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**NEW Stuff**

**Welcome New Members**

Welcome our new members: **Dr. Ramiz Elías** (Internal Medicine, San Diego), **Dr. Pamela Kurtzhals** (General Surgery, San Diego), **Dr. Nossa Maya** (Internal Medicine, El Cajon), **Dr. Juan Quevedo** (Int. Med./Nephrology, San Diego), **Dr. Marvin Singh** (Gastroenterology, Encinitas), and **Dr. James Toldi** (Family Medicine, Alvarado).

**Quality Payment Program Hardship Exception**

CMS is accepting Hardship Applications for those with problems submitting **Advancing Care Information** for MIPS. You can find the request for a Hardship Application at [www.gpp.cms.gov/mips/advancing-care-information/hardship-exception](http://www.gpp.cms.gov/mips/advancing-care-information/hardship-exception) or contact Physician Partners. The form is due by Jan. 1, 2018.

**MIPS Exemption**

For 2017, you are exempt from MIPS reporting if you billed \$30,000 or less in Medicare Part B services, or you saw 100 or fewer Medicare Part B patients, during 1 of 2 reporting periods. You do not need to complete a form to receive the exemption. To find out if you're exempt from reporting, go to <https://gpp.cms.gov/>

**Scripps ACO**

- If you are a Scripps ACO participant, you do not need to submit MIPS quality information this year, but you do need to report **Advancing Care Information**. Scripps has issued an update regarding reporting **ACI**. Contact Eydie Strouse ([Strouse.Eydie@scrippshealth.org](mailto:Strouse.Eydie@scrippshealth.org)) or Stacy Pevney ([Pevney.Stacy@scrippshealth.org](mailto:Pevney.Stacy@scrippshealth.org)) for more information.
- QualComm's open enrollment for employees began Oct. 25. Special toolkits will be provided to physicians who are participating in the QualComm ACO.

**Scripps AMG**

- **Website traffic continues to increase!** In October, over 1,500 phone calls were made to physician members' offices from visitors to the Scripps AMG website. We're very excited to provide your practice this valuable member benefit.
- **Spanish Language Website Now Available** Our Spanish language patient site is now Live! MDs who have identified as Spanish-speaking are featured, along with Spanish translations of all info pages.

**Senior Wellness Society – A New Way to Reach out to Your Patients**

- Members of Senior Wellness Society receive help with Medicare Annual Enrollment!
- Exceptional response to Senior Wellness Society Newsletter – over 40% read rate!  
For more information, contact [beth@partnersdocs.com](mailto:beth@partnersdocs.com)

**Education & Networking Events**

- **Filing for MIPS & ACI – It's Not Too Late!**, by Natalie Nelson, Webinar, Wed, Nov. 8, 12:15
- **Coding to Capture All Activities**, by AviaCode, Webinar, Wed, Nov. 15, 12:15 p.m.
- **Filing for MIPS & ACI – It's Not Too Late!**, by Natalie Nelson, Webinar, Wed, Dec. 6, 12:15  
**RSVP 619-359-6600**

(Find past webinars and other useful information at [physicianresourcecenter.com](http://physicianresourcecenter.com))

**Bottom Line Solutions from our Physician Resource Center**

- **Intalere/HRS** – We welcome one of the newest members of the Physician Resource Center, providing GPO services. You can stay with your current contracts, or take advantage of their relationships. They also have a great feature called Perks at Work for employees of your practice.
- **Merritt Hawkins** offers clinician staffing solutions, for both temp and permanent placement.

**Physician Updates:**

- **Congratulations to San Diego Orthopaedic Associates, celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**
- **Dr. Roger Kasendorf** moved to 9834 Genesee Ave., #221, La Jolla Ph: (858) 558-1275

**Physician Partners mission** is to - Enhance the viability of private practices; Offer the advantages of a large medical group while respecting the autonomy of individual practices; Provide the cohesiveness and alignment of the medical community; and Support the transition to value-based, clinically integrated care.