

JANUARY 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR
CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — GETTING PAID — Our 8th Annual Fee Schedule Survey: Hard benchmark data on fees and allowables, reporting on average commercial payments and charges by group size, specialty, and state, as well as rural, urban, and suburban locations; interpretation of the data.

THE LAW — Health Courts: There are special courts for bankruptcy, divorce, and family dramas. But not for malpractice cases. Will this idea ever gain traction? Should it?

TECHNOLOGY — Can Technology Make P4P Easier? Pay-for-performance programs are coming from Medicare and private payers. What technologies can ease these programs' sometimes complex reporting requirements so that you can get paid what you deserve without creating a new paperwork nightmare?

COLUMNS

The Bigger Picture with Pamela Moore and Bob Keaveney

Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

Noteworthy — Stats, quotables, surveys, news, tips, entrepreneurship, & more!

Letters — Our readers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "My most memorable mentor"

Your Money — How much disability and long-term care insurance should you have?

Physician Beware — Avoiding common small-business tax mistakes

Administrator's Desk — Which credentials count?

The Tech Doctor — Office Netiquette: Handling the social media revolution

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

Solved! — Our readers' toughest questions are no match for our experts.

The List — Top tips for making your practice greener

As of 2/23/10. All articles subject to change. For an archive of articles, expert Q & As, tools, and more, visit www.physicianspractice.com. For more information, e-mail physicianspractice@cmpmedica.com.

FEBRUARY 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR

FEATURES

COVER — Cutting Costs: Are you wasting money without even knowing it? Most practices are. Check out these great ways to save a bundle without damaging key functions of your practice.

TECHNOLOGY — EHR Stimulus Update: You've heard about the Obama administration's plan to pay practices that adopt EHRs as part of its economic stimulus package. Now the bureaucrats have had their turn setting the rules on how to cash in. Here's the scoop.

IN PRACTICE — Stress-Reduction Guide: Forget the herbal tea and bubble baths. We've got stress-reduction tips that you'll actually use — and that really work.

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Letters — Our readers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "What I do to stay healthy"

Your Money — Understanding exotic investment vehicles and what's right for you

Physician Beware — Are you unwittingly violating patient confidentiality on your blog, Twitter, or Facebook?

Administrator's Desk — When you must cut workers' hours

The Tech Doctor — Outsourcing your billing: A godsend or an added expense?

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Ways to make your patients smile

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MARCH 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR
CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — Lawyer Repellant: An apple a day may keep the doctor away but keeping the malpractice lawyers at bay will require more than a trip to the produce aisle. Get some peace of mind with our guide to lawyer-proofing your practice.

CAREER — Retirement? Maybe Not: You were hoping to retire soon, or maybe you already have, but the economy's biting hard. What are the options for older physicians remaining in or returning to the work force?

BILLING — When RACs Attack: Medicare's Recovery Audit Contractor Program, known as RAC, has been expanded. That means more audits, more government take-backs, and more pre-emptive downcoding by scared physicians. Here's how to fight the power.

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Letters — Our readers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "What has surprised me the most about being a doctor"

Your Money — ER investing: How big should your emergency fund be?

Physician Beware — Should you share your prescribing data?

Administrator's Desk — Dealing with patient lawsuits

The Tech Doctor — Malware and antivirus protections: Ensuring you are safe on the cheap

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Ways to relax, rejuvenate, and get re-inspired

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APRIL 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR

FEATURES

COVER — The Doctor of the Future: What will the practice of medicine look like in 10 years? 20? Beyond mere EHR integration, we'll look at how medicine's most innovative thinkers are reimagining the care-delivery model.

THE LAW — Understanding Scope-of-Practice: Before you hire a nonphysician provider, make sure you understand exactly what they can and can't do under the law, and develop a plan for providing them with the appropriate supervision.

TECHNOLOGY — Hardware Help: Deciding between a laptop, tablet, or desktop? Here's a little guidance.

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The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "How my hobby makes me a better doctor"

Your Money — Exit planning: Exploring best and worst scenarios

Physician Beware — The dangers of poorly designed, or nonexistent, partnership agreements.

Administrator's Desk — Wanna get away? How to take a much-needed vacation

The Tech Doctor — Update on EHR interoperability: Are we there yet?

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Tips for improving staff retention

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MAY 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR
CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — Better Coding Made Simple(r): Coding quagmires driving you nuts? We'll look at areas of frequent confusion and offer tips to sorting it out.

OPERATIONS (CME) — Guerilla Marketing Tactics: Gone are days of Yellow Page ads and word-of-mouth as the only ways to market your services. Here are some modern, effective, and cheap methods for getting new patients in the doors.

THE LAW — Patient Records Legal Primer: Everything you need to know about how long you have to keep records, how to transfer them, whether you can charge patients for copies of them, and so on.

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Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

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The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "The patient who drove (or drives) me the craziest, and how I deal with it"

Your Money — 401K, Roth IRA, and other IRAs: How to choose a fund that will secure your retirement

Physician Beware — How to handle the know-it-all patient

Administrator's Desk — Handling drug recalls

The Tech Doctor — The pros and cons of using speech recognition software

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Hilarious things heard on Twitter

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JUNE 2010
2010 TECHNOLOGY GUIDE
EDITORIAL CALENDAR

FEATURES

COVER — PayerView: Using real claims data from a national billing company, we rank the best — and worst — payers to work with to help you sort the wheat from the chaff.

TECHNOLOGY — Beyond Paperless: EHRs for Improving Care: EHRs can do so much more than just digitize your charts. What capabilities do they have to actually improve patient care?

TECHNOLOGY — Data Exchange and Meaningful Use: To meet the requirements for meaningful use in 2011, physicians will have to show that they can exchange data online with other providers. It's unclear how docs will be able to have 50 percent of lab results go automatically to their EHRs in the absence of widespread lab interfaces and with little connectivity with other physicians and hospitals. Here's your look at what's happening in the industry to remedy the situation and what you can do now to get ready.

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Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

Noteworthy — Stats, quotables, surveys, news, tips, entrepreneurship, & more!

The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "The moment I knew I wanted to be a physician"

Your Money — How to hire a financial planner you can trust

Physician Beware — Equipment leasing agreements: Read the fine print

Administrator's Desk — Finding the right balance of employee feedback

The Tech Doctor — IVR and automated phone trees: Creating efficiencies without driving your patients nuts

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — The Tech List

Other Technology Guide articles may be included.

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JULY/AUGUST 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR
CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — Is Board Certification a Scam? How much does board certification matter to patient outcomes? Is it a true measure of clinical qualifications, or just a cash cow for the certification societies?

HUMAN RESOURCES — Staff Salary Survey: Are you overpaying your staff? Underpaying? How much should you offer that terrific nursing recruit you've found? Our national staff salary survey sheds light on what other practices pay.

TECHNOLOGY (CME) — Privacy in a Digital Age: Physicians are increasingly using social networks like Twitter and Facebook to network with colleagues. But do these sites present privacy problems for physicians who don't mind answering the question: What are you doing right now?

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Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

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The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "My best story about friends or family crossing the line for my advice/care as a physician"

Your Money — Protecting yourself from identity theft

Physician Beware — What to do about your office gossip: How to put a stop to his or her antics

Administrator's Desk — Getting staff out of their ruts

The Tech Doctor — The medical home and technology: What widgets do you have to have?

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Ways to quickly cut overhead without firing anyone

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SEPTEMBER 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR

CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — Annual Technology Survey: Which tech tools are physicians *really* using in their practices? Who's doing how much of what and why? We give you the real scoop, based on our readers' responses.

IN PRACTICE — Best States to Practice: Whether you're just starting out, considering making a move, or just want to check if things are as bad (or good) in other states as they are in yours, we've got the first truly data-based method for analyzing every state's physician-friendliness.

PATIENT RELATIONS (CME) — When Patients Lie to You: Patients won't always tell you the whole truth, but how can you tell if they're just flat-out lying? And what do you do?

COLUMNS

The Bigger Picture with Bob Keaveney

Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

Noteworthy — Stats, quotables, surveys, news, tips, entrepreneurship, & more!

The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "What I learned in my first year of practice"

Your Money — Closing the bank of Mom and Dad: How to get your grown kids' hands out of your wallet

Physician Beware — Oops, I hired a nightmare employee: How to hire right next time

Administrator's Desk — The part-time puzzle

The Tech Doctor — Not ready for an EHR? Try an EDM

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Surprising ways that doctors make a difference

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OCTOBER 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR

FEATURES

COVER — The Great American Physician Survey: The American physician community is changing fast: politically, economically, and personally. *Physicians Practice* continues its groundbreaking research into the minds, hearts, and habits of modern physicians with its second annual Great American Physician Survey.

CODING — Modifiers Explained: These add-ons to your codes can help you get paid what you truly deserve in certain instances. But how do you use them correctly?

TECHNOLOGY — There’s an App for That? Hundreds of medical-oriented applications, many of them free, have been developed for the iPhone and other “smartphones.” Which are the best applications for helping you run your practice or manage patients?

COLUMNS

The Bigger Picture with Bob Keaveney

Physicians Practice Pearls — Top excerpts from our popular weekly e-mail newsletter

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The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer’s Search — “My worst or best day of being a doctor”

Your Money — Five major mistakes to avoid when planning for retirement

Physician Beware — Facing billing audits

Administrator’s Desk — Giving back: Charitable efforts in your office

The Tech Doctor — Recovering lost data

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — All about YOU: Interesting data from the Great American Physician survey

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NOVEMBER 2010
EDITORIAL CALENDAR
CME issue

FEATURES

COVER — Payer Negotiations — An Expert Guide: What concessions are payers actually agreeing to these days, and how can you get the most out of them?

GETTING PAID — Physician Compensation Survey: Are you making what you're worth? Our compensation survey will help you answer that question.

TECHNOLOGY — Specialty EHRs: Specialists, do you sometimes sense you're being left out of the EHR discussion? How do you find a product for your specific needs, such as templates for office visits? Should you look for products made just for your specialty, or will customized primary care-oriented EHRs work?

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The Inbox — Our readers and bloggers respond

Physician Writer's Search — "The career I would have had if I hadn't become a doctor"

Your Money — Selling your practice? Do your homework first

Physician Beware (CME) — Handling illegal requests for patient records

Administrator's Desk — Emergency preparedness checklist

The Tech Doctor — Assessing interactive patient/physician Web portals

Coding — Answers to your toughest coding questions

The List — Tips to living healthier in no time

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