Welcome to the August issue of the RHC Newsletter!

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and is taking advantage of what Michigan’s rural communities have to offer. While I know summer can be a relaxing time, its also time to remember that work in our rural health clinics never slows.

With that being said, I want to share with you that registration is now open for the upcoming RHC Quarterly Meeting on Thursday, August 11th AND for the one-day Practice Management Workshops on Wednesday September 7th at Soaring Eagle Resort in Mt. Pleasant.

As you may know, the annual Practice Management Workshop is a dynamic event that dives into critical aspects of daily operations and management of a certified Rural Health Clinic. Workshop content will be provided by Health Services Associates professionals and will feature speakers Tressa Sacrey, a RHC Compliance Analyst, Julie Quinn, a VP of Compliance and Cost Reporting, and Johanthan Patenburg, a leadership and financial expert. We hope you can attend this event and bring back valuable information to lead your RHC with new ideas. Hotel room block just became available as well for those looking to book the night before and hit the ground with batteries fully charged on the morning of the 7th.

If you haven't already, this is a reminder to register for the Quarterly RHC Network Meeting taking place virtually next Thursday, August 11th. I have provided a registration link for this day long event that contains an exciting agenda as well.

So, please make plans to join us at these upcoming events and in the meantime, continue to enjoy this gorgeous Michigan summer!

Enjoy the newsletter!

Thanks,

Jill
The MDHHS Bureau of EMS, Trauma, and Preparedness partnered with the Michigan Center for Rural Health to share best practices in Rural Test to Treat Initiatives.

Test to Treat programs allow people to get tested for COVID-19 and, if they are positive, they can see an onsite healthcare provider who will help to determine if the available outpatient treatments are appropriate for them. Once it is determined what the right medication is for them, they will receive a prescription from a health care provider and have their prescription filled all in an onsite or nearby location.

In case you missed the special live webinar event on Tuesday, August 2nd, you can click the link below to view the informational one-hour recording.

Our speakers for this event were:

**Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian MD, MPH, FIDSA**  
Chief Medical Executive Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

**Nick Torney Pharm.D., BCPS, BCIDP**  
Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist at Munson Medical Center
Amanda Shelast MSA, FACHE, CRHCP
Vice President of Physician Services and Clinical Networks at Marshfield Medical Center
Dickinson

Click Here to View the Rural Test to Treat Initiatives Webinar!

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Check out the Telehealth Technology Showcase at September's Upper Midwest Telehealth Conference

We are excited to announce that the Telehealth Technology Assessment Center (TTAC) will have its Telehealth Technology Showcase on display at the UMTRC Annual Conference! They will provide attendees with hands-on opportunities to explore different telehealth equipment and ask questions.

What is a Technology Showcase?
The Technology Showcase is an opportunity to learn about telehealth related technology in a hands-on vendor neutral environment. The Showcase is designed for participant interaction. Participants will be able to hold, compare and interact with innovative and emerging technology in the telehealth market space. Expect to see video and audio solutions, medical peripherals, and technology to deliver care to patients at home.

TTAC staff will be on hand to answer questions about the technology present.

Who is it for?
The Showcase is useful for participants at every stage of their telehealth technology journey. Whether you are an organization or individual new to telehealth or are planning an expansion of your program, the showcase will have something for you.

Featured technologies for this event include:
Broadband and connectivity technology

This helpful resource from the AMA and AAMC Center for Justice, says that language and narratives can be powerful barriers OR facilitators for meaningful change in health equity, depending on how we use them.

Just reading through these five tables in the guide will help enlighten you on how to incorporate ways to address these barriers and become a more inclusive RHC:

Table 1: Key Principles and Associated Terms

Table 2: List of Commonly Used Words/Phrases and Equity-Focused Alternatives

Table 3: Changing the Questions We Ask to Change Dominant Narratives

Table 4: Features of Dominant Narratives in Everyday Life

Table 5: Contrasting Conventional (Well-intentioned) Phrasing with Equity-focused Language that Acknowledges
RHC August News & Updates

Here are some of the topics impacting the RHC community in Michigan this month. Click on these links to read more:

- **MICHIGAN MONKEYPOX VACCINE STRATEGY - UPDATED!**
- **HEALTH ALERT:** Monkeys in Michigan - Clinical Considerations
- **NEW:** CMS Advancing Rural Maternal Health Equity
- **NEW CLASS AND SERVICE:** Rural Health Credentialing Specialist (RH-CS)
- **NEW:** 2022 Million Hearts Hypertension Control Challenge Now Open
- **NEW:** Preparing for Medicaid/CHIP Unwinding
- **NEW:** RHC CTM Reporting Reminders ($100k funding) (July 2022 due August 31st)
- **RESOURCE:** Answer the call: 988 Lifeline Suicide & Crisis Network Jobs
- **ONGOING:** HRSA Payment Program for RHC Buprenorphine-Trained Providers

American Heart Association Summer BP Challenge

Challenge your team this summer by checking off at least four of the six evidence-based BP activities and be eligible for Silver or Gold+ TBP Recognition in 2023!

- Hang the **In-Office BP Measurement Graphic** wherever BP is being measured (available in multiple languages & sizes)

- Plan lunch and learn with this 30-minute e-learning course **Achieving Accuracy: BP Measurement** or the **CME Course: Measuring Blood Pressure Accurately – Step 1 In Hypertension Control**

- Test team member skills using our **Technique Quick Check Tool**

- Calibrate all BP devices per manufacturer recommendation using the **AHA Scientific Statement**

- Record the % of your BP devices listed on the **US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing (VDL™)**

- Use a BP measurement protocol to obtain accurate BP measurements including confirmatory measurements through repeat in-office, ambulatory, or home BP measurements using the **AHA Scientific Statement**

Good luck to all who accept this challenge!

National E/M Documentation, Coding and Auditing August 23, 2022 - Space Is Limited to 100 Attendees

This interactive training is intended for healthcare practitioners, medical billers, coders, auditors, office managers, and IT professionals involved with authoring clinical documentation, generating E&M progress notes, auditing professional physician
service claims, and maintaining a healthy revenue cycle.

The primary course focus will emphasize documentation guidelines set forth by CMS for reporting Evaluation and Management services (E&M), as defined by CPT. The curriculum will provide attendees with a strong grasp of Evaluation and Management auditing, coding, and documentation techniques.

The curriculum is designed to assist in the development and mastery of the necessary skill set to successfully audit Evaluation and Management (E&M) services. This education and training have been designed to promote compliance and minimize the risk mitigation associated with post-payment review and 3rd party audit exposure.

Curriculum specifics will include:

- The “Key Components” associated with E&M code selection
- The differences between the CPT and CMS E&M documentation guidelines
- Discuss the use of utilization benchmarks to target potential risk areas
- Explain the differences between the 1995 and 1997 examination guidelines
- Determining the complexity of medical decision making (MDM)
- The importance to ‘link’ ICD-10-CM codes to E&M services
- Risks associated with certain EHRs solutions (e.g., “wizards”)
- Distinguishing “problem-oriented” from “preventive” E&M services
- What to look for when modifiers are reported with E&M services (e.g., -25)
- How to use a well-constructed audit template to conduct reviews
- Key steps to present audit findings to providers successfully and non-confrontationally

CEU—4 CEUs approved by AAPC & ArchProCoding

CME – 4 (Continuing Medical Education) Credits for MD, DO, NP, PA, RN:

*This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, and Association for Rural & Community Health Professional Coding. The University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education to physicians. The University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 11 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Click Here For More Details and Registration

TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO REGISTER:

MDHHS SDOH Partner Meeting: Intersecting Social Determinants - August 9th

Please join the MDHHS Policy and Planning Team on August 9, 2022, as we explore opportunities to connect and improve SDOH efforts in Michigan.

Your perspective is needed as we discuss the implementation of the overarching MDHHS Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Strategy.

During this meeting, we will discuss the implementation of current SDOH strategies in the 2022 SDOH Strategy, as well as efforts to expand priorities in 2023-2024.
COVID-19 Vaccine Updates and Resources

A reminder that COVID-19 is still having an impact on our rural neighbors and those providing care and solutions. Please click on the links below for important information regarding the latest on vaccines, boosters, testing, and other recommendations:

- **NEW:** COVID-19 Oral Antiviral Program / Test to Treat Survey
- **NEW:** Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose Authorized for Children ages 5 to 11
- **NEW:** The Implications of Long COVID for Rural Communities
- **RESOURCE:** RHC Vaccine Confidence News and Information - UPDATED
- **RESOURCE:** One Stop Online for COVID Prevention and Treatment in Every County
- **RESOURCE:** COVID-19 Impact on Emergency Preparedness for RHCs
- **UPDATE:** MDHHS Medicaid Policy Bulletins
- **UPDATE:** MDHHS L-Letters Guidance
- **ONGOING:** Understanding the Federal COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates: Practical Considerations for Covered Employers

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