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Ashley, Estela, Iran,
Jessica, Larry, Rena,
Rhonda, Sara, Tommy

WE DID IT AGAIN!



On October 16th, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the 2016 performance year results for the Medicare Shared Savings Program. We are enormously proud and pleased to announce that for the second year in a row Silver State ACO achieved shared savings.

The amount of savings earned by SSACO is dependent on us both saving CMS money, as well as on improving (and reporting!) quality of care. Over the course of the two years SSACO saved CMS over \$21,300,000. Our outstanding overall quality score of 88.57% helped increase the amount of earned savings to \$6,600,000 for 2016.

The check, above, represents the amount of that savings which will be returned to our 2016 participating practices. From this amount, the physicians have graciously and generously agreed to set aside funds for IT support and additional education. Investing in education will also help improve the possibility of future savings. Congratulations to our 2016 participants!

Do you know your ACO? Can you identify your Clinical Specialist?

The Silver State ACO team is here to help. Clinical specialists visit practices at least monthly to share information they have gathered from practice records, identify gaps in care and make recommendations for improving quality scores and patient care. Can you identify your clinical specialist on the next page?

Silver State ACO Staff Celebrates Halloween!



From left: Victoria, Estela (clinical specialist), Jessica (clinical specialist supervisor), Ashley (aka "Cousin IT" – clinical specialist), Rhonda (COO), Iran (aka "Lurch" – Executive Assistant), Larry (CEO), Bruce (Vice Chairman of the Board), Rena (Director of Operations)

Hold the Date:

First 2018 Office Staff Meetings

**Wednesday,
January 31st, 2018 –
Summerlin Hospital –
7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.**

- Meet other participants and SSACO staff
- Learn about the benefits you already have as a Participant in SSACO
- Hear about New Participants, Goals and Benefits in 2018
- WIN PRIZES

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Additional Details from CMS on Advancing Care Information Reporting for Eligible Clinicians

Please remember that Advancing Care Information ("ACI", previously known as Meaningful Use) affects your payment rate by CMS and is double weighted for quality measures scoring for the ACO which, in turns, affects how much the ACO will receive from CMS should we earn savings. For 2017, CMS will allow for reporting a partial year so please do the attestation as soon as you can. As per CMS regulations, the ACO cannot file ACI on your behalf.

Directly from CMS:

Each ACO participant Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) in a Shared Savings Program ACO, regardless of track, is responsible for submitting data on the Advancing Care Information (ACI) category if the TIN would meet the requirements for submitting ACI under the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). ACI data can be reported by ACO participant TINs through the QPP Portal via attestation, Qualified Clinical Data Registry (QCDR), Qualified Registry, and Electronic Health Record (EHR).

Track 1 ACO participant TINs and their ACO providers and suppliers will be assessed under the MIPS using the Alternative Payment Model (APM) Scoring Standard. The ACI category, specifically, will be assessed by aggregating and weighting TIN reported data to get a single ACO score that will apply to all eligible clinicians the QPP has identified as part of the ACO at three performance year snapshot dates.

In addition, the ACI reported data is also used in the Shared Savings Program to calculate performance on the ACO EHR quality measure. TINs need to report ACI so the data can be used to assess ACO performance on the

double weighted EHR quality measure (ACO 11).

Here are some key points to keep in mind for ACI reporting:

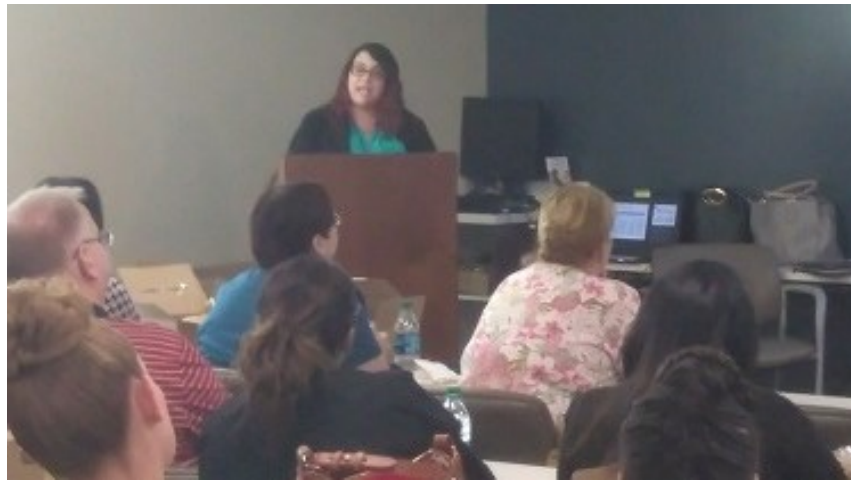
- ACI data submission will begin January 2, 2018 via the QPP Portal.
- ACOs report at the participant TIN level, not at the ACO level.
- ACO participant TINs can aggregate their data by adding together the numerators and denominators from certified electronic health record technology (CEHRT) for each National Provider Identifier (NPI) and rolling them up to one report at the TIN level.

MIPS eligible clinicians and ACO participant TINs must meet the following requirements to earn a score for the ACI performance category:

- * Submit a yes for each of three health information exchange and prevention of information blocking attestation statements;
- * Fulfill, at a minimum, the base score measures.

Once the QPP goes live, there will be a new sign-in button in the upper right corner of the QPP Portal. After you sign-in, the QPP will give you options to submit your ACI data.

Office Staff Meeting



Jessica Shepard, Clinical Specialist Supervisor, addressing the October 25th Office Staff meeting at Spring Valley Hospital

On Wednesday, October 25th, SSACO held office staff meetings. Rhonda Hamilton, COO, summarized what to expect in January when SSACO clinical specialists begin collecting data and reporting GPRO on behalf of the practices. Jessica Shepard, Clinical Specialist Supervisor, explained Advancing Care Information and its' significance to Quality Reporting scores which affect both CMS payments to the practice, as well as the success of Silver State ACO. Deadline to file is March 31, 2018. Attendees were also reminded that although the year is quickly drawing to a close, there is still time to make improvements and close care gaps. Every little change helps! Closing care gaps prior to the end of the year is critical for quality measures scoring as well as for patient care.

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Tommy Ahsan, SSACO Data Analyst, with Yvonne Logan (DCOM), winner of the fruit and nut collection



Then the fun part! Congratulations to our drawing winners (Starbucks and Fandango gift cards, treat baskets) Vickie Anderson (Clifford Molin, M.D.) , Yvonne Logan (Diagnostic Centers of Medicine), Val Maldonado (Forte Family Practice), Adiba Nauray (Red Rock Medical), Carina Santiago (Heart Center of Nevada), Joanne Villanueva (Nevada Heart and Vascular) and Avi Zamani (Kindred). If you'd like to be entered to win, simply reply to this email with the words "SSACO won in 2016. I want to win, too" in the subject line.

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Jessica Shepard, SSACO Clinical Specialist Supervisor, presenting Fandango gift card and popcorn gift basket to Adiba Nauray (Red Rock Medical)

Rena Kantor, SSACO Director of Operations, presenting Starbucks gift card to Avi Zamani (Kindred)



\$3,000 Up for Grabs – How can you get your share?

As added incentive to have practices close care gaps, SSACO will pay \$1,000 in each of three categories: Diabetic Eye Exam, Depression Screening and Fall Risk Assessment. Whichever participating practice completes the greatest number of diabetic eye exams, depressions screenings or fall risk assessments between now and December 31st will win. A group may win for one, two or all three of the measures.

(Here's the fine print – Although we want good care for all patients, only SSACO attributed patients count toward winning. All paperwork must be scanned into the chart no later than Dec. 31st. Submit your list, as an Excel spreadsheet, to your clinical specialist by January 5, 2018.)

HCC Scoring Info Now on the SSACO Website

Last month Carolynne Parker, CEO of Acute Practice Solutions LLC, did training sessions for our participants, covering HCC documentation, coding and scoring. Some practices missed the opportunity to attend. Others were very appreciative and asked for access to a video and the handouts so that other team members could learn, as well.

We're pleased to advise you that both a video and the handouts are now available on the SSACO website. www.SilverStateACO.com. Click on the EDUCATION tab in the right margin of the landing page and then on the tab labeled "HCC Coding".

COMPLIANCE REMINDER

Protect PHI. We can't say it enough. Be sure to log out of or lock computer screens whenever walking away – even momentarily. Do not discuss patient information in earshot of others, including those in your practice who do not need access to the information. Double check patient ID when they are checking in – to avoid duplication of patient records.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. Oprah Winfrey

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We are proud and grateful to be a part of this great city and great nation. Our thanks to the first responders and to all who volunteered – their time, expertise and money – in the days following the tragic events of October 1st. We continue to pray for the victims and their families. We hope that peace and tranquility will be restored to their lives soon.

Thought for the Day:

“Whenever an individual or a business decides that success has been attained, progress stops” – Thomas J. Watson, an American businessman and forward-thinker who helped bring business machines into the computer age. He was with IBM from 1914 to 1956, serving as IBM chairman for the last seven years. IBM’s Watson, the computer system capable of answering questions posed in natural language, is named for him.



Joanne Villanueva
(NV Heart & Vascular)

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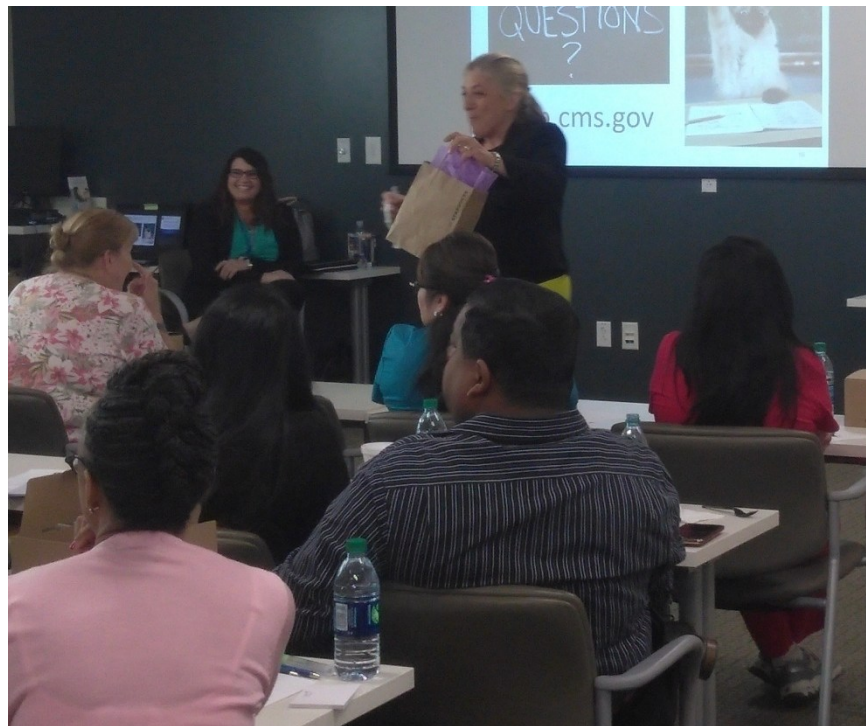
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Carina Santiago (Heart Center of NV) and Estela Holloway (SSACO Clinical Specialist)



Rena Kantor, SSACO Director of Operations, handing out prizes!

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