

OSHIIP News This Week: May 8, 2015

Send us Your OSHIIP Reporting Forms: Click below for our EZ forms. Save these files on your computer and use your keyboard to complete. Fax or email reports to our office for recording.

- As a Word document you can edit:
[EZ Client Contact Form](#) [EZ Public and Media Form](#)
- As a .pdf file you can edit:
[EZ CCF in editable pdf](#) [EZ PAM in editable pdf](#)

Add to your forms any dollars \$aved for your client – or reply to this message with dollars \$aved.

Or enter your own counseling work at the national [Medicare reporting site](#).

OSHIIP Stats for Week of May 8, 2015:

- Handled 867 calls
- Reported 1,183 CCFs
- Conducted 14 Public events reaching 3,347 Ohioans
- Saved \$123,805

New Medicare Prescription Drug Cost Data Available: CMS [announced the availability](#) of new, privacy-protected data on Medicare Part D prescription drugs prescribed by physicians and other health care professionals in 2013. This data shows which prescription drugs were prescribed to Medicare Part D beneficiaries by which practitioners.

SSA Numbers to be Removed from Medicare Cards: The *Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015* (H.R. 2), a broad measure that repeals the controversial Medicare sustainable growth rate for paying physicians that was signed into law last month, includes a provision prohibiting the inclusion of Social Security numbers on Medicare cards. The bill instructs the secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the commissioner of Social Security, to "establish cost-effective procedures to ensure that Social Security numbers, or derivatives, are not displayed, coded or embedded in Medicare cards issued to individuals entitled to [Medicare] benefits." [Here](#) is more from SSA.

May is National Stroke Awareness Month: Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States and is a major cause of adult disability. About 800,000 people in the United States have a stroke each year. Be sure to know the signs and symptoms of stroke, so you can be prepared to take quick action and perhaps save a life.

Signs of Stroke in Men and Women

- Sudden numbness or weakness in the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking, or difficulty understanding speech.

- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance, or lack of coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Call 9-1-1 immediately if you or someone else has any of these symptoms.

Good News Story: From Lorain County volunteer Andrea Zimmer: She worked with a beneficiary's retirement plan to get a hospital claim from January paid. She had to call the providers and have them send the bills along with an EOB for review. She got confirmation the retirement insurance will pay 80% of the balance due. The beneficiary was elated when she told her that the hospital bill balance due will be partially paid by her insurance. "She was worried how she was going to pay the bill & was going to ask the hospital if she could make monthly payments," says Andrea. "People ask me all the time why I do what I do & for free, this is just one example of why. Seeing the relief on her face is immeasurable." Thank you Andrea!

Register for an OSHIIP Volunteer Refresher Training Webinar:

To attend, call 1-877-820-7831 and enter passcode 896960.

Thursday, May 14

Medicare and Federal Employee Health Benefits

To register for this webinar, click a link below:

10 AM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/899158983422868738>

2 PM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1771795182900361218>

Tuesday, June 23 2pm and Thursday, June 25 10am (*please note, this webinar is offered on two different dates*)

Social Security Updates

To register for this webinar, click a link below:

June 23 2 PM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4263392985486821122>

June 25 10 AM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6857678576596427010>

Tuesday, July 28

Part B Provider Outreach & Education: Patsy Schwenk, CGS, Provider Relations Senior Analyst

To register for this webinar, click a link below:

10 AM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4228219609444467714>

2 PM: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5675367127109431809>

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