

Vital Sounds

A Newsletter for Health Care Professionals and Facilities

KaMMCO

Kansas Medical Mutual Insurance Company

www.KaMMCO.com

Member Benefit: KaMMCO Adds New Online Education Courses

Online risk management continuing education is as close as your computer and keyboard!

For the fourth year, KaMMCO is pleased to partner with ELM Exchange, Inc. (ELM), to offer members access to online education that is worthy of both KaMMCO premium credit and Continuing Medical Education (CME). Specialty-specific curriculum allows eligible members to take one course each calendar year to earn an additional 2% premium credit toward policy renewal.



New offerings in 2017 include:

- The Patient Experience: Demonstrating Commitment in an Interdisciplinary Team
- Communication and Disclosure: Challenge Your Assumptions
- Additional Specialty Specific Course Selections

The new enrollee/orientation classroom includes the following favorites:

- Informed Consent: Capacity and Refusal
- EMTALA
- Controlled Substance Prescribing: Risks in Managing and Terminating the Physician-Patient Relationship
- Managing Difficult Patients: Duty and Documentation
- Physician Liability for Advanced Practitioners
- Risks in Transitioning to Electronic Medical Records
- Transitions of Care: Transfer Documentation and Intra-Provider Communication
- Communication and Disclosure: Challenge Your Assumptions
- Ethical Dilemmas: Unprofessional Behaviors
- De-escalation: Bullying, Lateral Violence, and Patient Encounters

The best part of the ELM program is the 24/7/365 accessibility from any device with Internet access. CME certificates are available for printing immediately following course completion.

To access the various courses, members must first visit <http://www.kammco.com/Member-Services/Online-Learning-Resources.aspx> and sign in as a returning user, or register as a new user. Participants will need to have their KaMMCO website username/password ready as well as their ELM username/password.

MACRA Webinar Scheduled on Three Additional Dates This Spring

Attend a 1.5 hour educational webinar this spring and receive CME

Are you ready for the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act—more commonly referred to as MACRA? Is your practice prepared to meet the reporting and technology requirements that begin in 2017?

In October 2016, CMS released the final rule for MACRA. It outlines how most providers caring for Medicare patients will be reimbursed beginning in 2019 according to the new Quality Payment Program (QPP) guidelines, with the first measurement period beginning on January 1, 2017. The new QPP



presents physicians with two payment tracks—the Merit-Based Incentive System (MIPS) or the Alternative Payment Models (APMs). It is anticipated most physicians will elect the MIPS track. CMS recognizes most rural and independent physicians will not have the resources necessary to be successful in MIPS.

The new QPP MIPS model relies on a composite score that combines three sets of metrics into one score for 2017:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Advancing Care Information - protecting patient data and moving it safely to other providers and to patients | 25% |
| 2. Improvement Activities - choose from 90 activities | 15% |
| 3. Quality - choose from hundreds of measures to report | 60% |

KaMMCO Health Solutions has developed an innovative suite of analytic tools necessary to meet the new reporting and technology requirements. The KHS analytics tools are designed to aid in reporting all three MIPS categories by accessing patients’ longitudinal medical records.

The Kansas Medical Society and KHS invite you to attend **“Equipping Physicians for the Shift to Quality Payment Programs—Employing Data Analytics to Empower Physicians and Enhance Patient Care.”** The webinar will be presented by Laura McCrary, Ed.D, Senior Vice President, KaMMCO Health Solutions, Inc., and Executive Director, Kansas Health Information Network, Inc., on:

- Wednesday, February 15, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.; [Register here](#).
- Tuesday, March 28, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.; [Register here](#).
- Tuesday, April 25, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.; [Register here](#).

This webinar is designed to empower physicians with the knowledge to enhance quality improvement and transform healthcare through the implementation of technology and utilization of MACRA-inspired reporting tools. This activity is approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*.

For more information and to register in advance visit: www.KaMMCO.com and click on EVENTS.

Members Request Analytics Dashboard Demonstrations

Physicians needing help as they transition to the Quality Payment Programs of MACRA can learn more about new resources available from KaMMCO Health Solutions (KHS) by attending an upcoming one-hour webinar.

The innovative suite of analytic products and services will produce web-based dashboards that:

- capture patients’ health information visually;
- help providers meet MIPS and APM reporting requirements for MACRA; and
- allow physicians to proactively manage patients’ care.



Learn more about the analytics tools and dashboards at one of three webinars presented by Mary Matzke, KHS Project Manager, and Susan Penka, KHS Business Development Representative. The webinars are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, February 21, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; [Register here](#).
- Wednesday, February 22, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.; [Register here](#).
- Tuesday, February, 28, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.; [Register here](#).

As a subscription-only tool set, the web-based dashboards offer reports on the High Risk Patient, Preventive Care, Readmissions and Disease Registry through the KHS Tier 1 package. Specially discounted pricing is extended to KaMMCO insured providers and

hospitals as a KaMMCO member benefit. Analytics subscribers can run and view reports derived from the patient data in the health information exchange as well as download and import the data into other software tools.

To learn more about the KHS analytics tool, contact Susan Penka, KHS Business Development Representative at spenka@kammco.com or visit www.KaMMCO.com.

ECRI Releases Top 10 Health Technology Hazards for 2017

Connie Dyke Christian, CPHRM, MBA
Facility Risk Management & Patient Safety Advisor

ECRI Institute, an industry leader in patient safety and risk management, has released a list of Top 10 Health Technology Hazards for 2017. ECRI produces the list annually to identify potential sources of danger they believe warrant the greatest attention for the upcoming year. The list does not enumerate the most frequently reported problems or the ones associated with the most severe consequences, although ECRI considers such information in their analysis. The list reflects ECRI's judgment about which risks should receive priority now.¹

The List for 2017

1. Infusion errors due to omitted safety steps.
2. Inadequate cleaning of complex reusable instruments.
3. Missed ventilator alarms.
4. Undetected Opioid induced respiratory depression.
5. Infection risk with heating/cooling devices used in Cardiothoracic Surgery.
6. Software management gaps impacting patient safety and data security.
7. Occupational Radiation hazards in hybrid Operating Rooms.
8. Automated Dispensing Cabinet setup and use.
9. Surgical stapler misuse and malfunctions.
10. Device failures caused by cleaning products and practices.



According to ECRI, "All items on the list represent problems that can be avoided or risks that can be minimized through the careful management of technologies."² KaMMCO encourages its insureds to access the link www.ecri.org/2017hazards to download the Executive Brief: *Top 10 Health Technology Hazards for 2017* which provides guidance to manage identified risks. The report also may be used as a tool for physician practices and health facilities to help prioritize patient safety initiatives.

^{1,2} ECRI Executive Brief *Top 10 Health Technology Hazards for 2017 a Report from Health Devices 2016*. www.ECRI.org

HPV Immunization Rates on the Rise in Kansas

In response to Kansas having one of the lowest human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination rates in the country, the Immunize Kansas Coalition (IKC) has designated the improvement of adolescent vaccination rates a priority.

In 2015, IKC set ambitious goals of increasing HPV vaccine series completion for adolescent girls and boys. Recent data demonstrates that Kansas is improving vaccination series rates completion for girls – up to 31.7 percent in 2015 from 24.8 percent in 2014. Series completion for boys shows no improvement in 2015, and is down slightly from 19.5 percent in 2014.

Affecting both men and women, HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection, and can be avoided. Safe and effective, the vaccine can protect males and



IKC Adolescent Immunization Award Winners. From left: Hope Krebill (IKC Chair), Nita Bugner and Sarah Chrisman (Wesley Family Medicine Residency Program), Allison Alejos and Linda Ochs (Shawnee County Health Department), Dawn McNay (Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas), Dr. William Pankey (Turner House Children's Clinic), and Dr. John Eplee (IKC Immediate Past Chair).

females against diseases, including cancers, when given in the recommended dosages and age groups.

IKC implemented an Adolescent Immunization Recognition Awards competition to improve HPV immunization rates. IKC recognized four organizations for outstanding immunization rate improvement efforts in three categories:

- Outstanding Group Practice – Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas, Pittsburg and Turner House Clinic, Inc., Kansas City;
- Outstanding Local Health Department – Shawnee County Health Department, Topeka; and,
- Outstanding Residency Program – Wesley Family Medicine Residency Program, Wichita.

The competition revealed key activities that moved the needle:

- Successful improvement sites frequently initiated clinic-wide education efforts, an important component of garnering support for further immunization improvement work across the practice;
- Successful sites utilized WebIZ and electronic health records data to identify missed vaccination opportunities; and,
- Successful sites implemented administrative procedures to make vaccination a convenient and accessible choice.

IKC includes health department officials, researchers, and educators collaborating to improve vaccination rates and protect Kansans against vaccine-preventable diseases, and offers the following recommendations for healthcare providers:

- Emphasize the HPV vaccine as cancer prevention;
- Include HPV vaccine at the same time other vaccines are offered; and,
- Vaccinate preteens (ages 11-12) because they have a higher immune response to the vaccine.

Information about the coalition, the HPV Vaccine Toolkit, and other resources is available at www.immunizekansascoalition.org. For more information, contact: Connie Satzler, 785.587.0151, csatzler@kansas.net or Hope Krebill, 913.588.3739, hkrebill@kumc.edu.

KHC Hospital Improvement Innovation Network (HIIN) Participation Soars

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative (KHC) continues to lead hospital patient safety improvement efforts statewide on behalf of the Kansas Hospital Association. For the HIIN initiative, KHC received a record number of commitments from 113 Kansas hospitals. This participation surpasses the Hospital Engagement Network (HEN) 1.0 and 2.0 initiatives. The HEN 2.0 initiative, completed in September 2016, had 106 hospitals participating. Currently, Kansas is the second largest state HIIN within the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association. Nationally, more than 3,750 hospitals are participating in the CMS project which seeks to achieve the "20/12" goals - a 20 percent reduction in hospital-acquired conditions and a 12 percent reduction in readmissions by September 2018.

Save the Date: Ninth Annual Summit on Quality

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative and the Kansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc., will jointly host the Ninth Annual Summit on Quality on Wednesday, May 10, at the Wichita Hyatt. Keynote speakers and breakout sessions will be announced soon. Registration will open March 1.

Come & See Us!

KHA *Critical Issues Summit*, February 22-23, 2017 at the DoubleTree by Hilton at the Wichita Airport. Click [HERE](#) for more information.