



OAMSS Quarterly Newsletter

OAMSS
Board
of Directors



President's Corner

By: Amy King

Happy Fall OAMSS Members!

Hard to believe that we are entering the final months of 2009! There are some exciting events coming these next few months such as the NAMSS national convention in Reno, Nevada the first week in October followed by the OAMSS fall conference on November 6, 2009 at Tuality Health Plans in Hillsboro, OR. These events not only provide continuing education for those of you who are certified, but are an excellent networking opportunity with your colleagues in credentialing. It's not often we are in a room surrounded by people who can "speak credentialing" or even know what that means! So take advantage and pick the brains of your fellow OAMSS and NAMSS members.

As this year ends and a new one begins shortly, here's a motivational story for each of you:

"Sometimes in the winds of change we find our true direction."
~Unknown

Change is not easy. But it is simple. Things will always change. We don't have a choice about that, but we do have a choice on how we react to change; and as a leader, whether or not we choose to create change. The choice really boils down to this...either we manage change or it will manage us.

As a leader, however, deciding to make changes is the easy part. Getting your people on board is much more difficult. Why is that? Quite simply, change is an emotional process. We are all creatures of habit who usually resist it and welcome routine. Uncharted waters are scary!

In the long run, however, sameness is the fast track to mediocrity. A mediocre companies won't survive. Tuli Kupferburg said it best... "When patterns are broken, new worlds emerge." That is your challenge...to convince your team that the new world you are trying to create is better than the one you're in. Is it easy? Of course not. It takes planning, commitment, patience and courage.

The truth, of course, is that change can be a wonderful gift. In fact, it is the key that unlocks the doors to growth and excitement in any organization. And, most importantly, without it...your competition will pass you by. A big part of success, as a leader, will be your ability to inspire your team to get out of their comfort zones; to assure them that even though they are on a new path, it's the right path, for the right reasons.

- Amy King
President
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CMSR
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Hospital
- John Ryan
Membership Chair
Central Oregon IPA



OAMSS FALL CONFERENCE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!



It's not too late to sign up for our OAMSS fall conference. The registration fees are \$60 for OAMSS members and \$85 for non-OAMSS members. Please send your registration brochure and fees to:

Attn: Bobbie Oxford, CPCS
Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital
Medical Staff Services
2211 NE 139th Street
Rm 3E120
Vancouver, WA 98686

FALL CONFERENCE AGENDA:

DATE: 11/6/2009

LOCATION: TUALITY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

TIME: 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

6 CEU CREDITS BY NAMSS

7:00 - 8:15 *Registration/Networking Hosted Breakfast*

8:15 - 8:30 *Welcome / Announcements*

8:30 - 11:30 *Update on Legal Developments-Case Studies:*

Kelly Hagan and Karl Tjerandsen of Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, P.C. will provide an update on legal developments surrounding credentialing, peer review, and medical staff membership. Mr. Tjerandsen will provide an overview of recent litigation in these areas, while Mr. Hagan will focus on areas of continued concern and developing trends. Topics will include negligent credentialing, economic credentialing, the conduct of peer review, the peer review privilege in Oregon, JC Standards, new HIPAA and Identity Theft regulations, and trouble spots typically found in medical staff bylaws.

12:00 - 1:30 *Hosted Lunch-OAMSS Business meeting*

1:30 - 2:30 *How the OMA Supports Physicians and the Medical Staff:* Paul Frisch, General Counsel & Director of Medical/Legal Affairs for the Oregon Medical Association, will provide information on how the OMA provides assistance to hospital medical staffs in identifying staff issues and provides leadership in addressing such issues.

2:45 - 4:00 *How to Achieve an Effective Peer Review System:*

Samuel "Skip" Freedman, MD will be discussing the current state of the peer review process for hospitals. He will explain how doing peer review positively:

- *Increases practitioner knowledge and skills.*
- *Improves patient care processes to reduce likelihood of errors.*
- *Identifies problematic practice patterns or processes that need further investigation and intervention.*
- *He will explain the impact of the CMS/JC requirement (OPPE & FPPE) on medical staffs, and will discuss such topics as:*
- *Even handedness*
- *Improving transparency*
- *Efficient operations*
- *Effective evaluations*
- *In compliance with Joint Commission standards.*

NPDB Reporting

In late July, some hospitals that have never made reports to the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) and those that have never queried the NPDB began receiving written probes from the federal Department of Health and Human Services. By some estimates, 50% of all hospitals have never submitted a report to the NPDB. The federal government perceives a low rate of compliance with the Health Care Quality Improvement Act and, as a result, is setting course to raise awareness and compliance. Now is a good time for hospitals to reassess their compliance with both state and federal reporting requirements and, if necessary, adjust their practices.

Information provided by:

Ingrid Brydolf

Partner, David Wright Tremaine, LLP

OAMSS Member

Senate Bill 507

(Excerpted from Oregon Medical Association, OMA News)

OMA's SB 507 Effective as of July 23

Senate Bill 507, the OMA bill that establishes a statutory timeframe for credentialing decisions, went into effect July 23. Below you can find the specifics of the bill and how it may affect you.

Health plans now have 90 days to make decisions on a physician's credentialing application. During the 90-day credentialing period, physicians will be able to see patients and be reimbursed at least at the non-participating provider rate. The credentialing period starts upon receipt of a complete application from the physician. A "complete application" must include:

- Proof of current registration with the DEA
- Proof that the provider is covered by a professional liability insurance policy or certification meeting the health insurer's requirements
- Other information requested by the health insurer

If credentialed, physicians will be reimbursed for all covered medical services provided during and after the credentialing period. Timely filing issues are addressed in the bill and the physician will be reimbursed for providing covered medical services if they submit the claim within six months after the credentialing decision has been made.

Health plans will not be required to pay claims if the provider is not credentialed, the provider was previously rejected or terminated, or the provider fails to contest a rejection before a panel of peers.

For further questions or concerns, contact Bryan Boehringer at bryan@theOMA.org or Joy Conklin at joy@theOMA.org, or call (503) 619-8000.

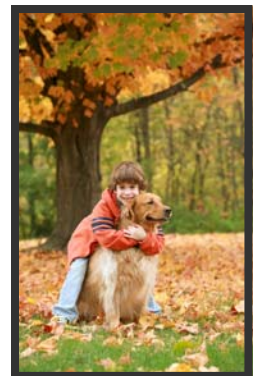
OAMSS Scholarships

OAMSS awards a scholarship annually to members who wish to obtain their certification or attend an annual OAMSS conference. To qualify for the scholarship all applicants must be active OAMSS members of at least twelve (12) months with attendance to a least one (1) meeting, who are in good standing, and whose institution is unable/unwilling to sponsor attendance/certification.

For more information contact **Nancy Lehrbach, Secretary/OAMSS Scholarship Chair** 541-677-2467 or nancylehrbach@chiwest.com.

"There is nothing like a fall day. The cool crisp air, pumpkins in the fields, and playing in the leaves. The smile on your face can warm a chilly day."

Author: Unknown



OAMSS/NAMSS Website

Updated Website

NAMSS is committed to improving the experience members have with their association. This year NAMSS has been working behind the scenes to bring members a better website with enhanced capabilities and a current look and feel. The new website was unveiled at this year's conference in Reno, Nevada.

All state websites with NAMSS have been upgraded to the new technology. There will be an events calendar, officer's page, news section, contact us, and separate discussion forum and document repository which will contain the most recent documents.

Resources on the website to name a few:

- Fall 2009 Conference Brochure
- Job postings
- Current OAMSS member roster (email Amy King at aking@chpgroup.com if you are in need of the password)
- OAMSS Policies and Procedures

Oregon Credentialing Application Update

Excerpted from http://www.oregon.gov/OHPPR/ACPCI/state_app.shtml

Updated 08/17/2009

The 2009 Oregon Practitioner Credentialing Application and the 2009 Oregon Practitioner Re-credentialing Application has been approved!

Effective July 17, 2009, the new forms are available for use. The Advisory Committee on Physician Credentialing Information (ACPCI) has granted a grace period permitted where both the 2004 and the 2009 applications will be acceptable to use before the 2009 applications become mandatory on October 1, 2009.

Newer version of the Applications were loaded on 8/17/09 and maybe found at:

[State Application \(OPCA\)](#)

[State Recredential Application \(OPRA\)](#)

Please [eSubscribe](#) for future notifications.

Membership Update

OAMSS membership includes:

- 129 Active
- 6 Affiliates
- 1 Student



Please welcome new OAMSS members since 6/2009:

Shirley Zolkoske, Salem Hospital

Karen Pearson, St. Charles Medical Center

TJC Announces Revisions to the Hospital Telemedicine Standards

The Joint Commission (TJC) has released revisions to the Leadership and Medical Staff chapters of the Hospital Standards in order to comply with CMS requirements for deeming authority.

Currently, TJC accepts credentialing and privileging by proxy. CMS currently requires that telemedicine providers be credentialed by both the originating and distant sites. TJC would have allowed the originating site (where the patient is located) to accept the credentials and privileges granted by the distant site (where the provider is located) if the distant site is TJC accredited and complies with the appropriate Medical Staff standards.

TJC has revised its telemedicine standards to comply with the CMS rule, but continues to work with CMS and Congress to accept credentialing by proxy by the distant site.

The revised standard is effective **July 15, 2010** and can be found here:

http://www.jointcommission.org/NR/rdonlyres/73A1C766-37B6-4EB2-BEB3-2A59C2BE841E/0/CMS_ChangestoCMSPHospitalStandards_EPs_July15_20090929.pdf.

Source: The Joint Commission

Nominations for OAMSS Board Positions

The following members have been nominated for the open OAMSS Board positions (President-elect and Treasurer). There were two additional nominations submitted for treasurer following the publication of the slate of candidates.

The official ballot was sent out to the membership on Monday, October 12th. Please print and return to Ann Klinger, Past President via fax at (503) 681-1941 by **Monday, October 26, 2009** no later than 5 PM. Thank you.

President-Elect (Term: 2010 - 2011) listed in alpha order:

- **Trixie Ortiz, CPCS**
- **Amanda Walker, CPCS**

Treasurer (Term: 2010 - 2012) listed in alpha order:

- **Darlene Ditsworth, CPCS**
- **Bobbie Gervais**
- **Rebecca Whetstine**



National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) educates women about the importance of early detection for breast cancer.

Since NBCAM's inception, mammography use has doubled, and breast cancer death rates have declined. Still, many women do not utilize mammography at regular intervals.

In recognition of the fact that mammography is the best available method of detecting breast changes that may be cancer, long before physical symptoms can be seen or felt, and that breast cancer deaths could decline further if all women age 40 and older received mammograms at regular intervals, we at the **OAMSS Association of the State of Oregon/Washington** do hereby proclaim October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

We urge all women and their families in the **State of Oregon/Washington** to get the facts about mammography.

Provided by: www.nbcam.org



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Questions, Comments, Corrections, Additions: please contact the Editor directly.