

In This Issue

- June 19th Office Staff Meeting
- New Medicare Cards
- Notifications
- Preferred Provider Network – Ophthalmology
- An Update from the Institute on Aging

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(702) 608-0417
(775) 241-3613

SilverStateACO@SilverStateACO.com

Iran, Jessica, Kaitlin, Kathy, Larry, Rena, Rhonda, Sara, Tommy

Great turnout at Office Staff Meeting; Winners Announced

On Monday, June 19th representatives of Silver State ACO Participant Practices, along with representatives of our Preferred Providers, attended the Office Staff meeting at Summerlin Hospital. Many thanks to Summerlin Hospital – a member of the Valley Health System, SSACO preferred provider for inpatient services – for their hospitality and a wonderful lunch. Attendees learned about Health Insight’s program to create immunization “clinics” at practice locations. In addition, details of providing – and billing for – post acute Transitional Care Management visits were reviewed.



Akilah Andrade, Joanna Villanueva, Monique Vickery of Nevada Heart and Vascular. Monique’s smile is biggest because she was a winner and took home a \$25 Starbucks card.

Winners announced in the April newsletter picked up their \$25 Starbucks cards. There were two additional drawings – one from those who replied to the May or June newsletter, and one from names of all attendees. It was a hot day, but two people left with the makings for some excellent iced coffee!

Congratulations to the winners of the beautiful gift baskets:

Petra Salyer (Nevada Cardiology) and
Tayler Devito (Caremore Medical Group)

Be sure to join us at the next meeting on Wednesday, October 25th at Spring Valley Hospital.

Hold the Dates:

2017 Office Staff Meetings

October 25, 2017 –
Spring Valley Hospital –
7:30 a.m. and/or at 11:30
a.m.

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CMS Announces New Medicare Cards

New Medicare Cards Offer Greater Protection to More Than 57.7 Million Americans - New cards will no longer contain Social Security numbers in order to combat fraud.

CMS is readying a fraud prevention initiative that removes Social Security numbers from Medicare cards to help combat identity theft and safeguard taxpayer dollars. The new cards will use a unique, randomly-assigned number called a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) to replace the Social Security number based Health Insurance Claim Number currently used on the Medicare card. CMS will begin mailing new cards in April 2018 and will meet the congressional deadline for replacing all Medicare cards by April 2019.

On May 30, CMS kicked-off a multi-faceted outreach campaign to help providers get ready for the new MBI. “We’re taking this step to protect our seniors from fraudulent use of Social Security numbers which can lead to identity theft and illegal use of Medicare benefits,” said CMS Administrator Seema Verma. “We want to be sure that Medicare beneficiaries and healthcare providers know about these changes well in advance and have the information they need to make a seamless transition.”

Providers and beneficiaries will both be able to use secure look up tools that will support quick access to MBIs when they need them. There will also be a 21-month transition period where providers will be able to use either the MBI or the HICN further easing the transition.

CMS is committed to a successful transition to the MBI for people with Medicare and for the health care provider community. CMS has a website dedicated to the Social Security Removal Initiative (SSNRI) where providers can find the latest information and sign-up for newsletters. CMS is also planning regular calls as a way to share updates and answer provider questions before and after new cards are mailed beginning in April 2018. For additional information: Ctrl and Click to follow hyperlink: [Social Security Removal Initiative](#)

Notifications

The Valley Health System is our partner and the SSACO Preferred Provider for inpatient services. A representative from VHS will be stopping by our Participant offices to deliver the signs, shown at left, that indicate our relationship. The sign has inserts with a map of all VHS hospitals in the Las Vegas Valley. Please accept the sign and be sure to display it in a noticeable spot so that your patients understand that VHS is a partner in the SSACO network of care. Thank you.



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CMS requires that all ACO Participants have a Notification posted in their office, letting patients know that the practice is part of an ACO. CMS provides specific language for this notification. When a practice first joined SSACO they received a framed notification for each of their locations. Please call the SSACO office if you need an additional or new notice for your practice.



Preferred Provider Network- Ophthalmology

Please note that there are two ophthalmology groups who are Preferred Providers for Silver State ACO beneficiaries. Although we highlighted Nevada Eye Care in our May newsletter, Abrams Eye Institute continues to be a Preferred Provider for SSACO. They are a highly regarded group whose physicians align with SSACO’s objectives of delivering great care while reducing duplications and increasing efficiency in an effort to reduce overall costs to CMS. Their services include LASIK surgery, cataract replacement, and treatment of all common eye disorders. Abrams Eye Institute is at the forefront of new technology that improves care and treatment of the eyes.

Attached to this newsletter is the most recent version of Silver State ACO’s Preferred Provider Network listing. (Note the date in the bottom left hand corner – June 2017. Previous versions do not include the full current list). Please utilize this list whenever referring SSACO beneficiaries.

An update for your patients from the Institute on Aging

Please feel free to share the below item with your patients. Informed patients help you to help them, thereby getting better results.



Healthy communication with your doctor can sometimes require [talking about sensitive subjects](#). Even if you feel embarrassed or uncomfortable talking with your doctor about something, chances are your doctor has heard similar things before. Get information about talking to your doctor about topics like:

- Alcohol
- Falling and fear of falling
- Grief, mourning, and depression
- HIV/AIDS
- Incontinence
- Memory problems
- Sexuality
- Family problems

Share this information on social media:

Twitter: Do you have concerns about topics like memory loss, incontinence, or sexual function? Don’t be shy! Talk to your doc: <http://bit.ly/2rniuvU>

Facebook: Are you worried that talking to your doctor about topics like memory loss, incontinence, or sexual function might make you blush? Don’t let that stop you! Your doctor should listen to your concerns and take them seriously. Get information about how to talk to your doctor about sensitive subjects: <http://bit.ly/2rikNp9>



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Thought for the Day:

Enjoy your company and summer visits

*“Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.”
George Burns, American comedian, actor and writer. His career spanned vaudeville, radio, film
and television. He worked until just weeks before his death at the age of 100.*

June 19, 2017 Office Staff Meeting



Linda Griskell and Aaron Hubbard, HealthInsight



Larry Preston, SSACO and Patricia Webb, Cima Medical Group/
Clinica Santa Maria

For more pictures, click on the link below:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_-RMxkL7rZ7UGNyOG5kcTV1S0E