



Powered by The Valley Health System and Kindred Hospitals



November 2024

Newsletter

Volume 113

In this Issue:

- Gap Closure Contest
- Nevada Healthcare Forum
- Spotlight on Depression
- Compliance Article
- Practice Meeting Reminder

#VegasStrong

Visit our Website
www.silverstateaco.com

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Gap Closure Contest

We are excited to announce our upcoming Gap Closure Contest, designed to recognize and reward practices that close gaps in CMS required quality metrics. Throughout the year, your Quality Coordinators are hard at work reviewing patient medical records to ensure documentation is accurately being noted. During monthly meetings, they provide a Gap in Care Report that can be utilized to identify patients that may be missing key elements. As we are nearing the end of the year, we would like to provide our participating practices with a final opportunity to not only close open gaps but improve your overall quality score.

This contest will run from November 1st to November 22nd, offering practices the chance to win up to \$21,000.

Contest Categories

Practices can compete in the following categories:

- Breast Cancer Screening
- Colorectal Cancer Screening
- Tobacco Screening and Cessation
- Diabetes A1c Poor Control
- Fall Risk Screening
- Controlling High Blood Pressure
- Depression Screening and Follow-Up

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



How to Participate

Identifying Gaps: Focus on closing the gaps within the specified categories during the contest period utilizing the provided Gap in Care Report that will be sent by your Quality Coordinator via encrypted email on November 1st.

Record Your Progress: Document the number of gaps closed within the Gap in Care Report provided.

Submit: All entries must be submitted in an Excel spreadsheet format by November 22nd. The spreadsheet should clearly outline the gaps your practice was able to close.

Prizes

- \$1,500 will be awarded to the practice that closes the highest number of gaps in each category
- \$1,500 will be awarded to the practice that closes the highest percentage of gaps in each category

This is a fantastic opportunity for practices to not only enhance patient care but also to gain recognition and financial rewards for their efforts in improving health outcomes. We encourage all practices to engage fully in this contest. Let's work together to make a significant impact!

For any questions or additional information, please reach out to your designated Quality Coordinator.

Best of luck to all participants! We cannot wait to see the incredible work you will achieve during this contest.

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



Silver State ACO
Accountable Care Organization

2024 GAP CLOSURE CONTEST

November 1st - November 22nd

WIN UP TO \$21,000

We are handing out prizes for each of the following **SEVEN** categories...

- Breast Cancer Screening
- Colorectal Cancer Screening
- Tobacco Screening and Cessation
- Diabetes A1c Poor Control
- Fall Screening
- Controlling Hypertension
- Depression Screening & Follow-Up Plan

\$1,500 for the practice that completes the most per category **AND**
\$1,500 for the practice that completes the highest percentage
of attributed patients per category!

Your practice can win in one category or all seven!!!

Rules:

- Quality Coordinators will provide a Gap in Care Report that includes eligible patients
- Must submit your complete list to your Quality Coordinator no later than November 22nd
- Supporting documentation must be scanned in the chart no later than November 22nd
- All submissions must be documented in an excel spreadsheet
- Any gap closures qualify, including IllumiCare closures

Nevada Healthcare Forum

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

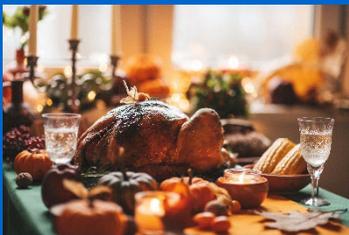
Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



On October 17, 2024, the Nevada Healthcare Forum was at the Westgate, where over 200 healthcare leaders came to learn about the healthcare trends happening in Nevada.



Pictured above the State of Healthcare: Industry Leaders' Perspectives from left to right: Colonel Eric Phillips, Dr. Amish Purohit, Jay Devoy, & Dr. Upinder Singh. Pictured below the Health System Panel from left to Right: Brian Kleven, Karla Perez, Crane Powerantz, Jeff Murawsky, & Linn Billingsley.



Pictured above Colonel Eric Phillips, Dr. Amish Purohit, & Dr. Upinder Singh.

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

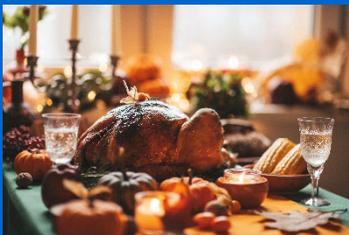
Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



Pictured above Brian Kleven, Karla Perez, Crane Powerantz, Linn Billingsley, & Jeff Murawsky.

Pictured below from left to right: Patrick D. Kelly, Senator Robin L Titus, MD, Senator Fabian Donate, and Amish Purohit, MD.



Spotlight Depression Screening and Follow-up Plan

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

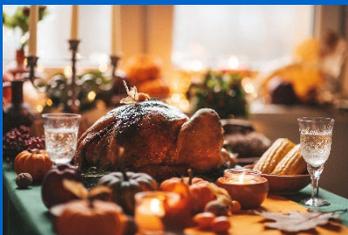
Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



Depression is a very common and serious mental health disorder that according to the World Health Organization (WHO) affects approximately 280 million people worldwide. Those affected experience depression in diverse ways: disturbed sleep, changes in appetite, feelings of sadness and angry outbursts just to name a few. This disorder can lead to additional

problems in all aspects of someone's life including home life, interpersonal relationships, and professional settings. Due to the increased awareness of this disorder, it is essential to understand this disease, how it impacts patients and the importance of screenings and follow-up care.

While women are more likely to experience depression than men, depression can happen to anyone. In 2021, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIHM) estimated that 21.0 million, or 8.3% of adults (18 and older) in the United States experienced at least one major depressive episode. Of those diagnosed, only 61.0% received treatment. Barriers such as the stigma surrounding mental disorders, lack of mental health support and low screening rates contribute to patients not receiving adequate treatment.

As noted above, depression presents itself differently in each person, but symptoms often include:

- Persistent sadness or low mood
- Loss of interest in activities once enjoyed
- Changes in appetite or weight
- Sleep disturbances
- Fatigue or loss of energy
- Difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Thoughts of death or suicide

Depending on the number of symptoms a patient is experiencing, a depressive episode can be categorized as mild, moderate, moderately severe, or severe.

Treating depression is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Psychological treatments, medications, or the combination of the two are often

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



recommended. The World Health Organization (WHO) also suggests “self-care” in conjunction with psychological and pharmaceutical treatments as a way to manage symptoms of depression. This includes but is not limited to:

- Motivate the patient to participate in activities they used to enjoy
- Promote staying connected with friends and family
- Reinforce exercising regularly
- Discuss having the patient stick to regular eating and sleeping habits
- Encourage avoiding or cutting down on alcohol and/or illicit drugs

Understanding that depression is a significant public health issue that requires timely screenings and effective follow-up care, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requires the ACO to report on the measure, Depression Screening and Follow-Up Plan.

For this measure, CMS requires patients 12 years and older to be screened for depression at least once per year using an age-appropriate standardized screening tool. This screening can occur on the date of the encounter or up to 14 days prior. If the screening is positive for depression, a follow-up plan is required to be documented on the date of the positive screening or up to two days after.

The results of the depression screening must be reviewed and verified by the clinician in the medical record. This includes an interpretation of whether the patient presents with depression or not and is required for all screenings, including those with scores of zero.

In order to meet all aspects of this measure, documentation in the medical record must include the following components:

- Name of the age-appropriate standardized depression screening tool
- Interpretation
- If positive, a follow-plan

If the determination is made that the patient is positive for depression, documentation in the medical record of a recommended follow-up

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

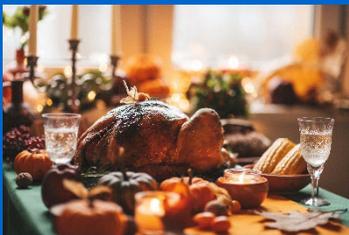
Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



plan is required. A positive depression follow-up plan must include one or more of the following:

- Referral to a practitioner for additional evaluation and assessment (psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or mental health counselor)
- Pharmacological interventions
- Other interventions or follow-up for diagnosis or treatment of depression



As a reminder, this measure is reported to CMS by the ACO in two different ways:

1. CMS Web Interface Measures – These are manually audited by your Quality Coordinators and pertain to you ACO attributed Medicare Fee-For-Service patients only.
2. Medicare Clinical Quality Measures (Medicare CQM) – These are electronic based measures that are populated and pulled directly from your Electronic Health Record.

While the specifications remain the same for both methods, each EMR has their own way of documenting in a designated field in order to meet the intent of the Medicare CQM. We recommend practices reach out to their EMR Company Liaison for a complete understanding on what workflows need to be implemented.

Please reach out to your Quality Coordinator if you have any questions or need any assistance understanding the depression screening quality measure.

If you are experiencing symptoms of depression or know someone who is, please seek help. Resources like the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) are available 24/7.

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

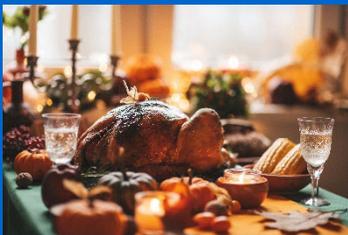
Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.



**NEW RANSOMWARE EMAILS –
“SLOPPY” But Very Effective...**

As we approach the holiday season, we tend to be rushed and, perhaps, a bit less attentive to details. Being even a “little bit” sloppy – or not taking the time to consider implications of mistakes we might make – can be devastating.



There is a new strain of fake ransomware being reported by cyber experts. A malicious email infects a user’s computer and encrypts the data. The victim is asked to pay ransom for the data to be unencrypted; However, these “bad guys” demanding ransom are sloppy (or lazy, or both), there is no key for unencrypting the data. The data was actually deleted. Now you, or your practice, have neither the data nor the money paid to get it back. Think of the implications of that. And, think of how you might feel if your data – at work or at home – was permanently deleted!

There’s no one perfect way to avoid falling prey to phishing campaigns. But the best way to evade problems is to be diligent at inspecting emails before responding to them or clicking any attachments. Always look at the extensions (.com, .net, and so forth). If anything – even just a number that is included (.com2, .D) seems unusual, do NOT open the email. Contact your IT team immediately! In all things security related, the rule should always be “Better Safe Than Sorry.”

Have you read this carefully? If so, to be entered to win a prize at the November practice meeting, you may respond to the newsletter email with “Happy Thanksgiving” in the subject line.

Practice Meeting – LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR

The last Practice Meetings for 2024 will be held on November 6th in Southern Nevada and November 7th in Northern Nevada, respectively. Please be sure to attend. The meetings are a great opportunity to learn how to improve scores, meet CMS requirements, and become acquainted with other Participants. We can all learn from one another. See more details below.

SOUTHERN NEVADA

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

All Southern Nevada Practice meetings will be held at Summerlin Hospital and begin at 11:30 am. Lunch is served.

NORTHERN NEVADA

Thursday, November 7, 2024

Northern Nevada Practice Meetings will be held at Northern Nevada Sparks Medical Building, Suite 201. Meet & Greet begins at 5 pm; Meeting begins at 5:30.

SILVER STATE ACO Compliance Line

702-751-0834

Available for secure reporting of any suspected compliance issues, without fear of retribution.



To cancel receiving the monthly Silver State ACO Newsletter please respond with "Unsubscribe" in the subject box.

NOTE:

Next Practice Meeting:
Southern Nevada
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024

Northern Nevada:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024

Visit our website
www.silverstateaco.com
Newsletters, who we are,
who our members are,
preferred providers,
hospitalists, board of
directors, management,
results.

Contact Us:
(702) 800-7084
(775) 391-6484
Compliance Line:
(702) 751-0834

SilverStateACO@
SilverStateACO.com

Alyssa, Amanda, Angela,
Dineen, Jacquie, Jessica S.,
Jessica W., Larry, Martha,
Rena, Rhonda, Richelle,
Sarah, Savannah, and Sonia.

