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Consensus Model Survey Sent to Members - Due Wed., Nov. 21st

You should have received an email from GAPNA recently asking you to complete a survey regarding the Consensus Model and grandfathering issues. GAPNA representatives will be attending a face-to-face meeting of the consortium to discuss grandfathering issues and they would like to bring your comments and concerns with them. Please take a moment to click the link below and tell us if you have had a difficult experience with licensure or certification.

Take the Survey

Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, Medicaid Primary Care Payment Bonus Final Rules Released

CMS released the final rules on the Medicare physician fee schedule and Medicaid primary care payment bonus late this afternoon. Both rules are posted on the Federal Register public inspection website at http://www.ofr.gov/inspection.aspx.

The proposed rules authorizing NPs to order portable x-ray services were finalized — but only for services furnished on or after January 1, 2013. The agency says it will continue its efforts to recover previous payments, but "we have instructed our payment contractors that the ordering of portable x-ray services should not be made a priority for additional medical review activity beyond claims identified in the OIG audit."

On the Medicaid primary care bonus payment, it appears they heard our concerns...at least as far as they felt they could under the statutory language. The final rule removes the requirement that...
services be billed under the physician's billing number — but it still limits higher payment to services "provided under the personal supervision of eligible physicians." If the state paid for services actually rendered by supervised advanced practice clinicians at a percentage of the physician fee schedule rate, the final rule provides that it should continue to do so in 2013 and 2014.

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**2013 GAPNA Election – Nominations Needed**

As you may already know, the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA) is seeking nominations for several volunteer leadership positions on the Board of Directors.

In your role as a Board member, you will influence the direction of the organization as it strives to achieve its mission of better care for older adults via Gerontological advanced practice nursing, education and research. Nominations are now being accepted for positions on the 2013-2014 Board of Directors. Open positions include President-Elect (3 year commitment - President-Elect, President, Immediate Past President); Treasurer (2 year term); Director-At-Large (2 year term) and 2 Nominating Committee positions (2 year term).

Self nominations are welcome or you can nominate other members in good standing. Nomination forms can be found on our website at www.GAPNA.org or by clicking this link (Word).

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**Advancing Excellence Goals Announced**

The new quality goals are here! Check out the Advancing Excellence Campaign website at http://www.nhqualitycampaign.org/ to learn more. These goals have been divided into two categories: *process goals* (consistent assignment, hospitalizations, person-centered care and staff stability) and *clinical goals* (infections, medications, mobility, pain and pressure ulcers) and tools and resources continue to be added to the website to assist nursing homes with their quality improvement projects.

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**NP 2012 Liability Update: A Three-Part Approach**

NSO, in collaboration with CAN Healthpro, have released a healthcare industry resource entitled *Nurse Practitioner 2012 Liability Update: A Three-Part Approach*. The report contains an analysis of nurse practitioner malpractice claims over a five-year period, which identifies current nurse practitioner liability patterns and trends most likely to affect NP practices. In addition to the claims analysis, the report also explores claims involving licensing board actions brought against NSO insured’s, as well as selected highlights from NSO’s work profile survey examining the relationship between key workplace factors and professional liability exposure. Highlights of the report include:

**Part I:** Professional Liability Claims: More than $44 million was paid in indemnity...
Part II: License Protection Claims: 61% of licensing board actions against NP’s...

Part III: Nurse Practitioner Work Profile Survey: Nearly 73% of survey respondents...

To read, visit nso.com/npclaimreport2012

Home Health Bill — Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Congress is returning November 13 for a short post-election "lame duck" session to deal with a long list of critical issues including deficit reduction and pending deep cuts in Medicare payments. Legislation to enable nurse practitioners to authorize Medicare home health services should be part of these negotiations - but it could be overlooked unless we make our voices heard now!

Click here to read more and find out how you can make your voice heard.

You are subscribed to GAPNA’s eAlert, a publication for GAPNA members and colleagues. From time-to-time, you will receive an email such as this one with important news and information relevant to gerontological nursing. If you wish to update your email address, please do so by editing your profile on the GAPNA Web site. If you would like to unsubscribe from the GAPNA eAlert, email gapna@ajj.com.

The Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA) is the organization of choice for advanced practice nurses who want to pursue continuing education in gerontological care and who seek peer support from experienced clinicians.

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