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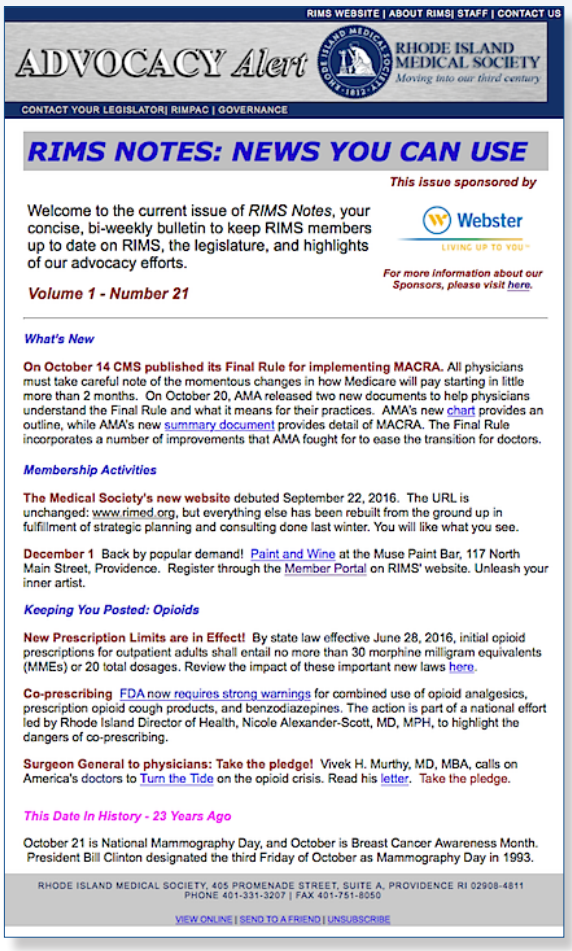

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ADVOCACY Alert — RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY — Moving into our third century

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RIMS NOTES: NEWS YOU CAN USE

This issue sponsored by Webster LIVING UP TO YOU™

Welcome to the current issue of *RIMS Notes*, your concise, bi-weekly bulletin to keep RIMS members up to date on RIMS, the legislature, and highlights of our advocacy efforts.

For more information about our Sponsors, please visit here.

Volume 1 - Number 21

What's New

On October 14 CMS published its Final Rule for implementing MACRA. All physicians must take careful note of the momentous changes in how Medicare will pay starting in little more than 2 months. On October 20, AMA released two new documents to help physicians understand the Final Rule and what it means for their practices. AMA's new chart provides an outline, while AMA's new summary document provides detail of MACRA. The Final Rule incorporates a number of improvements that AMA fought for to ease the transition for doctors.

Membership Activities

The Medical Society's new website debuted September 22, 2016. The URL is unchanged: www.rimed.org, but everything else has been rebuilt from the ground up in fulfillment of strategic planning and consulting done last winter. You will like what you see.

December 1 Back by popular demand! Paint and Wine at the Muse Paint Bar, 117 North Main Street, Providence. Register through the Member Portal on RIMS' website. Unleash your inner artist.

Keeping You Posted: Opioids

New Prescription Limits are in Effect! By state law effective June 28, 2016, initial opioid prescriptions for outpatient adults shall entail no more than 30 morphine milligram equivalents (MMEs) or 20 total dosages. Review the impact of these important new laws here.

Co-prescribing FDA now requires strong warnings for combined use of opioid analgesics, prescription opioid cough products, and benzodiazepines. The action is part of a national effort led by Rhode Island Director of Health, Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, to highlight the dangers of co-prescribing.

Surgeon General to physicians: Take the pledge! Vivek H. Murthy, MD, MBA, calls on America's doctors to Turn the Tide on the opioid crisis. Read his letter. Take the pledge.

This Date In History - 23 Years Ago

October 21 is National Mammography Day, and October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. President Bill Clinton designated the third Friday of October as Mammography Day in 1993.

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The new biweekly e-newsletter exclusively for RIMS members.

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RIMS NOTES
is published electronically on alternate Fridays.

Contact Sarah if you've missed an issue, sstevens@rimed.org.

Working for You:
RIMS advocacy activities

February 1, Thursday

Meeting with Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline regarding physician profiles

Webinar on Safe Consumption Spaces

Meeting with House leadership regarding legislation

Meeting with Department of Health regarding physician mental health issues: Bradley J. Collins, MD, President

Legislative hearings

House Majority Leader Shekarchi fundraiser: Herbert Chen, MD; CJ Malgieri, MD

February 2, Friday

Medically Supervised Injection Facility/ Harm Reduction Center work group, RIMS offices

Public hearing on regulations, Department of Health

Meeting with Thundermist Healthcare

February 5, Monday

Conference call with Anchor Medical and Department of Health regarding Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)

House Special Legislative Commission on School Start Times: Susan Duffy, MD

RIMS Council Meeting: Bradley J. Collins, MD, President

February 6, Tuesday

RIMS Physician Health Committee: Herbert Rakatansky, MD, Chair

AMA Advocacy Resource Center conference call regarding social media

Legislative hearings

February 7, Wednesday

Legislative hearings: Martin Weinstock, MD; Helena Kuhn, MD; and Mary Teeple, MD, testified on bill to ban minors from tanning booths.

February 8, Thursday

Meeting with RI Quality Institute regarding Health Information Exchange updates

SIM Steering Committee: Peter Hollmann, MD, President-elect

Legislative hearings

Sen. Majority Leader McCaffrey fundraiser

February 9, Friday

Meeting with Massage Therapy Association regarding alternative pain treatment legislation

Best Practices Regarding Opioid Prescribing

Register Now!

Best Practices for Pain Management and Opioid Prescribing: Fulfilling the New Opioid CME Mandate

Crowne Plaza, Warwick

Saturday, March 3

Appropriate Prescribing, Potential for Dependence, Pharmacology, and Addiction.

Saturday, March 24

Alternatives for Opioid Pain Management: Chiropractic Care, Medical Marijuana, Physical Therapy, and Acupuncture.

CME applied for. These courses fulfill the requirements set forth in Department of Health Regulations, *Prescriber Training Requirement for Best Practices Regarding Opioid Prescribing*. Physician prescribers holding a Controlled Substance Registration (CSR) must fulfill this specific training requirement only once and must do so before the next renewal of their CSR (June 2018).

Conference call with Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI regarding joint Diabetes Prevention CME event

February 12, Monday

Meeting with Physicians for Fair Coverage regarding legislation

February 13, Tuesday

AMA National Advocacy Conference, Washington, DC: meeting with Congressional delegation, Peter A. Hollmann, MD, President-elect and staff

February 14, Wednesday

Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline

Governor's Task Force on Overdose Prevention and Intervention

Meeting with Department of Health regarding physician mental health issues: Bradley J. Collins, MD, President

February 15, Thursday

MA/RI Medical Group Managers Association presentation regarding legislation

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Coalition meeting at RIMS

Meeting with Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner regarding legislation: L. Anthony Cirillo, MD

Legislative Hearings

February 16, Friday

Annual meeting of health care lobbyists at RIMS

February 20, Tuesday

Improving End of Life Care Coalition

AMA Advocacy Resources conference call regarding prior authorization

February 21, Wednesday

Primary Care Physicians Advisory Committee, RI Department of Health

February 23, Friday

Medically Supervised Injection Facility/ Harm Reduction Center work group meeting, RIMS offices

February 27, Tuesday

AMA Advocacy Resources conference call regarding APRN Compact

Interested parties meeting on laser safety legislation, Michael E. Migliori, MD, Chair, RIMS Public Laws Committee, Representative Kathleen Fogarty, bill sponsor

Legislative hearings

February 28, Wednesday

Workers Compensation Advisory Committee meeting

Legislative hearings

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RIMS CORPORATE AFFILIATES

The Rhode Island Medical Society continues to drive forward into the future with the implementation of various new programs. As such, RIMS is expanded its Affinity Program to allow for more of our colleagues in healthcare and related business to work with our membership. RIMS thanks these participants for their support of our membership.

Contact Marc Bialek for more information: 401-331-3207 or mbialek@rimed.org

Neighborhood Health Plan OF RHODE ISLAND™

www.nhpri.org

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island is a non-profit HMO founded in 1993 in partnership with Rhode Island's Community Health Centers. Serving over 185,000 members, Neighborhood has doubled in membership, revenue and staff since November 2013. In January 2014, Neighborhood extended its service, benefits and value through the HealthSource RI health insurance exchange, serving 49% the RI exchange market. Neighborhood has been rated by National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) as one of the Top 10 Medicaid health plans in America, every year since ratings began twelve years ago.

RHODE ISLAND PHYSICIANS CORPORATION PRIMARY CARE

www.ripcpc.com

RIPCPC is an independent practice association (IPA) of primary care physicians located throughout the state of Rhode Island. The IPA, originally formed in 1994, represent 150 physicians from Family Practice, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. RIPCPC also has an affiliation with over 200 specialty-care member physicians. Our PCP's act as primary care providers for over 340,000 patients throughout the state of Rhode Island. The IPA was formed to provide a venue for the smaller independent practices to work together with the ultimate goal of improving quality of care for our patients.

RIMS gratefully acknowledges the practices who participate in our discounted Group Membership Program

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For more information about group rates, please contact Marc Bialek, RIMS Director of Member Services