



Healthcare Network

Volume 6, Issue 6

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PROVIDER EXCELLENCE IN DIABETES CARE- 1st Qtr FY10

Congratulations to the following who have achieved excellence in the care of their diabetic patients:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Allen, David | Mancuso, Martin |
| Al-Turk, Mohammed | Mantler, Edward |
| Andersen, Mark | Mantz, Donald |
| Anderson, Ronald | Marar, Isam |
| Barone, Eugene | McDonald, Kerry |
| Beer, Robert | McMinn, Todd |
| Bowen, J | McStay, LouAnn |
| Brown, Larry | Meier, Craig |
| Carlsson, Lawrence | Monaster, Barclay |
| Cervantes, James | Morgan, Heather |
| Cohen, Enrique | Mullen, Julia |
| Cook, J Paul | Murdock-Langan, Patricia |
| Crew, James | Nasr, Reema |
| Cronican, Patrick | Nohner, Kevin |
| Crowley, Timothy | Oberlies, Mark |
| Cunard, Robert | Ogden, Kathleen |
| Dada, M | Parker, Garret |
| Davidian ,Michael | Pearson, Daniel |
| Dethlefs, Henry | Pigneri, Charles |
| Drincic, Andjela | Pucyk, Dorota |
| Drvol, Jr, Robert | Rabadi-Marar, Diana |
| Dumba, Joseph | Renelt, John |
| Dunning, J | Rios, Elvira |
| Eirinberg, Lewis | Rodriguez-Escobar, Margarita |
| Ferguson, Lorin | Sadr, Farid |
| Fisher, Alan | Schalley, Lisa |
| Foster, Joyce | Schmidt, Jodene |
| Franklin, John | Schwartz, Fredrick |
| Frumkin, Michael | Sharp, David |
| Fulton, Kristen | Shaw, Garret |
| Fulton, Michael | Sheppard, K |
| Gordon, Josette | Simonson, John |
| Gruba, Stephen | Smith, Gary |
| Hatcher, Anthony | Spencer, Julie |
| Head, G | Stacey, Karen |
| Herink, Rebecca | Steier, Nicholas |
| Herman, Andrea | Stephenson, Yvonne |
| Hoef, David | Strohmyer, Jeffrey |
| Hurd, Sarah | Taylor, Alain |
| Inguanzo, Christine | Thomas, Jon |
| Jacobs, Jeffery | Treu, Bodo |
| Joyce, Karen | Vinton, Thomas |
| Keller, David | Walter, Paula |
| Kopp, Bethel | Walts, Michael |
| Lang, Richard | Weckmuller, Carol |
| LaSure, Brock | Wenzl, Joseph |
| Lindly, Cheryl | Weyhrich, Steven |
| Lob, Mary | Whalen, James |
| Lowndes, William | Wilkins, Chauncey |
| Magruder IV, Thomas | Wong, Thomas |
| Malley, Pamela | Woodruff, John |
| | Young, Gail |

CONGRATULATIONS

The Nebraska Medical Association's 2009 Physician of the year is Dr. Henry Dethlefs. Dr. Dethlefs is a family practice doctor at the One World Community Health Centers in Omaha. Congratulations, Dr. Dethlefs!

NEW EMPLOYEE

Please join us in welcoming Angela Bowhay, RN to the UniNet team. Angela is providing disease management services for all patients, but primarily works with our heart failure patients. Angela's healthcare experience includes a strong orthopedic background, as she started her nursing career working on a rehabilitation floor caring for stroke, spinal cord, and brain injury patients. She then worked as a clinical coordinator/house supervisor at Lakeside Hospital and then as a Lead on their medical/surgical, orthopedic floor. Angela has a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and joined UniNet in Provider Relations/Care Management in November. She can be reached at 402-717-7220 or at abowhay@uninet.com.

UNINET EDUCATION REMINDER

Each UniNet provider needs to complete 2 educational programs each year. Providers can check how many programs they have completed to date on the UniNet website. You now login under MEMBERS LOGIN on the left to gain access to the education information.

CODING CORNER

Red Flags Rule Delayed for Fourth time

At the request of congressional lawmakers, the FTC has delayed the enforcement of a federal identity theft prevention rule from November 1, 2009 until June 1, 2010. The AMA continues to reiterate that physicians are not creditors and the red flags rule should not apply.

PECOS

CMS will delay until April 5, 2010 the practice of editing Durable Medical Equipment Supplier claims to insure that the ordering/referring provider is 1) of a specialty that may order or refer durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies (DMEPOS) and 2) that the ordering/referring provider is enrolled in Medicare's Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership

System (PECOS). Claims not meeting the above criteria will be rejected by Medicare.

If one of the above providers became enrolled in Medicare or has updated their Medicare provider enrollment record within the past five (5) years and the NPI is in the Medicare enrollment record, the provider has a PECOS record and nothing additional needs to be done.

However, if the provider enrolled in Medicare more than five years ago and has not updated their Medicare provider enrollment record within the past five years, no PECOS record exists. **A PECOS record will have to be developed in order to prevent the rejection of DME claims.**

CONSULTATION CODES

The definition of the consultation codes has been expanded for 2010 (99241-99245 and 99251-99255). However, CMS will not recognize these codes in 2010 and will require providers to use E/M Codes 99211-99215 and 99201-99205 instead. The local commercial payors have indicated the following:

UnitedHealthCare will follow CMS for the Medicare Advantage products only.

BCBSNE will continue to accept consultation codes 99241-99255 or you may opt to submit E/M codes in lieu of the consultation codes. When BCBSNE is secondary, the code and charge on the secondary claims must match the primary remit.

Midlands Choice-Principal-Principal will continue to accept the AMA CPT codes for consultation as valid codes.

Midlands Choice- Midlands will continue to recognize the consultation codes. They will give 30 days advanced notice if that changes.

ChoiceCare Humana-The consult codes will not be allowed for the Medicare Advantage products only. Commercial products may continue to bill using the consult codes.

Coventry -Coventry Healthcare of Nebraska will be implementing the CMS fee schedule change for consultations for Medicare and Commercial business. Coventry will be putting together a communication piece that will provide the date that they will implement this change.

GENETIC TESTING

In the October 30, 2009 Coventry Health Care of Nebraska Friday Fax, providers were reminded that Genetic Testing **does** require prior Authorization. To obtain a Prior Authorization, call 1800-471-0240 or Fax to 866-769-2399.

Radiology Quality Initiative

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska (BCBSNE) has recently announced a new Radiology Quality Initiative (RQI) for advanced diagnostic imaging services. The program will be administered by American Imaging Management (AIM) and will begin on February 8, 2010 to review services scheduled on or after March 1, 2010.

The initiative involves the preauthorization of CT, CTA, MRI, MRA, Nuclear Cardiology, and PET studies. Imaging studies performed in ER, inpatient hospital, outpatient surgery, or 23 hour observations are excluded from this requirement. Authorization can be obtained by phone or online at www.americanimaging.net/goweb. In addition, the hospital access centers are able to preauthorize these tests for you. BCBSNE will not deny coverage for imaging as part of this program as the goal is to provide education on imaging guidelines and gather data on the appropriateness of tests ordered.

CLINICAL INITIATIVES

Generic Drug Utilization

UniNet has partnered with several health plans to increase the utilization of generic medications. BCBSNE, United HealthCare and Humana have entered into contractual agreements with UniNet to compensate providers for appropriate utilization of generic medications. In the upcoming months UniNet will release "counter detailing" educational programs highlighting drug classes with the biggest potential for cost savings from generic drug prescribing. UniNet continues to work with the Creighton School of Pharmacy to give providers current information on new generic approvals through the Health Matters Newsletter and their web site <http://druginformation.creighton.edu/default.asp>.

Gastroenterology Colonoscopy Quality Project

UniNet gastroenterologists will be repeating their colonoscopy quality project in 2010. The 3-month initiative will begin in January and assess performance on four measures: withdrawal times, polyp detection, cecal intubation and perforations. Results from the project will be collected and shared with the participants.

PHO Staff

Please feel free to contact your PHO staff if you have any questions. The UniNet HOTLINE is 255-0049.

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