



# Michigan Osteopathic Association

## **MOA Information & Technology Committee Board Report**

Committee Co-Chairs: Dr. Andrew Adair and Dr. Ursula Barghouth

Staff: Marc Staley and Todd Ross

The MOA Information & Technology Committee (I.T. Committee) provides advocacy on topics related to I.T. issues our physicians face in their practices daily.

Key goals of the I.T. Committee:

- Provide information to the Education Committee regarding I.T. issues, assisting with obtaining relevant speakers and topics for MOA events.
- Provide news & updates on cyber security and EHR from our trusted resources to our MOA membership.
- Leverage our business relationships to provide reliable information and education to protect our physician's practices (e.g., Coverys, Kerr Russell)

Key issues:

- Interoperability
- EHR policies and regulations
- Cyber Security
- MAPS
- Vetted vendors
- Share knowledge where issues may overlap with other committees

The I.T. Committee works with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) to coordinate guidance on the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS). Regulations and the MAPS software have changed creating confusion over compliance. The I.T. Committee has worked with the MOA Safe Opioid Task Force and the MHS Opioid Stewardship Collaborative to clarify procedures and compliance issues, using surveys and contact forms to gather information that has helped revise the LARA FAQ's on the MAPS system.

Mark Lazar, from MedNetOne (MNO) and the Health Care Providers of Michigan (HCPM) attends various meetings on behalf of MOA and the I.T Committee and reports back to the Committee any relevant information.

The latest update:

### **Michigan Health Information Network (MIHIN)**

The group is working on using MIHIN to transport clinical data (HEDIS=Quality) to the payers from physician organizations.

Currently we have been asked to be on a small subgroup to initiate the conversation with EClinicalWorks (eCW) for the Vendor Initiative. This means the data would get pulled from the physicians EHR and sent to the payer to help with quality/incentives

without extra work from the provider.

MIHIN is looking to automate the All Payer Supplemental (APS) file in May, most of the payers (specifically the Blues) do not accept the file for HEDIS gap closure. APS = all patient HEDIS files from Point of Service, Hospital System, and EHR vendors

Only four EHR vendors have signed on for the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) backed vendor initiative: NextGen Healthcare, Allscripts Pro, TRIARQ Health, and Athenahealth (not in production yet)

The Vendor Initiative is a file that will allow production of the Active Care Relationship Services (ACRS) which connects a patient's electronic health information with the providers "actively caring" for the patient as well as with the payers covering the cost of the patient's care. When ACRS is broadly adopted by organizations, and tied to Clinical Quality Measures Record and the Health Directory, this foundational infrastructure acts as a scalable superhighway to exchange multiple information types, eventually helping with the issue of interoperability

As the COVID-19 restrictions on meetings has affected our membership, the MOA has developed an online Learning Management System to deliver CME sessions to our members and non-members. The Spring event had over 500 registrants and the Autumn event had over 400, more than any past in-person Autumn event.

### **Telemedicine**

The limitations of having patients in the office, due to COVID-19, caused physicians to increase the use of telehealth. The MOA partnered with the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) on sharing guidance on telemedicine issues. This includes sharing guides from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

BCBSM also provided information that has been shared with MOA members through our newsletter, social media, and the MOA website. This includes videos and information shared through the BCBSM newsletters.

The I.T. Committee recently obtained an excellent instructional video from BCBSM staff, Gretchen Goltz, DO demonstrating a telehealth visit and the opportunity it provides for a patient exam.

The MOA website offers a page dedicated to I.T. issues: [www.domoa.org/it](http://www.domoa.org/it). This page has been used to gather questions/comments from membership by offering an I.T. Contact form: [www.domoa.org/itcontact](http://www.domoa.org/itcontact)

### **COVID-19**

The I.T. Committee stayed on top of the ever-changing COVID issues throughout the pandemic and continues to do so. A special COVID-19 section of the MOA website was dedicated to COVID-19 providing resources, articles, COVID-10 CME submission form among other things. We continue to monitor issues on a regular basis, reporting new developments on this page and through our newsletter.