

National Hispanic Medical Association News

Washington, DC

4/16/2015

Legislation Update

NHMA Capitol Hill Day – March 27 – 100 doctors and medical students meet with Congress and Senate offices on Child Obesity (in the CHIP Program); on STEM premedical pathways, scholarships needed (Higher Education Act this summer) and on the importance of ACA prevention and access to care for all of our community. Thanks for the great meetings!

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 Bipartisan Support at the end: Passed in Congress: 392-37, March 26; Passed in the Senate: 92-8, April 14; Signed by President April 15.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to: (1) remove sustainable growth rate (SGR) methodology from the determination of annual conversion factors in the formula for payment for physicians' services, and (2) revise the update in rates for 2015 and subsequent years. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a Merit-based Incentive Payment (MIP) system under which eligible

professionals (including physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and certified registered nurse anesthetists) shall receive annual payment increases or decreases based on their performance.

Amends SSAct title XXI (State Children's Health Insurance Program) (CHIP) to extend the CHIP program through FY2017.

Amends SSAct title XIX (Medicaid) to extend permanently the qualifying individual program and the transitional medical assistance program.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to extend certain special diabetes programs.

Amends SSAct title V (Maternal and Child Health Services) to extend: (1) abstinence education; (2) personal responsibility education program; (3) family-to-family health information centers; and (4) maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting programs.

Amends the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 to extend through FY2015 the two-midnight rule regarding certain medical patient status review activities. (The two-midnight rule allows Medicare coverage of only hospital stays for which a physician admits to a hospital a beneficiary expected to require care that crosses two midnights, but generally denies coverage of care expected to require less than a two-midnight stay.)

Affordable Care Act Update

If you owe a fee with your taxes for not having health coverage in 2014 and don't yet have health coverage for 2015, you may still be able to get coverage for 2015.

The Health Insurance Marketplace is providing individuals and families who need to pay the fee when they file their 2014 taxes with one last chance to get covered for 2015.

The fee for people who don't have coverage **increases in 2015 to \$325 per person or 2% of your household income – whichever is higher.**

NHMA Programs Update

SUCCESSFUL NHMA 2015 CONFERENCE

NHMA 2015 Annual Conference, Washington, DC had over 500 physicians, health providers from hospitals, clinics, academic health centers, community agencies interested in Hispanic Health Policies and Successful Programs.

PURPOSE: To improve health of Hispanics by increasing skills and awareness of health care programs, ACA, prevention, interprofessional training, child obesity, diabetes, hepatitis C, infectious diseases, mental illness, and more. CME credits provided till April 27th. Call NHMA office for credits: 202.628.5895.

HIGHLIGHTS: We learned and discussed so much:

Thurs 03.26: Opening Reception with FDA Clinical Trials Call to Action for NHMA to meet on increasing participation for Hispanic physicians/patients with Jonca Bull, MD – Director, FDA Office of Minority Health.

Fri 03.27 Finance Planning for Private Docs – NY Life to host dinners in NHMA Regions to follow the interest – this August.

HHS Leaders – Dr. Rios met with Secretary Burwell last week with Latino leaders on ACA updates.

Foundation Panel- Kellogg on Child Obesity Strategies is a partner with NHHF and NHMA in NYC, CA speakers bureaus, media, and govt leaders meetings with community leaders.

Hogg Foundation and Grantmakers in Health will have meetings with us.

Exhibit Hall Grew this Year to 50 exhibits: Government and private sector programs and jobs discussed – nutrition, diabetes, Medicaid, vaccines, clinic trials, diversity and cultural competence, Research at NIH, SAMHSA programs, HRSA NHSC and much more info!

Sat 03.28: Lung Cancer Breakfast, Immigration Health Policies, Child Obesity Campaigns – US Surgeon General; NHMA Kellogg Foundation Project; Industry discussion on physical activity Campaign;

Workshops for researchers, medical faculty, private practice and technology issues and patient communications on chronic disease, etc. Great Lineup of speakers on elderly Latino healthcare, children's healthcare (asthma, obesity, nutrition), vaccines among Hispanic patients, infectious dz (HIV, Ebola, HepatitisC), diabetes, cardiac disease, social media and technology/telemedicine, addictions, mental illness, interprofessional education.

Awards Gala with Dr. Sandra Hernandez, Pres/CEO California Healthcare foundation addressing leadership for Latino medical community with Awardees Speeches: France Cordova, PhD, Director, National Science Foundation; Dean Fernandez, UT Rio Grande Valley Med School; Dr. Luis Aguilar, Tucson.

Sun 03.29: Leadership Institute How to become a Presidential

Appointee to Senior Executive Service; How to become a Corporate Board or Health Industry Executive ; Dr. David Hayes Bautista discusses need for Latino physicians

Other Meetings:
NHMA California Leadership Fellowship supported by the CA Wellness Foundation and the CA HealthCare Foundation. Great speakers from HHS, HRSA, CMS, and national advocates.

NHMA-GE Mentoring and Leadership Program (50 medical students across the nation) met w/ Dr. Miranda, GE

Free Medical School Recruitment reaches >100 local high school and college students, parents with 30 recruiters from across the nation.

Meeting with EPA – NHMA Board and Region Chairpersons, Council of Young Physicians, Council of Residents.

Speeches from VA – Dr. Carolyn Clancy; Global Health and US Mexico Border Commission Director (US); Secretary of Labor Tom Perez

Latino Medical Students Association (LMSA) hold their Policy Congress on key issues of concern to students.

JOIN THE NHMA and get involved! www.nhmamd.org (202) 628-5895.

OTHER PROGRAMS:

HEPATITIS C SUMMITS

NHMA Austin, TX Summit, cohost Senator Jose Rodriguez, Chair, State Senate Hispanic Task Force with leaders from El Paso, Valley, Dallas, San Antonio, Houston and Austin.

NHMA Hepatitis C Summits in Los Angeles, CA in May and in

Washington, DC in July – dates to be arranged.

NHHF EARLY CHILDHOOD OBESITY CAMPAIGN

Diana Torres Burgos, MD and Rios met this week w/NYC Council on a new NHHF/NHMA

Child Obesity campaign effort to launch in Sept. in the Bronx. We are planning a Policy Briefing with the CA Legislative Latino Caucus and our physicians in June.

REGION FORUMS – stay tuned- Sept.-Oct. Receptions

NHMA Members Update

Ilan Shapiro, MD of Miami to represent NHMA at Launch Event and **Sam Arce**, MD to participate in media for the Invokana new diabetes Hispanic campaign.

Elena Rios, MD introduces NHMA to the attendees of the LMSA West Conference Los Angeles at USC Med School at the opening plenary and presents a workshop on national health policies that impact Hispanics. Dr. **Mark Diaz**, NHHF Chairman, Dr. **Efrain Talamantes** – NHMA West Region Chairman, Dr. **David Hayes Bautista**, Dr. **Richard Zapata**, Dr. **Jimenez**, Dr. **Raquel Arias**, Dr. **John Rodarte** among speakers!

Dr. **Flavia Mercado** speaks for NHMA at National Vaccine Conference with CDC, ASTHO, ACOG, NMA others...educating providers to work with Hispanics.

Dr. **JP Sanchez** to represent NHMA at the LMSA Midwest and National Meeting in Ohio at end of April.

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is a committee of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM).

Charge of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee: Investigate and recommend means to ensure academic medicine represents the diversity of the US population and supports women and underrepresented minorities; provides strategies for departments of internal medicine to build diversity programs and tools to self-assess diversity issues: and administering the AAIM Diversity Award.

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is interested in establishing a member on the committee from the NHMA. (If interested send resume to Lucy Pacheco by Apr. 23 lpacheco@nhmamd.org)

The purpose of this membership is:

-To provide input and perspective to the committee related to issues of diversity and inclusion

-To provide the opportunity for possible collaboration on future projects as they may evolve

-To provide feedback to the NHMA leadership related to the goals, objectives and activities of the committee and thus provide a mechanism for feedback from the NHMA, a respected organization with considerable experience

related to advancing the mission of diversity and inclusion

Term of membership: one year (July – July) (however I feel that the committee would look favorably upon having the first member representative start at such time as selected and continue until July 2016) Responsibility: to attend monthly 1 hr conference calls. The committee meets together physically twice a year at the Spring and Fall AAIM conferences that are at varied locations. While the member is welcome to attend, there is no requirement. There is no funding available to cover expenses associated with these meetings.

Desired attributes in committee members: A physician involved in Graduate Medical Education with interest and knowledge related to diversity and inclusion issues. An interest in issues related to limited English proficiency is a plus.

NHMA Representatives Program-NHMA appoints Premier Members as Representatives of NHMA to various public and private sector advisory committees, Boards and Commissions. JOIN NOW at www.nhmamd.org!

NHMA 2015 CONFERENCE SPONSORS, EXHIBITORS, ADVERTISERS ----THANK YOU ALL!

For your vision to support health equity for all in the U.S. and to empower Hispanic physicians to become leaders!

National Hispanic Health Foundation Corporate Advisory Board:

Abbott Nutrition, Abbvie, Pfizer, Health Care Services Corp, Amgen, NovoNordisk, Eli Lilly, Astra Zeneca, JandJ (NHMA Corporate Member) Chairs the group – thanks Ruby Castilla-Puente, MD. If interested in joining the Corporate Advisory Board – contact Elena Rios, MD (202) 628-5895 – President, NHHF

Ways to Contribute to

NHMA/NHHF:

www.nhmamd.org: Donate to overall sustainable education and leadership programs

<https://smile.amazon.com/>

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice: put in **National Hispanic Health Foundation**

Call NHMA office to meet on partnerships with E. Rios.