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Calderon Medical Group Wins Big: Top Performer in Silver State ACO's Second Gaps-in-Care Contest; Also Receives Health Insight's 2018 Quality Award

In an effort to have practices close gaps in care for 2018 quality reporting, Silver State ACO (SSACO) ran a contest. Winners were announced at the January practice meetings. The contest awarded two cash prizes in each of five categories – one for greatest number of gaps closed and one for greatest percentage. This gave both big and small practices a chance to win. We applaud Calderon Medical Group who aced the contest – winning six (of the total ten available) prizes, including greatest number *and* percentage of fall risk screenings completed! This is what happens when staff focuses on reporting the care as well as delivering it!



James Lee, Calderon Medical Group

The other winners were Northern Nevada Medical Group (winner in three categories) and Diagnostic Center of Medicine. Congratulations to all!

Health Insight Quality Awards

Quality care is the focus of a medical practice. Quality reporting is an attempt by CMS to describe the level of quality by a number or “score”. This score, theoretically,



reflects how well a practice is performing and can serve as a basis of comparison to other practices. Quality reporting is a CMS requirement for all practices serving Medicare patients and has become a time consuming and complicated task. One of the great benefits of being a Participant in Silver State ACO is our assistance in understanding CMS rules, guidance in best practices, as well as actually filing the quality measures reports with CMS.

Ultimately, quality and care reflect a practice's dedication to its patients. Each year, HealthInsights, dedicated to helping improve quality of care to Nevada residents, recognizes practices whose performance and quality are outstanding or have improved dramatically. We are proud that six Silver State ACO practices earned the recognition this year. They are:

Box Canyon Medical Group
Calderon Medical Group
Diagnostic Center of Medicine
Jateko Family Practice
Priority Health Group
Sundance Medical Group

We applaud their hard work and dedication and appreciate HealthInsight's recognition. At January's meeting, each practice was presented with a beautiful, inscribed trophy.

Each of these groups has been with Silver State ACO for numerous years. We believe this proves that by working together and learning from each other, we can all improve.

Promoting Interoperability – Be Sure You Can File!

Promoting Interoperability (previously known as Advancing Care and, before that, Meaningful Use) must be filed by each practice. Filing PI will count as 30% of your MIPS score. Although the scores are aggregated for the ACO as a whole, Silver State ACO *cannot* file on your behalf. The practice can get help to file (see contact information for Health Insight, below) but filing must be done by the practice. Note that any practice that is part of an ACO must file as a group regardless of how many providers it has.

Please remember that CMS recently transitioned from the EIDM management system to the HARP system. Your login credentials *should* have been migrated with no issue. Please be sure to check immediately to see if they have and to ascertain that your access to the CMS systems is active. It may take more than a month to have access reinstated, so please be sure your access does not expire.

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January Practice Meetings

There was a great turnout for the SSACO practice meetings at Desert Springs Hospital on January 30th; standing room only for the lunch session. The meeting was particularly informative, including updates on filing GPRO for 2018, as well as new rules and guidelines from CMS for quality reporting in 2019. There was an in depth review of Promoting Interoperability by HealthInsight. For information or assistance with filing PI, contact Aaron Hubbard at HealthInsight directly: 702-948-0306 or 775-830-9746 or by email ahubbard@healthinsight.org.

As of January 1st, Silver State ACO has eight practices in Northern and rural Nevada. We appreciate all our groups and celebrated with the first practice meeting in Northern Nevada on January 25th. A full house of interested and engaged staff, ready to work with Silver State ACO and continue its success, enjoyed dinner while hearing from informative presenters.

If you attended and would like a copy of the slides, please ask your quality coordinator. If you were not able to join us, please ask your quality coordinator for a review, as well.

Our next practice meetings will take place:
Southern NV –Wednesday, May 1st – Summerlin Hospital
Northern NV – Thursday, May 2nd – NNMC Sparks Medical Bldg
Additional details to follow. See more photos on pages 7 and 8.

Please keep in mind that the practice meetings are for PARTICIPANTS ONLY, unless an outside presenter is specifically invited.

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Amanda Gongaware (Reno Family Physicians), gift card winner, with Jamie Campbell, Silver State ACO Quality Coordinator for Northern Nevada

We always like to have some fun and share prizes with those who take the time to join us. Great prizes were won. For entry into additional

prize drawings, respond to the email to which this newsletter was attached with the words “I win double with Silver State ACO” in the subject line. You do have to be present to win so be sure to join us!



Annabella Ramirez (Sunset Clinics) wins a beautiful watch at the breakfast meeting in Southern Nevada. SSACO Quality Coordinators Alex Wells and Estela Holloway look on.

ALAN OLIVE, CEO of Northern Nevada Medical Center (NNMC), Wins Washoe County Medical Society PRESIDENT’S AWARD

On January 26th, Alan Olive was presented with the Washoe County Medical Society President’s Award at their annual dinner. The Medical



Society highlighted NNMC partnerships on local initiatives and leadership that lead to a healthier community. NNMC has earned an impressive list of

Center: Alan Olive, CEO Northern Nevada Medical Center national awards, including for patient safety and the treatment of heart attacks. Northern Nevada Medical Center is SSACO’s Preferred Provider for acute inpatient services in Northern Nevada and is part of the Valley Health System, a partner in Silver State ACO. Congratulations to Alan and the whole NNMC team!

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2019 CMS Quality Measures - SPOTLIGHT

PREV-10: Prevention Care and Screening – Tobacco Use Screening and Cessation Intervention

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS] require patients ages 18 and older to be screened for tobacco use at least once every 24 months and if identified as a tobacco user, receive cessation intervention. Marijuana and e-cigarettes are **not** considered a form of tobacco.

CMS is asking practices to screen for both smoke and smokeless tobacco and will not accept the terms “Smoker, Non-Smoker, or Former Smoker” because it is specific to cigarette use. In order to meet the intent of this measure, please ensure that you are using the correct documentation and replacing “Smoker” with “Tobacco User” and “Non-Smoker/Former Smoker” with “Non-Tobacco User” within your Electronic Medical Record [EMR]. If your Electronic Medical Record does not support this change, please speak with your Quality Coordinator. They will help you put an office policy in place in order to meet the CMS requirements.

INCORRECT

- Smoker
- Former Smoker
- Non Smoker

CORRECT

- Tobacco User
- Former Tobacco User
- Non Tobacco User

If a patient uses **any** type of tobacco, the expectation is that they should receive tobacco cessation intervention: either brief counseling [3 minutes or less] and/or pharmacotherapy. E-cigarettes are **not** considered to be a type of smoking cessation. Concepts aligned with brief counseling, such as, brochures and pamphlets may be supplied to the patient if they are accompanied by counseling and it is documented within the patients chart. If the practice only supplies the patient with educational materials and does not review, counsel, and document within the chart, the measure will not meet the requirements and CMS will not accept it. Cessation intervention **must** occur during or after the most recent tobacco user status is documented. If your EMR automatically generates the tobacco status during each encounter,

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please be aware that you must counsel the patient on cessation at every visit that the status is present.

Tobacco Screenings may be completed during a telehealth encounter.

Please reach out to your Quality Coordinators if you have any other questions or need help meeting this measure.

SSACO CONTINUES TO EXPAND ITS PREFERRED PROVIDER NETWORK TO HELP IMPROVE QUALITY AND CONTROL COSTS

Preferred Providers are specialists, carefully selected by SSACO for their quality of care and dedication to helping SSACO attain its mission of providing the right level of care at the right time. This benefits the patient as well as the practice and SSACO, overall. We continually review the preferred provider network listing and analyze each group's results and attention to our objectives. The most up to date list can always be found on the SSACO website (www.silverstateaco.com) under the "Affiliates" tab. There are now listings for both Southern and Northern Nevada. Please be sure to review the listing before referring patients to a specialist.

From the National Institute on Aging

Stay Connected to Combat Loneliness and Social Isolation

As people age, they often find themselves spending more time at home alone. This can affect their health and well-being. Learn about who might be at risk and how to help them stay connected. Click here to [read and share this infographic](#).

Quote of the Month

"A hundred times every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving." *Albert Einstein, 1879-1955, theoretical physicist who developed the Theory of Relativity, one of the pillars of modern physics. He is also credited with a strong influence on the philosophy of science.*

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Additional Pictures from the SSACO Northern Nevada Practice Meeting
January 25, 2019
Northern Nevada Medical Center, Sparks, NV



Tammy Malley, Kindred at Home

Pictured below:
Nancy Hall, Reno Family Physicians
Gift card winner with Jamie Campbell,
Quality Coordinator, SSACO



Additional Pictures from the SSACO Southern Nevada Practice Meeting January 30, 2019 Summerlin Hospital Medical Center



Ashley Nuss, Box Canyon Primary Care accepting the Health Insight 2018 Quality Award presented by Alison Shipley; with Bruce Wiggins, Co-Founder & Vice Chairman and Jessica Shepard, Quality Coordinator Supervisor, SSACO



Pictured above: Gene Talley, JATEKO Family Group accepting the Health Insight 2018 Quality Award with Bruce Wiggins Co-Founder & Vice Chairman, SSACO



Pictured right: Yvonne Logan, Diagnostic Center of Medicine Raffle winner with Rena Kantor, Director of Operations SSACO