



NEWS and NOTES from NPO

NOVEMBER 8, 2019

THINGS TO KNOW AND DO

IMPORTANT! MIPS REMINDER FROM NPO! PLEASE READ!

This information is intended only for those eligible providers required to report for MIPS. All ACO participants are required to report for MIPS. Non-ACO providers can check their MIPS participation status [here](#).

As we move through the final 90-day MIPS reporting period of the 2019 calendar year, NPO would like to remind all practices and providers to do the [following steps](#).

MSMS: ASKING FOR ASSISTANCE

Our partners at MSMS have had a busy legislative and advocacy week which they have summarized. This summary includes a request for our physician support and input for policies on [unexpected out of network costs](#) to patients. Muhammad Arsiwala, MD, MSMS President, wrote an article summarizing the issue well, which you can read [here](#).

- Members are encouraged to [write](#) the House Health Policy committee.
- Members in Speaker Chatfield's [district](#) or those with relationships to the Speaker are encouraged to speak directly to his office about the surprise out of network billing problems. If you need assistance to get connected to Speaker Chartfield, please contact [Kevin McFatridge](#) with MSMS.

MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS REDUCTION CLASSES

Northern Michigan Psychiatric Services and NPO continue their partnership to expand Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) services in the region. Additional information and registration information can be found using the links below:

- A [free talk](#) for the community to better understand what MBSR is and how it can help individuals is scheduled for 12/2/2019
- [MBSR for Teens](#) is now offering a third 8-week class starting 1/15/202. Teens from 13 - 19 years old participating in this class will learn about the body-mind connection and how leading a healthy lifestyle can positively impact their physical and emotional well-being.
- [MBSR for Adults](#) is a new 8-week class helping participants cultivate a different relationship with stress resulting from a chronic physical and/or psychological illness and helping individuals to better navigate life's inevitable changes.

If you have any questions about a referral, class content, or to request financial scholarships for your patients, please call Wendy Weckstein at either (231) 935-0355 or (231) 342-9634.

5 TIPS FOR IMPROVING PATIENT PORTAL ENGAGEMENT

If your practice would like to improve patient portal engagement you can consider some of the following tips from BCBSM:

1. Mention the portal in your on-hold messaging and voicemail recordings. Include features they'll enjoy and how to sign up. Emphasize conveniences, such as 24/7 ability to schedule appointments, request medications or review reports.
 2. Put flyers and posters where patients are waiting for appointments and have time to read.
 3. Add a tagline on appointment cards, statements and newsletters, such as: "tired of playing phone tag? Sign up for our patient portal."
 4. Include your portal registration details in checkout materials.
 5. Put a link to your patient portal login at the top of your practice website homepage.
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CHOOSING WISELY - FREE RESOURCES FOR YOUR PRACTICE

NPO is pleased to make laminated copies of Choosing Wisely patient education materials that your practice may want to use. Please take a look at [Choosing Wisely Patient Resources](#). If you find any materials that you want to share with patients, just let us know how many laminated copies you need.

Some materials available:

- [Think Your Child Needs Antibiotics?](#)
- [5 Questions To Ask Your Doctor Before Taking Antibiotics](#)
- [Treating Sinus Problems](#)
- [Pap Tests](#)
- [Imaging Tests for Lower-Back Pain](#)

The American Society for Clinical Pathology recently updated their recommendations for thirty things physicians and patients should question - [click here](#).

There is now a **Choosing Wisely app**: Download the new *Choosing Wisely* app to your [iPhone/iPad](#) or [Android](#) device and have over 540 specialty society recommendations and 150 patient-friendly resources at your fingertips.

Helpful Resources & Upcoming Events

[2019 NPO Calendar](#)
[NPO Home](#)
[NMHN Home](#)
[Trillium Home Health](#)
[MACRA-MIPS Corner](#)
[Member Connections](#)

*NPO is committed to providing great resources to our members!
We welcome your feedback and comments.*

Northern Physicians Organization 231.421.8505