

# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - November 22,  
2013

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**IMPORTANT:  
Before You Continue...**

**Look for the NEW Wrap this week!** This week, we are testing the Wrap's new look and distribution method. **You should receive two versions of the Wrap via email today: this one and another that will be sent later today.** The content is exactly the same. Please let us know if you received only this version *or* more than two Wrap emails by contacting [Andrea Abel, Communications Director](#) at TACHC.

- Remember, to continue to receive the Weekly Wrap and stay informed, you **must** be signed up as a TACHC Health Center Advocate by clicking [HERE](#).
- Have your center staff [sign up](#) to receive the Weekly Wrap and its important updates directly, as well.

Thanks for your patience as we make this transition!

## Upcoming Events

### [TACHC UDS Training](#)

*December 9, 2013, Hilton Austin Airport 9515 Hotel Drive Austin, TX 78719*

The Uniform Data System (UDS) in-person training is a full day program covering the preparation of the 2013 UDS Report. The training addresses each of the tables, including a discussion of the changes that have been made and the definitions necessary to complete the reports. The UDS training is aimed at those who are responsible for gathering and reporting the data elements included in the UDS report, as well as management and clinical staff who need to understand the definitions and concepts used. **Registration deadline is Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.** To register for this event, click [HERE](#).

Information regarding all upcoming events hosted by TACHC can be found [HERE](#). For questions or assistance, please contact [TaSheena Mitchell, TACHC Meeting Coordinator](#).

## Governance and Finance



**1. Tell HHSC How to Simplify Medicaid Managed Care:** HHSC is asking providers, managed care organizations, consumers and other stakeholders to recommend ways to simplify and streamline Medicaid managed care. The 2013 Texas Legislature required HHSC to develop a plan to simplify and reduce administrative requirements for providers by September 1, 2014. Potential focus areas include prompt payment and reimbursement, prompt credentialing processes, uniform standards related to prior authorizations, decreasing duplicative administrative reporting requirements, and promoting consistency across administrative policies. **To submit ideas, complete this survey: [Ideas for Administrative Simplification in Medicaid Managed Care](#) by December 6<sup>th</sup>.**



**2. ECRI Institute Offers FREE Live Webinar “Privileging: Real World Applications and Challenges”**

Privileging of providers is an essential risk management and patient safety activity for health centers. In order to support centers in their evaluation and documentation of privileging activities, ECRI Institute, on behalf of HRSA, presents a FREE program to encourage proactive approaches to address privileging challenges, providing a timely discussion of issues and assisting with solutions. The program will discuss the following:

- Distinguishing privileging from credentialing
- Using checklists and other tools for privileging providers
- Identifying strategies to communicate requirements to providers of all levels
- Developing strategies to proactively minimize risks

The 60-minute webinar will be presented on [December 10th at 11:00 a.m. CT](#) and [December 11th at 2:00 p.m. CT](#). You do not need a username to sign up for this FREE webinar. Just click on the time you want to attend above to register.

**3. TACHC Update on State Affiliation Agreement Requirements:** HHSC has finalized new rules on FQHC Affiliate Agreements. You can find TACHC’s summary of the new requirements [HERE](#).



## Clinical Affairs



**1. AHRQ Rapid Cycle Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Toolkit:** About 40% of patient encounters in a primary care office involve some form of medical test. Do you want to improve your office testing process? A new Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) toolkit helps medical practices improve their processes for tracking, reporting and following up with patients after medical laboratory tests. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the “Rapid Cycle Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Toolkit.” Click [HERE](#) for other clinical and related resources from AHRQ.



**2. NACHC’s New Clinical Quality Resources:** The National Association of Community Health Centers

(NACHC) is pleased to offer several new resources designed to support health center clinical quality. These are all available for **free** viewing, downloading and sharing.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Community Health Centers

- **A Quality Primer:** The three-part **Quality Management (QM) Webinar Series for New and Seasoned Health Center Staff** ensures that new health center staff are on the same footing as their peers regarding general quality principles and basic QM techniques as they move into their new roles. The series includes three archived webinars and accompanying PowerPoint presentations, speaker's notes, and hyperlinks to relevant resources. Click [HERE](#) to access the QM webinar series. Contact [Katja Laepke](#) with any questions.
- **HIV and Related Issues: Engaging Patients and Communities** is a series of 4 short videos that feature colleagues from the health center community and highlight health centers as an integral part of our nation's response to the critical issues of HIV, hepatitis C, and sexual health. Addressing these issues, often through active partnerships, is essential in a true Patient Centered Medical Home and in fully engaging our patients, families, and communities. Click [HERE](#) to access the video series. Contact [Caryn Bernstein](#) with any questions.
- **Taking Routine Histories of Sexual Health: A System-Wide Approach for Health Centers** is a toolkit to help health centers develop and implement systems for collecting routine sexual health histories as part of the primary care visit. It offers a variety of useful resources to support integrating sexual health as a vital sign for improved patient health and patient engagement, including a companion PowerPoint presentation that can be used for orienting staff to the key recommendations and concepts in the toolkit. Click [HERE](#) to access the toolkit. Contact [Caryn Bernstein](#) with any questions.

**3. Texans Standing Tall Presents a Regional Forum on Advanced Smoke-Free Strategies:** You're



**Texans Standing Tall**  
Together creating healthier  
and safer communities.

invited to join TST in conjunction with the Smoke-Free Texas Coalition as they host the Forum on **December 4, 2013 in Dallas**. The Forum focuses on preventing youth alcohol and tobacco use with the ultimate goal of reducing all youth substance abuse and will provide participants the opportunity to develop skill sets and learn how to educate and civically engage community members for healthier and smoke-free communities! Click [HERE](#) for all Regional Forum information, location details, registration information, and agendas or call 512-442-7501.

**4. World AIDS Day is December 1<sup>st</sup>:** Join global awareness efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS on



December 1. This year's theme focuses on Shared Responsibility: Strengthening Results for an AIDS-Free Generation. Looking for ways to involve your health center? For resources and information, visit [AIDS.gov](#)

**Recruitment  
and Retention**



**TACHC Upcoming Staff Recruitment Activities:** With great enthusiasm, TACHC staff continue in our



mission to support member organizations in fulfilling their clinical and administrative staff workforce needs. As such, we will be speaking with **Family Medicine residents in Conroe on December 18<sup>th</sup>**. If your center has a new Family Medicine opportunity that you would like us to help you recruit for at this event, simply click [HERE](#) and complete the easy online

position profile. Have questions or need assistance? Contact [April Sartor, Recruitment Dept. Program Assistant](#) at TACHC.

## Other News



- 1. TACHC Weekly Wrap-up Delivery Stays on Fridays:** Thanks for responding to TACHC's short survey. We heard you loud and clear! 89% would like to continue to receive the Wrap-up on Fridays. We will take all other comments made into consideration. Thanks again!
- 2. No TACHC Weekly Wrap-up Next Week!** In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, TACHC's offices will be closed November 28-29, 2013. The next Wrap-up will be sent on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!
- 3. TACHC Member News:** To learn what your fellow health centers are involved in or read news that may affect your health center, click [HERE](#) for news coverage. We also encourage you to post your news, questions and comments to each other on the TACHC members listserv ([members@tachc.org](mailto:members@tachc.org)), where only TACHC executives or their designees are recipients.



If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please send a message to [ccarson@tachc.org](mailto:ccarson@tachc.org), and we will remove your name from our list as soon as possible.