORE.](#)

Webcast: Implementing the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Standards (CLAS) in Your Health Center

Learn more about CLAS. This webcast is hosted by the National Center for Farmworker Health, a BPHC-funded NCA and will be held on **Thursday, December 8, 2:30-3:30pm CST.** [Click Here to Register for the Webcast.](#)

Webcast: NNOHA offers webinar to update 2015 HRSA UDS Sealant Measure Results

In 2015, HRSA introduced the first oral health clinical quality measure to the UDS with the dental sealants measure. What are the first year results and lessons learned? For those who were unable to attend the session at the recent NNOHA conference in Denver, the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) will host a webcast on **December 19, 2016 from 12pm-1pm CST** to highlight the 2015 UDS data results for the dental sealants measure. For questions, contact [NNOHA](#) or by calling 303-957-0635. [Click Here for More Information and to Register.](#)

National Influenza Vaccination Week is Coming Soon

The week of December 5th is [National Influenza Vaccination Week](#). For the latest news and resources for providers and patients, head to [TexasFlu.org](#). Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) also

provides a [tool to find locations](#) to receive the flu vaccine near you, and an [immunization order form](#) with brochures and posters you can order or download.

OUTREACH

UPDATE: 2017 Health Insurance Marketplace Open Enrollment

Since Open Enrollment began on November 1, over 2.1 million people nationwide selected a plan using the [Healthcare.gov](#) platform, including over half a million new consumers and 1.6 million consumers renewing coverage. Despite the recent changes to our political landscape, CACs must continue to educate and inform consumers about affordable health insurance options and help them enroll in a plan that best meets their needs. Remind consumers to enroll in a Marketplace health plan by December 15, 2016 for coverage that begins on January 1, 2017. (Open enrollment ends on January 31, 2017). For questions contact [RexAnn Shotwell](#).

IT

Let's Go Phishing

Lately there has been an increase seen across the US regarding [phishing scams](#) both by email and/or telephone. It is important we advise our staff of such situations. Social Engineering is often used against us. For instance; what would you do if you received an email from your CEO asking to arrange for payment to a particular business you never heard of before? Do you just make the payment or do you confirm with your CEO? Often our websites and social media are used to develop these scams. [Awareness, education and proper action](#) are the best way to safeguard against this. Report all suspicious activity of this nature to your designated security officer.

ONC Publishes New Guidance for EHR Contracts

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) has released timely guidance to assist health care providers in selecting an EHR vendor and negotiating the terms of the EHR contract: [EHR Contracts Untangled: Selecting Wisely, Negotiating Terms, and Understanding the Fine Print](#).

NEWS

Did you know that the TACHC Weekly Wrap-Up is available to ALL TACHC members and ALL your staff? [Share this link with your health center staff to sign up for the Wrap!](#)

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 Health Center Support Coordinator [Corinne Medina](#).

Sign up to receive the [TACHC Weekly Wrap Up!](#)

TACHC · United States

This email was sent to aalvarez@tachc.org. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).