



Michigan Osteopathic Association

Department of Socio Economics

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Insurance & Third-Party Payer Committee and Health Care Partners of Michigan (HCPM)

Our Department of Socioeconomic Affairs has been continuing to work on the offerings available for our members. Our physician organization, Healthcare Partners of Michigan (HCPM), is increasing its membership with doctors looking for assistance in understanding healthcare reimbursement and government restraints on our practices. The MOA Department of Socio Economics relies on input from Health Care Partners of Michigan (HCPM) to successfully fulfill its objectives and goals. Health Care Partners of Michigan (HCPM) , was established by the MOA to provide clinical support and education for primary and specialty care physicians, mid-level providers and behavioral health specialists to develop and sustain high performing independent practices focused on patient health and wellness. They have been instrumental in researching and resolving claim problems submitted by our member on behalf of the department eliminating the need for the Insurance & Third Party Payer Committee to meet. Ewa Matuszewski and Mark Lazar, representing HCPM, continue to attend many meetings on timely issues that are compelling to our membership, department, and association in general. HCPM continues to have a presence on the MOA website www.domoa.org/hcpm and features articles on the issues at the forefront of patient care in the MOA electronic newsletter, THE PULSE on a regular basis.

Introduction of Palliative Care into Primary Care (MOA Spring Program, Saturday 12-6/Charlevoix Room)

During the pandemic crisis, the HCPM identified the need to train primary care physicians, their care teams and other healthcare professionals on the importance of weaving the concepts of palliative care into the day-to-day care provided to the chronically ill patient population. HCPM feels that palliative care:

- affirms life and regards dying as a normal process
- neither hastens nor postpones death
- integrates the psychological and spiritual aspects of care
- offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death
- engages the family and caregiver in providing supportive care

The Palliative Care courses will include topics such as:

- communication strategies
- generational differences
- motivational interviewing
- shared decision making
- spiritual, cultural, and psychological aspects of palliative care
- legal and regulatory issues
- Advance Directives and POLST

In addition, HCPM staff performed numerous duties, some on behalf of the Third Party Payer committee:

- Resolved 14 PCP enrollment issues with state and national payers including Medicare and Medicaid

- Reviewed and assisted in the reversal of denied claims for care team services
- Investigated concerns regarding CHANGE Healthcare and the correspondence received by 9 PCPs regarding their billing patterns; concerns brought to the attention of BCN and BCBSM leadership
- Assisted physicians in recruitment efforts for new PCPs
- Provided feedback to PCPs concerning private equity firms coming to Michigan and purchasing practices
- Implicit bias, care team and palliative care trainings including participation in the BCBSM Patient Experience of Care Meetings facilitated by Steve Anderson
- Facilitated a meeting with MiHIN to discuss mutual opportunities including sponsorship of upcoming palliative care training during the MOA Conference and for the MOA to identify a DO who would sit on the MiHIN BOD
- Patient Experience of Care Pilot Project using a hand-held device and an app
- Complete the transfer of the McLaren Mobile Clinic
- Available for consultations as needed

HCPM was also represented in the following areas:

Behavioral Health

- Collaborative effort with CCBHC (Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic entities).
- Group and individual training and education opportunities for three models of behavioral health: co-located, collaborative and integrated.
- Support for the Collaborative Care Model (Co-CM) the behavioral health model endorsed by BCBSM, BCN, Priority and other payers. Psychiatrist, Primary Care and RN/MSW support needs of the patient in the primary care setting.

Mobile Clinic

HCPM and several partners acquired the old McLaren Mobile Clinic in November 2021. The truck required extensive work including replacement of various mechanical parts such as the generator, and transmission. Arrangements were made to have 2 drivers with a CDL. Liability coverage was obtained with some difficulty. The truck is in the shop for outside painting and wrapping with logos.

Vaccination Clinics

Members of the DO community including Wayne State University Pharmacy, Oakland University School of Nursing and School of Health Sciences students facilitated over 60 pop up vaccination clinics. The clinics have taken place in churches, schools, mosques, soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, and community centers where high risk individuals have been identified. The vaccination pop-up clinics will continue throughout 2022.

If you are not already connected to a Physician Organization or looking for a new one, take a look at HCPM for your PO needs.