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## Education Sessions

### Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Pre-Conference – 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., 3.2 CNE contact hours

#### Federal Medicaid Update

**Speaker:** *Damon Terzaghi, MSA, Director of Medicaid Advocacy, National Association for Home Care & Hospice, Washington, DC*

The Medicaid program is a sizable and growing part of the overall healthcare system, accounting for \$734.0 billion, or 17% of all national health expenditures, in 2021. Medicaid is also the predominant payor for long-term care, including home and community-based services (HCBS). As Medicaid's presence in the health care industry increases, so does the impact of Federal and state changes to the program. This session will provide information, discussion, and analysis of key issues that are impacting Medicaid HCBS, including: The proposed Medicaid Access rule, which would impose new reporting and quality requirements on states and providers and would also mandate that 80% of all Medicaid expenditures for certain HCBS be spent on worker compensation... [Read More](#)



### Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Opening Keynote – 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., 1.2 CNE contact hours



#### Remaining Positive in Times of Adversity

**Speaker:** *Tyler Enslin, Owner/Speaker, Tyler Enslin International, Colora, MD*

Beginning in March of 2020 the word "crisis" took on new meaning for billions of people. For most a global pandemic meant unprecedented challenges in relation to their careers, personal life, finances, relationships, and even physical and mental health. These issues were magnified when restrictions that were expected to last for a few weeks lingered on for over a year. This highly interactive program has been specifically designed to help participants to navigate these unique challenges as well as to reflect on personal lessons learned from the experience. Thus the content has been customized to impact both career and personal aspects of life. [Read More](#)

Home Health Management Breakout 1 (M1) – 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., 1.2 CNE contact hours

#### The Impact of HHCAHPS on HHVBP

**Speaker:** *Liz Silva, Product Manager, Home Health & Hospice, HEALTHCAREfirst, Springfield, MO*

With HHCAHPS contributing almost 1/3 of the data driving HHVBP reimbursement, it is more important than ever to identify and implement strategies to effectively manage your HHCAHPS performance. This session will review HHCAHPS role within HHVBP calculations, explore examples for analyzing HHCAHPS performance to identify opportunities for improvement, and illustrate the importance of integrating HHCAHPS into an ongoing, sustainable QAPI program. [Read More](#)



# Education Sessions (Wednesday cont.)

**Clinical Breakout 1 (C1)** – 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., 1.2 CNE contact hours

## Planning Ahead for Safety

**Speaker:** *Rhonda Stubbs, CFS Behavioral Health Specialist Program Manager, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center, Lawrence, KS*

When working in the community setting there are many things we do not have control over, however, planning ahead for safety can help keep staff safe. The focus of this training is helping community-based professionals to be better prepared when providing services in a community setting. We will be discussing planning for visits in the community, safety tips for community-based visits, personal safety, and verbal de-escalation skills. [Read More](#)



**Hospice Breakout 1 (H1)** – 9:45 - 10:45 a.m., 1.2 CNE contact hours

## Hospice and End-of-Life Nutrition in Long Term Care



**Speaker:** *Cassandra Whitmore, RD, LMNT, Consultant Dietitian/Speaker, Lincoln, NE*

When it's time to consider hospice, many people are concerned that it means "giving up" on their person. It has also often been wrongly assumed that nutrition care stops when hospice begins. We will discuss how residents/patients/clients on hospice, and those at the end-of-life, can benefit from nutrition interventions, as well as when those benefits are likely to stop, by focusing on the stages of the dying process. The goal of this session is to help you learn how best to advocate for your residents/patients/clients on hospice and at the end-of-life from a nutrition standpoint. While the focus of this presentation is on the long-term care side, practitioners working with people at the end of life in other realms will also find this information beneficial. [Read More](#)

**Roundtables** – 1:00 - 2:00 p.m., No CNE contact hours

## Home Health & Hospice Roundtables

Do you ever wish you could just sit and visit with fellow providers on how they are handling different aspects of home health and hospice? This is your chance! This newest addition to our Annual Conference will provide a dedicated time for providers to share their challenges and their successes with other providers. We will offer ten different roundtables on ten different topics, with a facilitator at each table. Participants will pick three topics, spending 20-minutes at each. While it may be tempting to only attend sessions where you experience challenges, we encourage you to participate in at least one in which you have a success to share! [Read More](#)

**Home Health Management Breakout 2 (M2)** – 2:30 - 4:30 p.m., 2.2 CNE contact hours

## Success in Today's Operating Environment? Show Me the Data!

**Speakers:** *M. Aaron Little, CPA, Managing Director, and Angela Huff, RN, Managing Consultant, FORVIS, LLP, Springfield, MO*

The home health operations landscape continues to evolve in the post-pandemic world. Rising costs, shifting payers, and evolving value-based payer models and technologies present unique challenges to the industry. This session will explore the results of the industry study conducted by Strategic Healthcare Programs (SHP) and FORVIS focused on identifying how agencies are succeeding in the current industry environment and what benchmarks represent that success. Attendees will be provided with benchmarks and excerpts from the study. [Read More](#)



# Education Sessions (Wednesday cont./Thursday)

**Clinical Breakout 2 (C2)** – 2:30 - 4:30 p.m., 2.2 CNE contact hours

## Parkinson's 101: "Wait-there's so much more" A Clinician's Perspective

**Speaker:** *Suzie Craig, PT, PWR! Moves Certified and trained in LSVT Big, LMH Health Therapy & Wellness, Lawrence, KS*

This session will include an overview of Parkinson's and the increasing prevalence in our population. The symptoms and progression along with interventions of medication and exercise will be covered. Practical tips in assisting those with Parkinson's to move better to safely live in their homes will be demonstrated along with large amplitude and high effort movements audience participation will be encouraged. The session will conclude with some of the many resources the client, family and support staff.

[Read More](#)

**Hospice Breakout 2 (H2)** – 1:45 - 4:30 p.m., 3.0 CNE contact hours

## A Road Map for Traversing the CMS Hospice Final Rule and Updated Surveyor Protocols



**Speaker:** *Maribeth R. Freland, RN, Certified CMS Health Facility Surveyor, Provider Insights, Des Moines, IA*

Every year, CMS releases a final rule with adjustments to the hospice payment/wage index, among other updates. But what are the effects of the index adjustments? What expectations does CMS have? How can health equity data influence our standards of care? All of these questions and more will be answered in this portion of the session.

The hospice survey process was overhauled this spring by CMS. Now with new processes and emphasis, survey can be more daunting and nerve-wracking than ever! This session will unveil all of the changes, in "real world" application - and with proper and thorough preparation, the whole process can be navigated without fear. All you need is a good road map! In this portion of the session, attendees will be guided through updates to the survey guidelines, given a tangible game plan for survey preparation, and what to expect on the day of the survey. [Read More](#)

## Thursday, September 28, 2023

**Home Health Management Breakout 3 (M3)** – 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., 3.3 CNE contact hours

## HH VBP and COP Intersections: Pilot Success and Tools for Future Improvements!

**Speaker:** *Maribeth R. Freland, RN, Certified CMS Health Facility Surveyor, Provider Insights, Des Moines, IA*

The five-year HH VBP pilot program has been a great success in the nine pilot states. This data-driven process has led to lowered expenses, higher levels of performance, and overall improvement in patient care. So, how can you gauge your HH performance and implement changes to improve? In this session, attendees will learn how to assess their HH performance and apply how the HHVBP measurements have some direct impacts and intersections with the COPs and quality of care. Learn to use these intersections to leverage your program and gain the best HHVBP scores! [Read More](#)





# Education Sessions (Thursday cont.)

Home Health Clinical Breakout 3 (C3) – 8:30 - 10:45 a.m., 2.5 CNE contact hours

## Documentation Makes the Difference!

**Speaker:** *Teresa Northcutt, BSN, RN, COS-C, HCS-D, HCS-H, Consultant, Teresa Northcutt, LLC, Middletown, MO*

Skilled need for medically necessary care is one of the eligibility criteria for home health services – and the patient must meet this requirement every visit! Documentation for skilled need applies to the comprehensive assessment, therapy evaluation, and each visit note, as well as supporting documentation in the case conference, interim physician orders and summaries.

This session will review the requirements at each of these points and provide examples (both good and bad!) of documentation for skilled medically necessary care. Discussion will include how to educate and motivate staff to improve their documentation skills. [Read More](#)



Hospice Breakout 3 (H3) – 8:30 - 10:45 a.m., 2.4 CNE contact hours

## Palliative Care... Should we be doing it and how do we start?



**Speaker:** *Greg Nelson, MD, Medical Director, Midland Care, Topeka, KS*

Palliative Care and Hospice are closely related specialties of care but are certainly not the same. Hospice brought wisdom and expertise to end of life care in the structure of an interdisciplinary team. Palliative care was created as a medical specialty using this model of care to answer the question, “Why can’t others with severe illness benefit from this type of care upstream in their disease?” It makes sense to think that hospices are the health care entities with the skill set to also provide palliative care to their communities. This workshop will lay out what is involved in starting a palliative care team in your community, discussing team structure, organizational goals, quality measures and

oversight, patient selection, inpatient palliative care, staff training, and economics. Cases will be presented for participant discussion, and sharing of personal experience will be encouraged. [Read More](#)

Home Health Management Breakout 4 (M4) – 1:15 - 4:00 p.m., 3.0 CNE contact hours



## Medicare Advantage: Digging in the Details

**Speaker:** *Melinda A. Gaboury, COS-C, Chief Executive Officer, Healthcare Provider Solutions, Inc., Nashville, TN*

Home Health providers are grappling with the shift in the Medicare eligible population into Medicare Advantage Plans (MA Plans). Providers are asking: What are the implications of current demographic trends? What operational and financial issues should providers expect as their payer mix shifts to mostly Managed Care? Being successful in this environment of these payer mix changes requires agencies to understand their costs of treating these patients and other impacts on their operations on an individual contract basis. [Read More](#)

# Education Sessions (Thursday cont.)

Home Health Clinical Breakout 4 (C4) – 1:15 - 4:00 p.m., 3.0 CNE contact hours

## OASIS-E Update and Tips

**Speaker:** *Teresa Northcutt, BSN, RN, COS-C, HCS-D, HCS-H, Consultant, Teresa Northcutt, LLC, Middletown, MO*

The OASIS-E data set and guidance was implemented January 1, 2023 and home health clinicians are finding assessment and application of the new guidance a challenge in some areas. OASIS data determines quality measures, and this quality performance is key to calculation of the Quality of Patient Care Star rating and Value-Based Purchasing's Total Performance Score, so OASIS-E accuracy is critical to a home health agency's payment and quality reporting. This session will focus on scoring OASIS-E items that commonly have errors, key updates in the CMS quarterly Q&As since January 2023, and scoring tips for the OASIS items used for Value-Based Purchasing TPS calculation. Teresa will provide strategies to enhance accurate data collection at the comprehensive assessment time points. [Read More](#)



Hospice Breakout 4 (H4) – 1:15 - 4:00 p.m., 3.0 CNE contact hours

## Challenging Topics in Hospice Pharmacy -- Part 1: Preventing the Prescribing Cascade at End of Life Part 2: Facing the Challenges of Anticoagulants in Hospice



**Speaker:** *Caren Martin, PharmD, BCGP, Senior Clinical Manager, Enclara Pharmacia, Philadelphia, PA*

This program will address two challenging topics in hospice care. In part 1, we will discuss the prescribing cascade, in which a new medication is prescribed to “treat” an adverse reaction to another medication in the mistaken belief that the reaction is actually a new condition or symptom. We will discuss strategies for recognizing whether new symptoms may actually be medication side effects, for deprescribing nonessential medications, and for better managing end of life medication use for the hospice and palliative care patient.

In part 2, we will talk about how hospices and palliative care organizations are often faced with the challenge of admitting patients who are prescribed anticoagulants, often for diagnoses that are only indirectly related to the terminal diagnosis. We will review the outcomes data and risk/benefit profile of these medications to help hospice staff and clinicians make informed, data-driven decisions about continuing or deprescribing these medications for patients in hospice and palliative care. [Read More](#)