

September 28, 2015

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Governor Signs Medicaid Reform Package

Governor Pat McCrory signed into law last Wednesday a Medicaid reform bill that allows the state to contract with three statewide managed care companies and up to 10 regional "provider-led entities" (PLEs) comprised of health systems, hospitals and physicians. The new law provides a general framework for the future of the state's Medicaid program, and physicians will work to help shape the specific details as the administrative rules and additional legislation evolve over the next few years.

This result follows several years of debate and effort by legislators and the health care community to address cost-unpredictability in Medicaid. The new plan is designed to give physicians who participate in the new PLEs greater flexibility to manage their patients' health care delivery and costs. In place of the conventional fee-for-service model, Medicaid providers will receive up-front, per-patient payments and will be responsible for cost overruns.

"This reform brings innovation to our healthcare system and builds upon what has already proven to work in North Carolina," said Gov. McCrory at Wednesday's bill signing ceremony.

A State Plan Amendment must be approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) prior to implementation, and this process may take 6-18 months. Federal funds account for two-thirds of NC Medicaid's annual spend.

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WITN-TV “Doctors on Call” Needs Physician Volunteers

Doctors on Call is an annual event sponsored by the North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) and the Pitt County Medical Society in conjunction with WITN in Greenville, where physician volunteers answer medical questions called in by local TV viewers. We encourage you to take part in this important community service event by volunteering just one or two hours of your time. Doctors on Call physician volunteers have helped thousands of people over the years, supporting our mission of promoting access to quality health care.

Physicians and residents from all specialties are needed. Please note: all volunteers must hold an active medical license in the State of North Carolina.

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Location: WITN-TV's new studio (275 East Arlington Blvd, Greenville)

Sign up today!

- Register online at www.ncmedsoc.org/docsoncall or
- Email your name, specialty, and times you are available to news@ncmedsoc.org

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Bonus of \$75,000 and up to \$250,000 in Student Loan Repayments

The Army Reserve Medical Corp is seeking internal medicine physicians. Please consider the following request and [this informational flyer](#) from Sgt. Bradley Cooper, US Army.

Dear Doctor,

America's Army is calling. Will you answer the call?

Eligible physicians in your specialty can qualify for special pay of \$75,000 and up to \$250,000 in student loan repayments.

Becoming a member of the Army Reserve Medical Corps as an officer and clinician, you would be joining a dynamic organization at a momentous time in our nation's history. Our facilities and medical acumen are cutting edge, providing an environment that encourages constant growth, defying even your

greatest accomplishments. Our patients are the finest individuals this country can muster; you will not find a more worthwhile and appreciated organization than the United States Army Medical Corps with which to contribute your clinical expertise. Your commitment to be a part of this effort was best described over fifty years ago by General James E. Doolittle when he posed that "...there is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer."

Will you share your time-honed skills, education and other gifts of freedom? Can you share one weekend a month and two weeks a year, giving back to the men and women who serve our country? You're never too old to use your skills with the Army Reserves.

Will you exemplify the fact that there really is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer? We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Warm regards,

Bradley S. Cooper

SGT, U.S. Army

Raleigh Medical Recruiting Center

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ICD-10 Clinical Concepts for Internal Medicine

CMS launched a new series of ICD-10 transition guides for various specialties, including an [ICD-10 Clinical Concepts for Internal Medicine](#) as a downloadable PDF. The series covers common codes, offers clinical documentation tips and illustrates documentation and coding guidelines using a variety of clinical scenarios. The ICD-10 compliance date is October 1, 2015.

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NCMS Annual Meeting, Oct. 23-24

Registration is now open for the 2015 North Carolina Medical Society Annual Meeting. With a new and exciting format for broad physician appeal, this year's meeting theme, "Resilience in Challenging Times," hints at the program's focus on introducing physicians to basic approaches for developing greater fulfillment and resilience in practicing medicine. [Pop on over to the NCMS website for complete program details and secure online registration.](#)

Save the Date for the 2016 NC,ACP Annual Scientific Session, Feb. 26-27

The 2016 NC,ACP Annual Scientific Session will be held February 26-27 at the Grandover Resort in Greensboro. Following this year's successful format, the program will again feature concurrent sessions geared toward *Inpatient Medicine* and *Outpatient Medicine*. The NC,ACP Annual Scientific Session offers quality, convenience and collegiality without the hassle and costs of long-distance travel. We hope to see you there!

Action items:

1. For room reservations, contact the Grandover Resort at (800) 472-6301.
2. Add this event to your calendar and watch your email for our registration announcement.
3. For more information, contact the NC,ACP at (919) 833-3836 or nlowe@ncmedsoc.org.

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