2016 Annual Meeting and House of Delegates Report

The New Mexico Medical Society Council and House of Delegate wrapped up three days of energizing and convivial work on May 14th. The reports of reference committees A and B may be found on pages 4 and 5 of this issue and additional materials are on the website at www.nmms.org/proceedings-house. In addition to electing new officers and nominating committee members, the HOD also voted to approve the revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws (published last 3 issues of Medical News and available upon request at info@nmms.org). The new Bylaws are available online at http://www.nmms.org/new-mexico-medical-society-constitution-and-laws.

Annual Meeting ...continued on page 2
Annual Meeting ...continued from page 1

The continuing medical education activity on May 13, "Without Borders: Illness and Health in a Migratory World" was highly acclaimed for content, inherent interest, expertise, and diversity of topic. Former Ambassador Chase Untermeyer had a last minute unexpected and unavoidable change of venue and had to call in from a Texas Court House (no, he was not on trial but was serving as expert witness) and was able to give an ad hoc Webinar and Q and A with ease. World renowned trauma surgeon Kenneth Mattox MD thrilled the crowd by unraveling the mysterious death of a celebrity while highlighting the differences between trauma care in the U.S. and Europe. The state epidemiologist Michael Landen MD detailed the state of the state’s response and surveillance team and Sandia National Labs shared Melissa Finley DVM who explained how the U.S. is mitigating biological risk through veterinary medicine.

James Martinez MD presented the 2016 Legislative Achievement Award to Rep. Terry McMillan MD and Sen. Stuart Ingle (in absentia) for their enduring support of medicine, carrying untold bills, and, in particular, battling to pass HB-270 (Out of State Providers) in the 2016 legislative session and SB-325 (Non-Compete Provisions in Contracts) in the 2015 session.

Lynn Bryant MD, Chair of the Public Relations Committee, awarded Matthew deKay MD the 2016 Community Service award for establishing the Four Corners Foundation and being the driving force behind a residential campus for 72 homeless people in San Juan County (see Members in the News, page 14).

President-elect of the AMA, Andrew Gurman MD detailed AMA priorities for the coming year including the roll out of MACRA and opioid abuse interventions. Lyle Thorstenson MD, representing AMPAC, shared the importance of PACs in medicine-friendly legislation and encouraged all to support NEMPAC and AMPAC this coming year.

Almost four hundred members and their families enjoyed perfect weather at the annual Presidential reception at the ABQ Bio-Park Zoo on the evening of the 13th. Toe-tapping music was provided by Dr. Richard Rock and his buddies from the Riverside Jass Band [Jass not Jazz]. The food and party continued late into the clear, calm night. Special thanks to The Doctors Company for sponsoring this special tradition.

Eighty-four enjoyed the “Behind the Scenes” tours of the cats, giraffes, apes, hippos, rhinos, elephants, and the veterinary clinic. Money charged for the tickets went entirely to support the animals visited, in total a $2,100 donation.

On behalf of immediate past-President James Martinez MD and new President William Ritchie MD and the rest of the executive committee, NMMS thanks our sponsors for their consistent and generous support of the annual meeting and all associated activities. We could not do it so well nor so easily without the partnership of our friends.
The medical profession must play a lead role in reversing the opioid epidemic that, far too often, has started from a prescription pad.

For the past 20 years, public policies – well-intended but now known to be flawed – compelled doctors to treat pain more aggressively for the comfort of our patients. But today’s crisis plainly tells us we must be much more cautious with how we prescribe opioids.

At present, nearly 2 million Americans – people across the economic spectrum, in small towns and big cities – suffer from an opioid use disorder. As a result, tens of thousands of Americans are dying every year and more still will die because of a tragic resurgence in the use of heroin.

As a profession that places patient well-being as our highest priority, we must accept responsibility to re-examine prescribing practices. We must begin by preventing our patients from becoming addicted to opioids in the first place. We must work with federal and private health insurers to enable access to multi-disciplinary treatment programs for patients with pain and expand access for medication-assisted treatment for those with opioid use disorders. We must do these things with compassion and attention to the needs of our patients despite conflicting public policies that continue to assert unreasonable expectations for pain control.

As a practicing emergency physician and AMA President, I call on all physicians to take the following steps – immediately – to reverse the nation’s opioid overdose and death epidemic:

• Avoid initiating opioids for new patients with chronic non-cancer pain unless the expected benefits are anticipated to outweigh the risks. Non-pharmacologic therapy and non-opioid pharmacologic therapy are preferred.

• Limit the amount of opioids prescribed for post-operative care and acutely-injured patients. Physicians should prescribe the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible duration for pain severe enough to require opioids, being careful not to prescribe merely for the possible convenience of prescriber or patient. Physician professional judgment and discretion is important in this determination.

• Register for and use your state Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) to assist in the care of patients when considering the use of any controlled substances.

• Reduce stigma to enable effective and compassionate care.

• Work compassionately to reduce opioid exposure in patients who are already on chronic opioid therapy when risks exceed benefits.

• Identify and assist patients with opioid use disorder in obtaining evidence-based treatment.

• Co-prescribe naloxone to patients who are at risk for overdose.

As physicians, we are on the front lines of an opioid epidemic that is crippling communities across the country. We must accept and embrace our professional responsibility to treat our patients’ pain without worsening the current crisis. These are actions we must take as physicians individually and collectively to do our part to end this epidemic.

Health Alert Network Needs You!

By Paulette Johnston, NM Dept. of Health

The New Mexico Health Alert Network (NM HAN) is a secure multi-modal communications system that enables the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) to provide relevant urgent and emergent health information (e.g., H1N1, Ebola, Zika) to medical and emergency response professionals, including physicians, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, and others. HAN alerts originate from NMDOH or are relayed from CDC.

To receive relevant NM HAN alerts and information, go to the NM HAN Website (https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085613008), click on the ‘Sign Up’ link, and follow the attached instructions. Please be sure to provide all of the requested information, which will help us to send you only the information that is relevant to your practice and to your locality. Know that once you have signed up and provided the requested information, you will never need to change your password, unless you choose to do so. Also know that your information will be kept strictly confidential.

If you have any HAN-related questions or requests, please contact the HAN Help Desk at han.helpdesk@state.nm.us or call 505-476-8225.

FOUND:
A green scarf, a pair of cheaters (reading glasses), and a SONY OPTEKA (remote control? light meter? hearing aid adjuster?) at the Annual Meeting. Please call (505) 828-0237 or e-mail info@nmms.org to claim.
An electronic copy of the 2016 House of Delegates Handbook and the Supplemental Report of the Council are available at http://www.nmms.org/annual-meeting-program or contact the New Mexico Medical Society at info@nmms.org to request a copy.

REPORT OF REFERENCE COMMITTEE A

A-1 REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
The Action Items were approved and report was filed.

The House of Delegates approved the following Council actions on priority issues:

• The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will review the current wording regarding the succession of officers and propose amendments as appropriate.
• The appointment of Stephen Lucero MD to fill the remaining term of Jerry McLaughlin MD as AMA Delegate.
• A contract to reprogram the NMMS membership database.
• The budget for July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016 which includes a $25 increase in dues to $350.

A-1a SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
The Action Items were approved and report was filed.

A-2 REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
The report was filed.

Officers:
President
William Ritchie MD, GAMA, Orthopedic Surgery
President Elect
William Liakos, Jr. MD, Chaves, Pediatric Medicine
Vice President
Sandra Whisler MD, GAMA, Pediatric Medicine
Immediate Past- President
James Martinez MD, GAMA, Gastroenterology
Secretary/Treasurer
Stephen Haynes MD, Curry-DeBaca-Roosevelt, General Surgery, 2 year
Delegate AMA
Steven Kanig MD, GAMA, 1 year
Delegate AMA
Stephen Lucero MD, Santa Fe, Urology, 2 year
Alternate Delegate
Lynn Bryant MD, GAMA, Internal Medicine, 2 year
Speaker
Angie Bratton MD, Los Alamos, Ophthalmology, 1 year
Vice Speaker
Matthew Fontana MD, GAMA, Administration, 1 year
Councilors:
YPS AMA
Jose Avitia MD, GAMA, Oncology, 1 year
Heather Brislen MD, GAMA, Internal Medicine, 2 year
Nominating Committee:
Appointed 1 year
Kirby Gabrys MD, GAMA, Internal Medicine
Arnold Valdivia MD, Cibola, Family Medicine
Todd Williams MD, San Juan, Plastic Surgery
Elected 1 year
Albert Kwan MD, Curry-DeBaca-Roosevelt, General Surgery
James Tryon MD, GAMA, Family Medicine
Elected 2 year
Arlene Brown MD, Lincoln, Family Medicine
Rick Madden MD, Valencia, Family Medicine

A-3 REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE
The report was filed.

A-4 REPORT OF THE DELEGATES TO THE AMA
The report was filed.

A-5 REPORT OF THE YOUNG PHYSICIAN AND MEDICAL STUDENT SECTION
The report was filed.

A-6 REPORT OF THE CME COMMITTEE
The report was filed.

A-7 REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CHILDREN’S MEDICAL SERVICES
The report was filed.

A-8 REPORT OF THE NM MEDICAL HISTORY COMMITTEE
The report was filed.

A-9 REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE TO MANAGED CARE
The report was filed.

Actions ...continued on page 5
**Actions**  ...continued from page 4

**A-10 REPORT OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**
The report was filed.

**RESOLUTION A-100 REMOVE PRICING BARRIERS TO ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) IN THE UNITED STATES**

RESOLVED that the American Medical Association both drive and strongly support all efforts in Congress and elsewhere to lower the cost of treatment of the new highly effective oral drugs for chronic HCV to a level where treatment would be affordable for all Americans.

The resolution was amended and adopted.

[Subsequently, the resolution was submitted to the American Medical Association House of Delegates Annual Meeting, June 11-15, 2016.]

Reference Committee A Members:
- **Rick Madden MD**, Chair, Belen
- **John Foster MD**, Taos
- **Margaret Roberts MD**, GAMA
- **Cordelia Sever MD**, GAMA
- **Sandra Whisler MD**, GAMA

**B-1 REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**
The report was filed.

**B-2 REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE TO THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT**
The report was filed.

**B-3 REPORT OF THE MEDICAL-LEGAL COMMITTEE**
The report was filed.

**B-4 REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE TO THE UNM SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**
The report was filed.

**B-5 REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PAIN MANAGEMENT**
The report was filed.

**LATE RESOLUTION B-200 TIMELY COMPLETION OF CREDENTIALING**

RESOLVED that New Mexico Medical Society convene an ad hoc “Timely Completion of Credentialing Committee” of NMMS members, payers, hospital credentialing personnel, health plan credentialing personnel, and the New Mexico Insurance Commissioner or his representa-tive, to develop a streamlined Timely Licensure and Credentialing Process, that includes but would not necessarily be limited to, sharing of source documents and minimizing requests for unnecessary documentation, so that full licensure and credentialing of newly hired physicians and advanced practice clinicians can be reliably completed in no greater than ninety (90) days; and, be it further

RESOLVED that the NMMS ad hoc “Timely Completion of Credentialing Committee” report back to the NMMS Council at its October, 2016 meeting with a plan to implement the streamlined credentialing process, including suggested regulatory or legislative language that provides any necessary indemnification for sharing of source documents, and specifies appropriate penalties for non-compliance; and, be it further

RESOLVED that health plans allow established physicians in the same practice and same specialty to co-sign the medical records of the physician who is awaiting credentialing and bill for the care under the name of the established physician.

The resolution was adopted.

Reference Committee B Members:
- **Albert Kwan MD**, Chair, Clovis
- **Karen Armitage MD**, Santa Fe
- **Diane Sansonetti MD**, GAMA
- **Laurence Shandler MD**, Santa Fe
- **Robin Tuchler MD**, GAMA

NMMS Executive Committee - Secretary/Treasurer Stephen Haynes MD, Immediate Past-President James Martinez MD, President William Ritchie MD, President-elect William Liakos MD, Past-President Sam Kankanala MD (missing Vice President Sandra Whisler MD).
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For information on how to become a sponsor of NMMS and marketing benefits, please contact Annie Jung at ajung@nmms.org or (505) 796-3433.

County Visits

Please save the dates for visits to county medical societies by President-Elect William Liakos Jr. MD, Executive Director Randy Marshall, Legal Counsel John Anderson, and The Doctors Company Regional Manager Jeffrey Haisley. This is time to meet and greet and eat, get the answers to your questions, and voice concerns about medical issues in your county and state. As details get confirmed, they will be posted to www.nmms.org and emailed to county society presidents. If you have questions or would like to RSVP to attend, please contact Clare Thompson at (505)796-3437 or cthompson@nmms.org.

** August 23 Grants - lunch
** August 24 Farmington - dinner
** September 27 Taos - lunch
** September 28 Santa Fe - lunch
** October 5 Roswell - dinner
** October 6 Las Cruces - dinner

Classified

NMMS accepts classified advertising at no charge for NMMS members. Non-members $25/25 words.

Medical Director Opportunity. A creative physician is needed to direct and provide medical care at health centers in and around Cuba, NM. Cuba is a multicultural mountain community with abundant outdoor recreation opportunities. Work is performed independently with clinical oversight provided by the Vice President of Clinical Affairs. Administrative supervision is provided by the Program Administrator. Primary care specialty certification and rural practice experience is expected. Competitive salary and excellent benefits are provided. For more information, contact Dorothy Romo, Clinician Staffing Manager, 505-820-3496, Dorothy.Romo@pmsnm.org.

For Sale: Beautiful mountain home in Pagosa Springs. 2966 Sq Ft. Lindal Cedar Home. 3 Bd 4.5 Bath. Loma Linda subdivision. 3.1 Acres. Totally remodeled. Move in ready. $592K Fully furnished. Call Dr. Berg 505-379-4590

Established Internal Medicine Practice For Sale. Lifestyle Medicine, LLC.
1200 active patients + waiting list. Office has a support staff: biller, scheduler, medical assistant, and receptionist. There's a patient waiting area, administration offices, physician office, two restrooms, a procedure room, 3 exam rooms, and large parking lot. Housed in converted Victorian home at 1301 8th St., Las Vegas, NM which is available for sale or rent. Contact Cid D. Lopez, p: 505-242-5297, cidlopez@gmail.com for more information.

Prime Location for Lease. 8401 Osuna Road, NE Albuquerque, NM (NE corner of Osuna and Wyoming intersection, with trafficlight) very high traffic count of 425,000/day and excellent visibility. 3400 sq/ft. 12 operatory. Can be subdivided. Find your favorite Colleague to share. Rent depends on size leased. Electricity and other utilities are included. 505-228-8771 or phsgro@msn.com

General Pediatrician Needed. For private practice in Clovis, New Mexico, with an opportunity to join in a group practice For more information, call 575-749-9109.

Rehab Partners is looking for someone who has great communication and organizational skills while also being flexible and capable of adapting to change as necessary. Part time or full time position doing mostly H&P’s and admin duties in a SNF Contact Jennifer at 505-503-3513 or Jennifer@rehab-partners.com.

Employment Opportunity. Duties: Adult inpatient visits on site at convalescent facilities in Albuquerque, Española, Santa Fe, and Belen. Full/Part-time. We are searching for experienced physicians and mid-levels who have: Credentialing with all insurance carriers and active NM licenses. Applicant Attributes: Organized, Pleasant, EHR skills, or trainable, All adult specialties welcomed. Advantages: An opportunity to build your personalized independent practice. Small locally run company, physician owned. Contact: Extended Healthcare, LLC extendedHC@mail.com. Vc: 505-919-7061, Fax 505-344-3826
A COUPLE OF STATEMENTS TO CONSIDER ABOUT LONG TERM CARE . . .

“We won’t need long-term care.”

BUT...what if? What if you are part of the 70% of the people turning 65 who can expect to use some form of long-term care? Who will provide it? Your spouse or partner? Your children? What will this cost them, emotionally, physically and/or financially? How will their lives be affected? What if the care required is beyond their abilities?

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This is a GREAT IDEA, if you have the resources. But why not prevent the drain on your estate and loved ones with a highly-rated, financially-stable insurance company to leverage your assets and GUARANTEE that funds will be available for long-term care needs?

Imagine transferring $80,000 to the insurance company and realizing an IMMEDIATE conversion to a $300,000 pool of money now available to *pay for home care, assisted- living, adult day care, and nursing home care.

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*** Endorsed by New Mexico Medical Society ***
The U.S. has one of the safest drug and medication supply systems in the world, in part due to careful regulation in the face of globalization and increasing threats to the supply chain. However, according to the FDA, there is a growing network of rogue wholesale drug distributors selling potentially unsafe drugs in the U.S. market. To combat this threat, the FDA has launched the Know Your Source campaign to ensure physicians are aware of the problem and to help them play their part in protecting the integrity of the U.S. drug supply chain. In addition, the FDA is participating in a collaborative initiative targeting drug safety on a global level.

**Dangerous Drugs in the Supply System**

How real is the threat? There have already been cases where adulterated, diverted, stolen, unapproved, or counterfeit drugs made their way into the American drug supply system. Counterfeit Avastin made it into the U.S. in 2012. Altuzan, a non-FDA-approved drug equivalent to Avastin but only approved to be sold in Turkey, arrived in the country in a counterfeit form in 2013. In 2012 and 2015, counterfeit Botox was found in the U.S. The FDA has indicated that anti-depressants, hormone replacement therapies, sleep aids, cholesterol medications, and seizure medications are reaching the U.S. as well.

What does this mean for patients? They may receive a medication containing harmful ingredients or they may receive medications containing no active ingredients at all. Issues include the purity of the medication, whether harmful ingredients have been added, or whether it contains active ingredients. In addition, many drugs must be stored and transported within specific temperature guidelines in order to maintain effectiveness-and rogue distributors do not follow these precautions.

In certain parts of the world, counterfeit or substandard antimalarial drugs constitute one-third of the supply. The result is a malaria patient population that may not be receiving lifesaving treatment. Additionally, the counterfeit drug creates a situation in which the parasites become resistant to the real medications. Fortunately, the FDA has found a solution to this problem and is sharing that solution globally.

**Guide Patients to Safe Websites**

Rogue distributors have expanded their efforts to advertise FDA-approved prescription drugs on unofficial websites with familiar-sounding names. The clear intent is to fool patients into thinking they are dealing with trusted entities. In addition to health risks, patients who order from these websites are at risk of credit card fraud and identify theft.

Commonly ordered medications on these sites are:
- Avandaryl (a non-FDA-approved Glimepiride).
- Non-FDA-approved Generic Celebrex.
- Levitra Super Force, a non-FDA-approved medication to treat erectile dysfunction.

The FDA has cooperated with Interpol to place a warning on such sites, but physicians are encouraged to educate their patients about the risks of these websites. Direct patients to the FDA’s resource for safe pharmacies: BeSafeRx: Know Your Online Pharmacy.

**What Doctors Should Do**

Which doctors are the main targets? While any specialty could be at risk, most of the counterfeit drugs in the U.S. targeted to physicians are expensive medicines, and the targeted specialties are often oncology, dermatology, plastic surgery, and dentistry.

Regardless of your specialty, these tips can help ensure that your practice is ordering safe medications:
- In situations where there is a medication in short supply, the FDA may authorize limited importation of such medications from approved international suppliers. When that occurs, information will be available on the FDA drug shortages website.
- Beware of e-mail blasts and faxes that advertise the option of buying expensive medications at a discount. Remember the adage, “If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.”
- Emphasize to staff, especially those in charge of ordering medications for patients, that it is illegal and ill-advised to buy medications and drugs from outside the U.S. The FDA is often aware of practices that order drugs from outside the U.S. and may initiate contact with the practice in order to educate employees. The FDA’s involvement may also trigger contact from a state’s Board of Medicine.
- "Know Your Source" means know that a supplier of drugs and medications is legitimate. Practices can verify this through the FDA. Select a state and click on the link to the agency that can verify that the supplier is legitimate. Once

**RISK TIP 1:**

**Know Your Source: Protect Your Patients and Your Practice from Unsafe Medications**

By Susan Marr, MSA, LHRM, CPHRM, Senior Patient Safety Risk Manager, The Doctors Company
Good Medicine Has Its Rewards—$370 Million

We have returned over $370 million to our members through our dividend program.

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RISK TIP 2:

Relocating, Merging, or Closing Your Medical Practice? Follow These Tips

By Susan Shepard, MSN, RN, Director, Patient Safety Education, The Doctors Company

Physician practices undergo closure for many reasons, including physician illness, death, relocation, or the physician’s decision to sell, practice solo, join another group, or retire. Especially in this time of healthcare mergers, more physicians and practice administrators are facing changes. Of paramount concern during any change in practice is the continuity of patient care to ensure that no patient is neglected.

Ensuring Patient Safety in an Emergent Practice Change

If the practice change is abrupt, as in the circumstance of a death, the following safety measures will assist in ensuring patient safety and continuity of care:

• Review all previously scheduled appointments to determine the appropriate action: Immediately contact a physician of the same specialty to arrange patient care, or provide patients with a list of practitioners of the same specialty within the area. Transfer all inpatient care to another physician immediately. Use the services of the hospital risk manager if you are unable to locate an available physician.

• Ensure the availability and accessibility of office medical records as needed for the continuity of patient care.

• Post a notice of closure in the office and in the local newspaper.

• Inform all physicians who customarily refer patients to the practice and all contracted managed care organizations, local hospitals, and the medical malpractice carrier.

Important Steps for All Practice Changes

In any type of practice change, notify the following individuals and entities:

• All patients and legal representatives in the “active” case-load. This includes any patient seen in the past six months to three years or others the physician considers “active” and any patient in an acute phase of treatment.

• All peer physicians within the community.

• Local hospitals and medical societies.

• All third-party payers (to include Medicare and Medicaid) and managed care organizations.

• The DEA (if you are retiring or if you are moving to another state).

• Professional associations in which you hold membership.

• Your CPA or financial adviser.

• Your employees.

• Landlords, lenders, and creditors.

• Insurers that cover the practice, the employees, and the physical facility.

Draft a letter to each patient that contains all of the necessary details. The same letter can be used for everyone listed above. It is recommended, if possible, that letters be sent by first class mail and that a copy of the letter with the return receipt be kept. If a patient is considered high risk, consider sending the letter certified with return receipt requested. Post a notice in a local newspaper for at least one month to inform inactive patients or those who have moved away. Include directions for obtaining acute, critical, or emergency care if a new physician has not been selected by the time the practice closes.

Send the notice at least 60 days prior to the anticipated closure. This gives patients an opportunity to locate a new physician and to obtain copies of their medical records without undue stress.

Contributed by The Doctors Company. For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety.

NMMS provides a guide for “Closing Your Practice” updated in June 2016 by Thomas Dean at Miller Stratvert P.A. It is available at http://www.nmms.org/md-practice-information or by request at info@nmms.org.
Coming Soon! Webinar to Learn How to Conduct Unlimited Automated Claim Connections via the IVR

By Laura L. Minter, JH Project Manager, Novitas Solutions, Inc.

Surprisingly, Novitas receives nearly 1.7 million Clerical Error Reopenings (CER) every year from Medicare Part B providers to correct a claim that was submitted incorrectly the first time. A CER is submitted to correct minor errors or omissions of claim specific information. That is a staggering amount of rework costing time and money for both you and the Medicare Program—costs that could be avoided by everyone if the claims were submitted correctly the first time.

But let’s face it, mistakes happen. When mistakes happen, we want to make it as efficient as possible for you to correct those mistakes. Therefore, Novitas is pleased to announce an enhanced self-service feature that will be introduced to the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) allowing you to conduct an unlimited number of telephone claim corrections for select Medicare Part B claims via the IVR. This IVR self-service tool, similar to the process utilized today via the IVR to request a claim correction, will be enhanced to allow you to conduct an unlimited number of claim corrections and eliminate the need to speak to an Agent for select claims corrections.

Specifically, the enhanced claims correction self-service tool will provide you with additional automated functionality to perform claim corrections for:
- Primary modifiers
- Dates of service
- Ordering/referring physicians
- Diagnosis codes
- Procedure codes
- History corrections
- Quantity Billed
- Item(s) or service(s) at issue

Benefits to You

Once the enhanced IVR claim correction self-service tool is implemented, you will realize the following benefits:
- Perform an unlimited number of claim corrections via the IVR. You will no longer be limited to ten claim corrections per call.
- Experience data entry flexibility through an ability to “voice” or “key” input.
- “Fast track” through prompts for faster service, ultimately creating scenario-based efficiency, after an initial familiarization period.
- Receive real-time systematic verification of your request for consistent handling.
- Receive an immediate response confirming acceptance of the claim corrections request.
- Speak to an Agent for special handling and service of “complex” claim corrections.

How Will It Work?

When calling the IVR for claims corrections, you will need to have the following information available, similar to the information required for the current IVR claim correction process, and the self-service tool will guide you through the rest of the process:
- National Provider Identifier (NPI), Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN)
- Beneficiary’s last name and first initial
- Beneficiary’s Medicare Health Insurance Claim (HIC) number
- Beneficiary’s date of birth
- Your name and 10-digit telephone number (3-digit area code and 7-digit number)
- Date of service
- Internal Control Number (ICN) - can be obtained from your remittance notice or the IVR when receiving a claim status
- Item(s) or service(s) at issue
- Reason for request
- New/revised information

While the enhanced IVR self-service tool will guide you through the entire process, we will also publish a User Guide and navigational tips on our website in the near future to provide you with all the information you need to successfully conduct an unlimited number of claims corrections.

Implementation Timeline

The enhanced IVR claim corrections self-service tool for Medicare Part B claims in Jurisdiction L and Jurisdiction H will be implemented in five phases beginning in June 2016 and continuing through August 2016, which will allow time for you to adjust to the enhanced process. New Mexico’s implementation is slated for August 15, 2016.

Learn More

Want to know more and be prepared for your implementation date? Novitas will be offering “Novitasphere Claim Correction Overview” webinars prior to each implementation date to provide you with the information you need to successfully transition to the IVR claim corrections self-service tool for Medicare Part B claims. Visit our http://www.novitas-solutions.com to register.

Don’t want to wait to conduct an unlimited number of claim corrections? No problem! Please visit http://www.novitas-solutions.com and sign up for Novitasphere. Novitasphere is a secured web-based Internet Portal for the Medicare Fee-for-Service Part B community to utilize as a more proficient interface with Novitas and the Medicare systems. For example, Novitasphere allows customers to connect via the internet directly to Novitas Solutions to obtain beneficiary eligibility, perform claim corrections, check claim status, and submit claims as well as to retrieve and print remittance advices. Additional information about Novitasphere and all of the features it offers is available on our website.
More women’s care specialists. More obstetric care options.

The Women’s Center at Presbyterian offers a full range of obstetric care – from prenatal to postpartum. Our expert teams of board certified physicians, nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives specialize in caring for expecting moms and their babies. For complete obstetric care, we’re here to help.

www.phs.org

The Women’s Center at

Our women’s health specialists provide care close to home throughout Albuquerque, Rio Rancho and Los Lunas.

201 Cedar SE, Ste. 5600, Albuquerque, 87106 (505) 563-6000
3436 Isleta Blvd. SW, Albuquerque, 87105 (505) 462-7777
6100 Pan Am Fwy NE, Ste. 450, Albuquerque, 87109 (505) 823-8787
401 San Mateo Blvd. SE, Albuquerque, 87108 (505) 462-7333
200 Emilio Lopez Rd. NW, Los Lunas, 87031 (505) 866-2700
2400 Unser Blvd. SE, Ste. 28400, Rio Rancho, 87124 (505) 253-3000
Members in the News

Kathleen Blake MD, vice president of performance improvement at the American Medical Association, has been appointed co-chair of the ONC Health IT Policy Committee [www.healthit.gov/facas/health-it-policy-committee]. The Health IT Policy Committee (HITPC) will make recommendations [www.healthit.gov/FACAS/health-it-policy-committee/health-it-policy-committee-recommendations-national-coordinator-health-it] to the National Coordinator for Health IT on a policy framework for the development and adoption of a nationwide health information infrastructure, including standards for the exchange of patient medical information. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provides that the Health IT Policy Committee shall at least make recommendations on the areas in which standards, implementation specifications, and certifications criteria are needed in eight specific areas.

Matthew T. deKay MD was awarded the Community Service Award at the 130th NMMS House of Delegates Annual Meeting. Dr. deKay and his wife Jeanette established the non-profit Four Corners Foundation [http://fourcornersfoundation.org] to fund the building of a safe, welcoming, emergency and transitional facility to address the needs of homeless persons in San Juan County. The foundation opened A P.A.T.H. HOME, a campus that houses up to 72 people, including many children, with twelve apartments for transitional living and an on-going healthcare clinic for residents. The project cost over $4M and the deKays have been the driving force behind the fundraising and completion of the project.

Representative Terry McMillan MD, along with Senator Stuart Ingle, were awarded the 2016 Legislative Achievement Award at the 130th NMMS House of Delegates Annual Meeting for their outstanding work protecting healthcare in New Mexico. Rep. McMillan carried HB-270 to assure access to care for New Mexico citizens needing medical treatment out of state. HB-270 makes it clear that NM public policy favors enforcing contractual agreements and recognizes the validity of TX doctors and hospitals to enter into contractual agreements with their patients from NM and enables NM patients to continue to receive specialized care that may be more accessible in a neighboring state.

Source ...continued from page 9

you’ve verified a supplier, rechecking once a year is sufficient as long as there are no changes in the name, address, and other information from the supplier.

• Keep the “pedigree sheets” that are shipped with the product. Under federal law, they should contain:
  - Proprietary and established name of the drug.
  - Dosage.
  - Container size.
  - Number of containers.
  - Lot or control numbers.
  - Business name and address of all parties to each prior transaction involving the drug, starting with the manufacturer.
  - The date of each prior transaction.

• Keep a log of drugs and medicines ordered, the supplier information, and when the legitimacy of the supplier was checked.

• Be sensitive to any complaints by patients that might indicate there is a problem with the integrity of a product.

The FDA also has extensive information on its website about protecting the U.S. drug supply chain.

Contributed by The Doctors Company. For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety.
Save the Date!

August 13, 2016 - NM Medical Society Offices
Council Meeting

August 19, 2016 - Location TBD
Buprenorphine Training

NMMS will co-sponsor an 8-hour buprenorphine* training this summer so please plan to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! The first 4-hours of the course will be offered as webinars and must be completed before the live-training on August 19th. NMMS is partnering with SAMSHA [Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration], the NM Hispanic Medical Association, Project ECHO, and NM Hospital Association.

Miriam Komaromy MD, incoming President of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and UNM Professor of Medicine will be the instructor on the 19th. Details are being worked out now but we wanted to get this offer on your radar now!

* Buprenorphine is used in medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to help people reduce or quit their use of heroin or other opiates, such as pain relievers like morphine. Unlike methadone treatment, which must be performed in a highly structured clinic, buprenorphine is the first medication to treat opioid dependency that is permitted to be prescribed or dispensed in physician offices, significantly increasing treatment access.

September 8, 2016 - UNM North Campus
UNM Resident & Graduate Placement Job Fair

Reserve a spot for your organization/healthcare business with Amy Clithero Aclithero@salud.unm.edu

This Placement Job Fair is an opportunity for medical residents and health professions students to explore the different health organizations and healthcare facilities that serve the different communities in the state. All students from NM Mexico health professional schools are invited as well as former residents who may be looking to return and physicians seeking new licensure in the state.

September 22, 2016 - NM Medical Society Offices
Past-Presidents Luncheon 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Photo Session of Past-Presidents 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm
NEMPAC Board Meeting 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Seminar - Surviving Litigation 3:30 - 7:00 pm

The Doctors Company invites you to a complimentary workshop that will help you become a strong, active participant in your own defense – now or in the future. Dinner is included. RSVP is required. Info@nmms.org

Links to Book Mark

Opioid & Controlled Substances, NM Department of Health, June 2016
New Mexico Data on Controlled Substance Prescriptions
http://www.nmms.org/public-health

Overdose Prevention and Pain Management - Questions and Answers from MCOs
http://www.nmms.org/public-health

MACRA (Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act)

AMA
Understanding Medicare payment reform (MACRA)

This includes tabs on:
• Checklist for preparing your office
• AMA’s efforts to improve Medicare payment reform implementation
• Understanding the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)
• Understanding the Alternative Payment Models (APMs)

Four steps to prepare your practice for one of the two new Medicare pathways (MIPS or APM) with embedded links to other resources and source documents. http://www.ama-assn.org/sub/advocacy-update/2016-05-12.html#issuesspotlight

CMS
Where can I find more information on the proposed rule?

Fact sheet on the proposed rule

Fact sheet on advancing care information

Welcome New Members!

Chaves
Emilio Araujo Mino MD
Lea
Neil Berry MD    Donald Green MD    Cyril Simon MD
Locum Tenens
Robert Donachie Jr. MD
Santa Fe
John Kah MD
Photos from the NMMS Annual Meeting

Special Thanks to Albert Kwan MD for his photography!

James Martinez MD, NMMS President 2014-2016.

Melissa Finley DVM, PhD teaching about biological threat reduction at the CME event.

Patricia Valdivia DDS and Arnold Valdivia MD (Grants) at the Council dinner.


David Scrase MD, interim Medical Director of NM Human Services Department, discusses Medicaid fees and Hepatitis C at the Second House of Delegates.

Pamela Willis JD, Polly Kamali, Diane Bass, Kamran Kamali MD (Las Cruces) enjoy the Council dinner.

Michael and Louise McDade MD at the Zoo party on May 13th.

Hippo voicing concerns about HIPAA at the Zoo party.

Bill and Dr. Nancy Wright (Las Vegas) with cousin Dr. William Liakos, Jr. (Roswell) and his wife Cymantha at the Council dinner.

Kenneth Mattox MD unveiling the mystery of a celebrity death at the CME event on the 13th.
Support Your Future Doctor!
Sponsor-A-Student 2016 - 2017

The NMMS Public Relations Committee invites you to participate in this very successful program... How? Offer to pay for one or more student memberships to the Medical Society and the AMA at a cost of only $25 per student! Prices have never been lower! We are expecting to cover over 300 medical students at UNM this year so we will need at least that many sponsors... please consider sponsoring two or more students!

Yes! I am interested in sponsoring ________ students at $25 each. Enclosed is my check for $ ______________.

Name ____________________________________________

(Please print your name not name of group)

Address __________________________________________

City ____________________________ State ___________ Zip ___________

Mail to: NMMS, Student Sponsorships
316 Osuna Road NE, Suite 501
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Call: (505) 796-3437
Fax: (505) 828-0336
Email: info@nmms.org

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING UNM MEDICAL STUDENTS!
To: Providers who manage and/or prescribe opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain (CNCP) patients in New Mexico

The University of New Mexico Department of Family and Community Medicine is excited to offer providers the opportunity to receive educational credits on the topic of CNCP through educational workshops and/or in-person one-on-one academic detailing visits. Our team has developed evidence-based (EB) materials which are in line with the “CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain” released March 2016 and are looking for providers who are interested in non-biased information on how to manage CNCP in the state of New Mexico while meeting regulatory requirements.

Our educational opportunities treat CNCP like any other chronic condition, with clinical algorithms and tools providers can use while they manage and treat patients within the clinical setting. The materials can be accessed by providers in two ways:

1. A workshop on treating CNCP and the tools mentioned above, delivered at scheduled regional sessions or by request at smaller sessions delivered directly to primary care clinics that would like to share the information with their providers. This workshop is free to attend and can be offered in a 2 hour or 5 hour workshop to meet the needs of providers and their pain specific educational requirements.

2. One-on-one academic detailing sessions delivering EB information and CNCP tools directly to the provider at their clinic location in a one-hour session, tailored to the provider's needs and interests. The detailing sessions are offered in one hour visits, up to 5 visits, to meet the needs of providers and their pain specific educational requirements.

This educational opportunity is provided at no cost, thanks to a partnership with the New Mexico Department of Health and funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We would like to know which format you would prefer in your area/practice. Please let us know by contacting either: Danelle Callan, MA by phone at 505-272-3448 or email at dcallan@salud.unm.edu or Robert Rhyne, MD by email at rrhyne@salud.unm.edu.
The New Mexico Medical Society has accredited the following organizations/associations to present continuing medical education programs.

- **Christus St. Vincent Medical Center**
  Santa Fe, NM
  Karen Ebler • 505-913-5597

- **Gila Regional Medical Center**
  Silver City, NM
  Kari Lane • 575-538-4075

- **Greater Albuquerque Medical Association**
  Albuquerque, NM
  Teresa Deras • 505-821-4583

- **HealthInsight New Mexico**
  Albuquerque, NM
  Edy Taylor • 505-998-9760

- **LCF Research**
  Albuquerque, NM
  April Salisbury • 505-938-9925

- **Lea Regional Medical Center**
  Hobbs, NM
  Lisa Thompson • 575-492-5639

- **Memorial Medical Center**
  Las Cruces, NM
  Erin Grissman • 575-521-5348

- **Rehoboth McKinley Christian HealthCare Services**
  Gallup, NM
  Niles McCall • 505-863-7333

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**AMA Therapeutic Insights – On-Line CME Courses**

- **Painful Diabetic Neuropathy**

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**Controlled Substance Abuse in New Mexico: Perspectives and Approaches in the Clinic and Community.** The DVD and CD set may be ordered from NMMS at info@nmms.org. Member price of $117 includes tax and shipping. Approved by NM Medical Board to meet 5 hours of pain management education requirements for each licensure cycle and 5.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™; this enduring material is accredited from December 1, 2014 through November 30, 2017.

- **July 28-31, 2016**
  **59th Annual New Mexico Chapter Family Medicine Annual Meeting & Seminar**
  Sagebrush Inn, Taos, NM
  Contact: Sara Bittner at familydoctor@newmexico.com

- **July 31 - August 6, 2016**
  **17th Annual Taos Writing Retreat for Health Professionals**
  Mabel Dodge Luhan House, Taos, NM
  Register: http://som.unm.edu/cme/2016/taos.html

- **August 5-6, 2016**
  **Santa Fe Bone Symposium**
  Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe, NM
  Registration online: www.ofnm.org or call or email: mj@pmplanners.net / 760-807-4974

- **August 13, 2016**
  **Complex Care: Treatment Trends and Improved Outcomes**
  A Symposium for Specialists and Primary Care Physicians
  Hotel Santa Fe, The Hacienda and Spa, Santa Fe, NM
  Register: CMEBaylor.org or cmeregistration@baylorhealth.edu

- **August 27 - 28, 2016**
  **NM Pediatric Society 2016 Fall Wylder Lecture Series**
  Crowne Plaza, Albuquerque, NM
  Register: http://som.unm.edu/cme/

- **October 8, 2016**
  **Inaugural Karl Horn, MD Lectureship Balloon Fiesta Otolaryngology Symposium**
  UNM, Domenici Center for Health Sciences Education, Albuquerque, NM
  Register: http://som.unm.edu/cme/