

Texas Health Care Newsletter

a Privia Medical Group North Texas



Texas Health Care was founded to allow doctors to be doctors.
Our priority is simple: provide quality care to our patients.

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If you have W-2 questions, please contact
the Payroll department at
ntx-payroll@priviahealth.com

What's the buzz?

The Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)

The "THC MIPS Challenge" is on!

THC has initiated the first of our education series for the MIPS challenge. The education series is emailed to your company address. Please look for communication titled

Subject: "THC MIPS CHALLENGE"

Below is a short synopsis of the article :

Article 1 – "We're from the Government, and we're here to help."

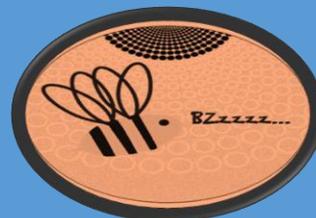
Congress got pressured every year to do away with the SGR (Sustained Growth Rate) program that was affecting doctors annually. The doctors were told there was a large cut coming from Medicarethe doctors would threaten to leave Medicare....Congress would create a stop-gap 'fix' every year. This occurred for over 10 years and every year there was a cry to stop the insanity. At the same time, Congress was hearing every year that something had to be done to curtail a system where medical care was delivered without regard to outcome and was based solely upon volume. The more we did, the more we billed and the more we got paid. From this environment, Congress in an unusual display of bipartisanship crafted the legislation that became MACRA (Medicare Access and CHIPS Reauthorization Act of 2015). This act is different than other CMS/Medicare programs. This is a law. More importantly, it was a widely supported law. It passed overwhelmingly in both the House and the Senate, endorsed by both political parties. (Please read complete company communication that was sent to your inbox January 27th by John Lawley)

Remember after all the articles have been sent, you will have an opportunity to participate in a short test that, upon completion, will enter you into a drawing for prizes.

Everyone who participates by taking the 'test' will be included in a drawing for prizes.

There will be 5 winners from all who have taken the 'test' with awards of \$200 per winner.

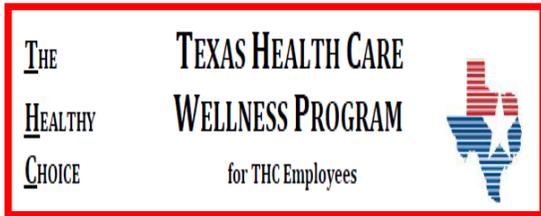
There will be a separate drawing for the doctors in which there will be 2 winners. The 2 winning doctors will win a lunchtime party for their office staff at a date agreed to by the doctor and the staff.



NEXTGEN NextGen -Helpful Hints Demo Tasks

- * Demo tasks are automatically created in NextGen.
- * Demo tasks are fired off after an insurance response is received that indicates there are demographic related challenges with the information they received. Eligibility is an example.
- * Recently, NextGen automated assigning the Demo tasks based on the provider in most cases but not all.
- * If your provider is not able to be automated yet, please go to the worklog manager and find these manually. The selection should be not started, your provider name and demo task and FIND (not MY TASKS).
- * The Details box of the demo task is blank on purpose. You will need to see what the origin tab is saying or look at the EOB.

We are continuing to evaluate this task type and try to determine what we can do to make any workflow improvements/reductions.



Wellness Newsletter Link – courtesy of United Healthcare

Did you know that United Healthcare offers a monthly newsletter titled **“Healthy Mind Healthy Body”** and is available for members and non-members alike?

Each month, *Healthy Mind Healthy Body*® comes to your email filled with tips and strategies you can really use. The plain language approach and at-a-glance layout make it easy to get right to the information you want. Go to uhc.com/myhealthnews to sign up now. It's quick, it's easy and it's free!



CORNER (Texas Health Care, PLLC)

Lincoln Financial Group - Premiums

In accordance with our Lincoln Financial Group Disability benefits coverage, premiums are salary based. Salary updates are submitted to Lincoln Financial Group to ensure correct benefits are paid in the event of a claim. Employees having a pay rate change will have their Short Term Disability and Long Term Disability premiums adjusted upon Human Resources processing a new pay-rate. Please note that age is also a factor in determining Long Term Disability as well as Voluntary Life Insurance premiums. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Wooley at cindy.wooley@priviahealth.com or (817) 740-8406.

Important Tax Filing Dates & Refund Dates

When can I file my tax return? The first day to officially file your 2016 tax return is January 23, 2017. However, many tax software programs will allow you to complete your return and “file” it before that date. They will then hold the returns until the IRS begins accepting them.

When are taxes due? You must file your taxes by April 18, 2017. (April 15 is the tax deadline for most years, unless it falls on a weekend or an observed holiday. April 15, 2017 is the observed holiday for Emancipation Day, for Washington DC). You can [file a tax extension](#) if you are not ready to file your taxes by the deadline.

How long does it take to receive my tax refund? Approximately 90% of tax payers will receive their refunds in less than 21 days from the day their tax return was accepted by the IRS. Most people receive their refund in an average of 10-14 days.

Are there any expected tax refund delays? Yes. The IRS is required to hold tax refunds for taxpayers who claim Earned Income Tax Credits and Additional Child Tax credit until at least Feb. 15, 2017.

Keep in mind it can still take a week to receive the refund after the IRS releases it. So some people who file early may experience delays while awaiting their refund. Refunds should be processed normally after this date. Also note that new identity theft protections and anti-fraud measures may hold up some refunds, as some tax returns may be held for further review.

