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Newsletters, who we are, who our members are, preferred providers, hospitalists, board of directors, management, results

Contact Us:

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(775) 391-6484

Compliance Line:

(702) 751-0834

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Alexandra, Ashley, Carissa, Estela, Jackie, Jamie, Jessica G., Jessica S., Larry, Rena, Rhonda, Sara, Sharon, Tommy

CONTEST!

Since last year's contest was such a success, we decided to have it again!

WIN UP TO \$5,000

That's right! We are handing out \$1,000 for not one... not two... but **FIVE** different categories!!

Depression Screenings
Fall Risk Assessments
Diabetic Eye Exams
Colorectal Cancer Screenings
Breast Cancer Screenings

The participating practice that completes the most from now until October 31st, 2018 will win!

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

Rules:

- Only ACO attributed patients may qualify
- Must get your completed list to your Quality Coordinator no later than Friday November 2nd
- Assessments must be scanned in the chart no later than October 31st, 2018
- All submissions must be submitted in an Excel spreadsheet
- Colorectal and Breast Cancer Screening reports must be scanned into the chart in order to qualify. Non-Performance patients do count... so call and get those reports scanned in ☺

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Quality Coordinator. Good luck!!

NOTE CHANGE IN DATE:

Last 2018 Practice Meeting:

Wednesday,
NOVEMBER 7, 2018
– Summerlin Hospital –
7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

- Meet other participants and SSACO staff
- Learn and Win Prizes

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“There is a time in the last few days of summer when the ripeness of autumn fills the air” –
Rudolfo Anaya

SUCCESS! THREE YEARS IN A ROW!

This check is from Silver State ACO, dated November 1, 2018, for the year 2017. It is payable to Silver State ACO Physicians for \$2,700,856.00. The check is part of the Medicare Shared Savings Program and is signed by Lawrence M. Preston.

This check is from Silver State ACO, dated November 1, 2017, for the year 2016. It is payable to Silver State ACO Physicians for \$2,579,264.00. The check is part of the Medicare Shared Savings Program and is signed by Lawrence M. Preston.

This check is from Silver State ACO, dated November 1, 2016, for the year 2015. It is payable to Silver State ACO Physicians for \$976,302.00. The check is part of the Medicare Shared Savings Program and is signed by Lawrence M. Preston.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released results for the 2017 performance year for the Medicare Shared Savings Program.

We are immensely proud and pleased that for the third year in a row Silver State ACO has earned shared savings!

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This is a spectacular achievement which very few ACOs nationwide have attained. Fewer than 10% of ACOs have done this since inception of the Medicare Shared Savings Program, and we are the only ACO in the State of Nevada to have accomplished this.

Over the course of the three years – 2015, 2016 and 2017 - Silver State ACO saved CMS (and taxpayers) nearly **\$36,000,000**.

Silver State ACO participants made significant improvements in quality of care, as evidenced by the outstanding overall quality score of 90.24%, while achieving cost savings. Silver State ACO has proven that delivering excellent care, while reducing costs, is possible!

Achieving shared savings is a result of hard work and cooperation between the Participant Providers, Preferred Providers and Silver State ACO. We'd like to thank our providers and their staff for helping us achieve this.

2019 Recruitment – Time is Running Out...

2018 has also been a great year for Silver State ACO's growth. We are now comprised of 50 groups with over 400 PCPs. We have 42,000 attributed Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries for whom we are responsible. This shows tremendous growth from the 15,000 patients in 2015, to 19,700 in 2016 and 25,000 in 2017. Our 42,000 patients in 2018 reflects a 68% increase over the previous year.

Do you know of any high quality practices that would benefit from participation in SSACO? Please let us know. We'll take it from there, send someone to the practice to explain the ACO, its benefits, etc. The deadline for joining is September 26, 2018 so please think about this and let us know ASAP.

Last Practice Meeting of 2018 – November 7th at Summerlin Hospital

SSACO Practice meetings are always informative and fun! In the past, the Board of Directors of SSACO has chosen to show its appreciation for attendance in a very tangible way. Perhaps they will again, but *“you've got to be in it to win it”*. (See below, for more on this phrase).

Come join us, meet SSACO staff, learn something new about quality measures, time line for quality reporting, plans for 2019. Reply to this email with *“Wow. SSACO wins three years in a row”* and be entered to win a prize.

Direct from CMS –

Best Practices for Protecting Beneficiary-Level Data

CMS takes protecting data for Medicare beneficiaries seriously and has policies in place to safeguard data. By implementing the best practices, some

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of which are listed below, ACOs help CMS in its effort to protect beneficiaries’ personally identifiable information (PII), protected health information (PHI), and other sensitive data via email. Certainly, this is true for the individual practices, as well.

1. Avoid sharing PII, PHI, or sensitive data by email. If you must email it, encrypt the file and share the password with the recipient by phone or fax it directly to the recipient.
2. Do not email passwords.
3. Do not click to open a link or attachment until you have talked to the sender or you are expecting the attachment.
4. Do not share the password to encrypted files.
5. Do not send work information to or from a personal email account.

If you believe Medicare beneficiary (or provider) data has been compromised, report the incident to the CMS IT Service Desk at 1-800-562-1963 or via email at CMS_IT_SERVICE_DESK@cms.hhs.gov.

New Compliance Phone Number-

Please note that the SSACO compliance line - available for staff or beneficiaries to share issues or concerns without fear of retribution – has been changed. Please note the new number and be sure to post it in your office (e.g. in the break room so that all employees have access to it).

New SSACO Compliance Line: 702-751-0834

From the National Institute on Aging

High blood pressure is very common in older people and a major health problem. If left untreated, it can lead to stroke, heart disease, eye problems, kidney failure and more.

Make sure you know the [facts about high blood pressure](#) and its treatment:

- High blood pressure may not make you feel sick, but it is serious. See a doctor to treat it.
- You can lower your blood pressure by changing your day-to-day habits and by taking medicine, if needed.
- If you take high blood pressure medicine, making some lifestyle changes may help lower the dose you need.
- If you take blood pressure medicine and your blood pressure goes down, it means medicine and lifestyle changes are working. If another

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doctor asks if you have high blood pressure, the answer is, "Yes, but it is being treated."

- Tell your doctor about all the drugs you take. Don't forget to mention over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and dietary supplements. They may affect your blood pressure. They also can change how well your blood pressure medicine works.
- Blood pressure pills should be taken at the same time each day. For example, take your medicine in the morning with breakfast or in the evening after brushing your teeth. If you miss a dose, do not double the dose the next day.
- Get up slowly from a seated or lying position and stand for a bit before walking. This lets your blood pressure adjust before walking to prevent dizziness, fainting, or a fall.

Learn more about [high blood pressure and older adults](#).

Quote of the Month: “You’ve got to be in it to win it”

There is no definitive source for the phrase and the two most often stated origins differ dramatically from one another.

One group of sources credits football or rugby. After making a touchdown, a team is faced with the choice of kicking for 1 extra point or running the ball for 2 extra points. In a close game, with the teams one point apart, the team would have to opt to run the ball for the win. If they kick and get only 1 extra point, the game would only be tied (in other words, they weren't “in it” so they couldn't win it).

The other group of sources credit the 1966 – 1981 television show, Hollywood Squares which required a contestant use the phrase “For the Win” in order to do just that.

What we know is that the practices who were “in” Silver State ACO have certainly won. In 2015. In 2016. In 2017. Help us to win again in 2018!!



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