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## Bulletin Board Newsletter Michigan Home Health Association



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### Board of Directors

Jill Roby-Snyder

Vote NO on Proposal 4. This proposal seeks to amend the Michigan Constitution and will be voted on at the General Election on November 6. After thorough review and recommendation by the MHHA Public Policy Committee, the Board voted to Oppose Proposal 4. You can learn more details about Proposal 4 and MHHA's rationale for opposing it at the MHHA Web Homepage at [www.mhha.org](http://www.mhha.org). This proposal is BAD public policy and I encourage everyone to vote NO. "Politics should not be a spectator sport" when home care faces threats at all levels of government. During this month, I challenge each of you to meet with candidates in your area by attending town hall meetings and candidate debates. Ask our candidates for the US Congress and US Senate their views on these topics: 1. Will they oppose cuts and co-pays to Medicare; 2. Will they sign on as a co-sponsor to support Congressman Price's (R-Georgia) legislation for the Marketing Pricing Plan for HME (Market alternative to Competitive Bidding); 3. Will they oppose the Obama Administration's proposal to eliminate the Companionship Exemption from overtime. Ask your area candidates for the State House the following: 1. Will they Oppose Proposal 4; 2. Will they vote in favor of SB 221 to license home care agencies. These are a few of MHHA's top priorities and you might think of a couple more as the home care wish list is long. I will be traveling to Orlando during October along with MHHA Executive Director Barry Cargill and other MHHA members to attend the National Association of Home Care and Hospice, Annual Education Conference. Please let me or Barry know if you will be there so we can visit together while attending the conference. The weekend before the NAHC Conference, I will attend the Forum of State Home Care Agencies, a NAHC Affiliate organization representing state home care organizations in 43 states. This is our opportunity to meet Executive Directors and Board Presidents from across the nation and share trends and happenings in each state. Many of our HME members will be attending Medtrade, an exhibitor event hosted by the American Association for Home Care, MHHA's national association partner for home medical equipment suppliers. MHHA will have a booth in the State Association Room and MHHA members are encouraged to visit with our Executive Director, Barry Cargill at our exhibit booth. Wow! The Education Committee has really outdone themselves with their planned program. There is something for everyone including a series for financial managers looking to position your agency for the future. Check out Deb Holman's Education Committee Column in the Bulletin and visit the Events Page at [www.MHHA.org](http://www.MHHA.org) to see what we are planning for MHHA members. This President's Report would not be

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complete without thanking our committee chairpersons and active members for their support. If you are not involved in MHHA, consider choosing one or more committees and take advantage of your MHHA membership by becoming active. Take advantage of your membership by becoming involved in your association.

### Rehab

Ruth Benjamin

The Rehab Committee met with Clinical Ops in September. Medicare Part B therapy cap goes into effect October 1, 2012. Medicare beneficiaries have received letters that were unclear related to their home health Part A benefit. This has resulted in some patients canceling their home care visits. The cap is related to therapy Part B services only. PT administrative rules have not yet been finalized for continuing education requirements for PTs and PTAs in the state of Michigan. PT Board meets October 16, 2012. Medicare will provide further clarification in writing regarding the need for an order to discontinue therapy when a patient is hospitalized. Verbal discussion at recent CMS meeting gave direction that an order is not needed. The American Physical Therapy Association's response to Proposed Rule 2013 included the suggestion to base the payment of home care services on the complexity and functional limitations of the patient in place of the number of therapy visits. New hire competency tool developed by MHHA Rehab Committee for PT was updated to include heart, lung and bowel sounds to support comprehensive assessment on admission. Next meeting: Wednesday, November 14th at 9:30. Be prepared to discuss annual conference education ideas, possible participation in LSVT BIG workshop and nominate the person next to you to be the rehab representative on the Education Committee. Please send additional agenda items to Ruth at [ruth.benjamin@midmichigan.org](mailto:ruth.benjamin@midmichigan.org). Hope to see you there!



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## Regulatory

Joan Taylor & Paula Stopjik

Proposed Rule Comments were submitted from MHHA on September 4, 2012, copies of the comments are available. Expecting publication of the final rule by November 2012, and most likely agencies will have 60 days to implement. Also expecting the Market basket reduction will go into effect January 1, 2012. Hospice coding requirements are increasing. CMS is looking towards risk adjustment case mix information. Diagnosis coding expectations will be expanded past the primary diagnosis for the terminal disease. Additional coding will be necessary on the claim, and non-terminal diagnosis will need to be part of the plan of care. The last CMS open door forum covered a lot of the Hospice changes including the Quality reporting. [www.cms.gov/OpenDoor/Forum/](http://www.cms.gov/OpenDoor/Forum/) ICD-10 coding: New implementation date is October 2014. After discussion the Regulatory Committee decided to begin the process of *developing an agency Risk Assessment for ICD-10* so agencies can identify where diagnosis coding impacts us now and in the future. At the next meeting the committee will start this process. The committee will also identify *recommendations for MHHA educational programs to prepare agencies for the transition to ICD-10*. COP: Comprehensive assessment standard, an agency shared survey findings and what they did to correct the deficiency. The comprehensive assessment does not have to be complete on first visit, but if not completed the clinician must **identify immediate** care issues. Suggestion provided to instruct clinicians "What do you need to do to keep the patient safe until next visit, what is the immediate care need?" Face to face requirement for Medicaid patients. There are 3 known states that are requiring Medicaid face to face documentation, Michigan has not required at this time. The next meeting is October 18, 2012 following Clinical Ops meeting at the MHHA office.

## Public Policy

Linda Rutman & John Ruswinckel

♦ One more meeting before the November election.... Now is the time to learn as much as possible about each ballot proposal at the local and state level and about each candidate for local, state and federal elections. Informed citizens make good decisions. No matter how frustrated anyone is about the negative media over the last several months, voting is a right that every citizen should exercise.

For those who are able to attend, the NAHC Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 21-25, a great opportunity for networking, educational sessions, and motivational renewal to face the many challenges of all home based entities. The Committee has been working on several

## Clinical Operations

Donna Kleinschmit

The Clinical Operation Committee met on September 20, 2012 at the MHHA Office. Barry Cargill, MHHA Executive Director shared the NAHC article where Congress will be considering proposals to avoid an across the board "sequestration" cut in spending that includes a 2% cut in Medicare provider payments. He encouraged everyone to contact our Senators and Representatives urging "no home care and hospice cuts or copays." Education updates was addressed; please refer to the Education Committee. Statewide Ballot Proposal Status distributed; MHHA opposes Proposal 4 based on how it impacts our patients care and our organizations. NGS update provided by Sara Simonds, Annual CMS Region V update provided by Donna Kleinschmit, and MDLARA update provided by Paula Stopjik. Members are encouraged to read the meeting minutes available on the MHHA website for more details. BCBSM request for meeting submitted. Currently nonprofit (Public Act 350); could see legislation proposed to become for profit. Subcommittees: IV Therapy continues to work on updating newest INS Standards and MHHA's IV policies and procedures. Psych Home Care to focus on Dementia and rehospitalization related to behavioral issues. This was a joint meeting with Rehab: 1) Part B therapy cap begins October 1, 2012; not Part A. 2) When a patient is hospitalized, a therapy "hold order" in NOT needed. Document circumstance beyond your control, patient hospitalized and unable to do 30 day reassessment. 3) PT Administrative Review board will be meeting October to identify guidelines for CEUs for PTAs; license will be good for 2 years. 4) change in MHHA's PT competency - added assessments and signs/symptoms when to bring in another appropriate discipline. Members encouraged to read minutes for details related to New Business. \* Survey results were shared with one agency experiencing a MDLARA survey and another agency with correction plan approved. Agenda addition included how hospital based home care agencies were getting their staff to receive vaccination for influenza. The next Clinical Operations meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. at the MHHA Office.

## Ethics

Sue Clemen-Stone

The Committee continues to recruit for committee membership. Meetings are open to anyone that is interested. We are in the process of finalizing programming for the 2013 Annual Conference in Traverse City. Input welcomed. Next meeting is October 22nd at 2:00 p.m. at the MHHA office.



issues but focused recent energies on finalizing the licensure bill SB221 language working with member private duty agencies, NPDA, and Senator Jansen's office. Join us October 5th teleconference at 10 am to discuss any recent legislative developments and our planned the post-election legislative efforts.

## Education

**Deb Holman**

The Education Committee is beginning to work on the 2013 MHHA Annual Conference which will be May 22-24, 2013 at the Grand Traverse Resort. Mark Your Calendars!

Just as everyone is busy and back to a routine, so is MHHA's Educational Calendar. There are many opportunities happening this Fall. MHHA will be beginning a new series of teleconference for HME providers provided by national expert Miriam Lieber. The first will start October 31, 2012 and will be on Operations Management. MHHA will be holding an OASIS Workshop, October 31-November 2<sup>nd</sup>. With all the changes occurring with the Affordable Care Act, home care agencies need be proactive and do things differently to be successful. To help with this, MHHA will be holding a start of a series of workshops that will assist agencies in doing business. On November 28, 2012 Abby Green will be presenting a workshop on Cost Calculation Modules and on December 11, 2012, National Experts, Bob Fazzi and Eileen Freitag will be presenting information on the Affordable Care Act. Both sessions will help agencies do their business better. Check the [MHHA Website Calendar of Events Page](#) for registration information for above workshops and additional teleconferences and webinars taking place over the next couple of months. Please submit any other workshop ideas or speakers to [thelen.cindy@mhha.org](mailto:thelen.cindy@mhha.org) if you think it would be of great interest to the membership. We want to host trainings that the membership needs and wants.

## IV/Infection Control

**Deb Opalowski & Rachel Aultman**

The Infection Control/IV Subcommittee last met on September 20th. The group continues to work on revising the IV policy and procedure book to compliment the Intravenous Nursing Society (INS) standards of practice. If you have questions for the committee to address or would like to join please contact the MHHA office. The next meeting will be on October 18<sup>th</sup>, directly following Clinical Ops.

## Hospice

**Laura Bonde & Rene Wheaton**

Next meeting is November 7, 2012

## Membership

**Tom Mann**

The Membership Committee is looking for new members. If you are a strategic thinker in your agency and interested in sharing and building your experience as a member of the MHHA Membership Committee, please contact myself (Tom Mann) at [tommann@med.umich.edu](mailto:tommann@med.umich.edu) or Barry Cargill at [Cargill.barry@mhha.org](mailto:Cargill.barry@mhha.org). The Membership Committee will be taking a greater role in the strategic thinking and evaluating innovative new services and benefits. Participation on this Committee is open to all service line members. **Help me welcome the following companies to the MHHA Family:**

### Total Care Home Health Services

**Contact: Karleigh Simon**

24655 Southfield Road, Suite 110  
Southfield, MI 48075

**Phone: 248/423-9500**

**Fax: 248/552-1577**

**E-mail: [support@mitotalcare.com](mailto:support@mitotalcare.com)**

Regular Member - Certified

### CHAP

**Contact: Josh McDonald**

1275 K. Street, NW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20005

**Phone: 202/862-3413**

**Fax: 202/862-3419**

**E-mail: [jmcdonald@chapinc.org](mailto:jmcdonald@chapinc.org)**

Associate Member - Certified

## Reimbursement

**Chris Kisell & Amy Gil**

The Reimbursement Committee met by tele-conference on September 19th, 2012. Please join us for the next meeting on site in Okemos at 9:30 on October 17<sup>th</sup>. It is that time again for the benchmarking! We will be sending out the form to fill out. This is useful data from agencies in your area to compare to. Take the time to submit your information. The due date will be in early November. We will be discussing a possible reimbursement listserv in October. Come and have your voice heard. The ACA will continue to be in the forefront of our talks and what it means to homecare. Healthcare and reimbursement are in a time of change, we urge agencies to join us to stay informed. If you have questions or topics, please send them to Amy or I and we'll get them on the agenda. Let's share the knowledge and work together to solve our issues.

If you would like more information I can be reached by email at [CKisell@Crittentonhc.com](mailto:CKisell@Crittentonhc.com) or by phone at (248)-656-6757. Chris Kisell, Chair of Reimbursement Committee. Amy Gil, Co-chair can be reached by e-mail at [Agil@uhhs.org](mailto:Agil@uhhs.org) or by phone at (734) 981-8820.



## MHHA Newsletter

### Links of Interest

[The Aide's Role in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder](#) - October 11, 2012

[Blueprint for OASIS Accuracy Workshop](#) - October 31- November 2, 2012

[HME Teleconference - Operations Management Efficiencies, Productivity, Automation and More](#) - October 31, 2102

[Hospice Education: Using Assistive Devices in the Home](#) - November 8, 2012

[HME Teleconference - A/R Management - A Practical Approach](#) - November 15, 2012

Visit Cost Calculation Workshop - November 28, 2012 (registration material will be available soon)

[HME Teleconference - Data Scouring to Maximize Profitability](#) - December 6, 2012

Affordable Care Act Workshop with Bob Fazzi - December 11, 2012 (registration material will be available soon)

[Hospice Education: Is Humor Okay in the Hospice Setting??](#) - December 11, 2012

[The Aide's Role in Working with Patients with HIV/AIDS](#) - December 13, 2012

[Hospice Education: What Competencies are Necessary for the Hospice Aide](#) - January 8, 2012

[The Aide's Role in The Aging Process](#) - January 10, 2012

*MDCH Questions Needed*

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28910>

*NGS Questions Needed*

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28911>

*BCBS Call for Questions*

<http://m360.mhha.org/admin/forms/ViewForm.aspx?id=28912>

Additional Events

<https://m360.mhha.org/ViewCalendar.aspx>

## MHHA Committee Calendar

[Hospice Committee Meeting](#) - November 7, 2012

Executive Committee Meeting - November 8, 2012

[HME Committee Teleconference](#) - October 22, 2012

[Private Duty Committee/Scheduler's Day](#) - October 16, 2012

[Reimbursement Committee](#) - October 17, 2012

[Clinical Operations Committee Meeting](#) - October 18, 2012

[Education Committee Meeting](#) - October 9, 2012

[Public Policy Teleconference](#) - November 2, 2012

[Regulatory Committee](#) - October 18, 2012

[Rehab SubCommittee](#) - November 14, 2012

[IV/Infection Control](#) - October 18, 2012

[Ethics Committee](#) - October 22, 2012

[Billers Meeting](#) - October 25, 2012