Newsletter



September 2019 Volume 51

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<u>Upcoming Practice</u> <u>Meetings</u>:

Southern Nevada: Wednesday, Sept. 11th at Desert Springs Hospital

Northern Nevada: Thursday, Sept. 12th at NNMC Sparks Medical Building

Visit our Website

www.silverstateaco.com

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

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CMS Announced MIPS Scores for 2018-But What Does it Mean?



In last month's newsletter, we reported that Silver State ACO had scored 100 out of 100 for performance year 2018. But what does that mean? How does that translate into \$\$\$ for your practice? To clarify – the score determines

your MIPS payment. After adjusting for all their requirements, CMS has announced that the maximum positive adjustment for 2018 performance is 1.68%. In other words, all practices who were Participants in Silver State ACO for performance year 2018 will receive an additional 1.68% added *to every payment* they receive from CMS during calendar year 2020. Silver State ACO is proud of our perfect score and thrilled to be able to notify our practices that they will receive the maximum benefit possible for MIPS.

Closing Gaps in Care

SSACO Quality Coordinators visit practices throughout the year, helping identify opportunities to engage patients while also improving reporting protocols. Each month, the practice's quality coordinator delivers a "Gaps in Care" report, based on criteria developed and required by CMS. As we



approach year-end, we'd like to remind all practices to focus on these reports. Quality scores are an essential component of CMS's calculation to determine if an ACO has earned Shared Savings and, if so, how much. Once the performance year ends on December 31, 2019, no further changes can be made; "gaps" can no longer be closed.

In addition, data acquired when closing gaps could contribute to better care by, for example, avoiding an exacerbation or critical event.

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Please work with your quality coordinator to determine how best to approach closing these gaps. The sooner, the better.

What are "Attributed" Patients? Who Decides?

For the most part, CMS decides. Simply, CMS looks at each Medicare Fee for Service patient to determine which provider has had the "plurality" of visits with the patient in the past 12 months. If the provider's practice is a Participant in Silver State ACO, the patient is then "attributed" to Silver State ACO.

The most straightforward and effective way to increase your attributed patients is by performing Annual Wellness Visits, Transitional Care Management visits, and Chronic Care Management which also help with both quality and the bottom line for your practice.

Keeping PECOS Up to Date

In order to do business with CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), all practices must enroll in PECOS (The Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System). Please keep in mind that PECOS *must* be kept up to date. This is important to your practice (so you can continue to be paid for services rendered to Medicare patients), as well as to Silver State ACO, which is also under the guidance of CMS.

Please remember to update PECOS within 30 days of a reportable event, including changes in practice location, ownership, general supervision, banking arrangements and final adverse actions. Updates should not take long but are vital to your continued relationship with CMS. In addition, regardless of whether changes have been made, PECOS must be revalidated every five years.

CMS recently revised its Medicare Learning Network booklet that sets forth many of the rules for maintaining PECOS. Access it here: https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Internet-Based-PECOS-FAQs-Fact-Sheet-ICN909015.pdf. Perhaps most importantly, it shows you how to access your PECOS enrollment in order to review it for accuracy. The booklet also includes links and resources where additional information can be found.

Practice Meetings Schedule:



Please be sure to join us and your fellow Silver State ACO
Participant practice managers, providers and staff at our quarterly practice meetings.
Great opportunity to learn, meet others... and win prizes!

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SOUTHERN NEVADA

Desert Springs Hospital - Wednesday, September 11th

Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

(This is your final opportunity to send us an email with "I found the hint" in the subject line, in order to be entered into the raffle for an additional gift.)

Summerlin Hospital - Tuesday, November 12, 2019 Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Desert Springs Hospital – Wednesday, January 29, 2020 Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Summerlin Hospital – Wednesday, May 6, 2020 Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Desert Springs Hospital – Wednesday, September 2, 2020 Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Summerlin Hospital – Wednesday, November 4, 2020 Two sessions: 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

NORTHERN NEVADA

All Northern Nevada practice meetings will take place at the NNMC Sparks MOB at 5 p.m.

> Thursday, September 12, 2019 Thursday, November 21, 2019 Thursday, January 30, 2020 Thursday, May 7, 2020 Thursday, September 3, 2020 Thursday, November 5, 2020

We hope to see you at the meetings.



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