

## Network of Behavioral Health Providers

### Behavioral Health Blast #3

The NBHP Team

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### Clinical Practice

- **Webinar – SAMHSA's Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families (SMVF) Technical Assistance Center Presents: Amidst the Opioid Crisis: Best Practices for SMVF Resilience, Treatment, and Recovery**

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, February 22, 1:00 PM Central time

**To Register:** [Click here](#)

**Organizer:** SAMHSA

**Description:** Compared with the general population, service members, veterans, and their families (SMVF) are at a greater risk of misusing opioids and unintentionally overdosing. Combat-related injuries resulting in chronic pain, sleep disorders, mental health problems, and co-occurring conditions all play a role in this trend. This increased risk requires a dedicated focus on this population and a concerted effort to implement evidence-based practices. SAMHSA is working with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the U.S. Department of Defense, and other interagency partners to advance strategies to combat the opioid crisis among SMVF. This webinar will feature comprehensive evidence-based solutions, including medication-assisted treatment and recovery approaches. This webinar will also highlight the steps the VA has taken to address one of its greatest challenges – chronic pain and overprescribing. This webinar will not only review the nature and cause of the problem, but will also provide strategies designed to enhance statewide approaches and improve military and civilian behavioral health system responses to the opioid crisis.

### Choosing a Certified Electronic Health Record System

- **Webinar – HIMSS LTPAC Roundtable - De-coding 42 CFR Part 2: Understanding the New Regulations' Impact on Care Coordination**

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, February 14, 2:00 PM Central time

**To Register:** [Click here](#)

**Organizer:** HIMSS

**Description:** Join industry and government experts as they provide insights on the recently revised 42 CFR Part 2 regulations governing the confidentiality of substance abuse treatment and prevention records. This panel will offer a broad discussion of the new regulations, their impact on care coordination and the broader healthcare community.

- ***Delay of Final Rule on the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Treatment Information:*** The administration of President Donald Trump has issued a [memorandum](#) delaying implementation of all new and pending federal regulations. This regulatory “freeze” impacts the recently-released [Final Rule](#) modernizing federal regulations that govern the confidentiality of substance use disorder patient records, and the [Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) (“SNPRM”) seeking comment on additional proposed changes to those regulations. The Final Rule and SNPRM, which were [released](#) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (“SAMHSA”) and formally published in the Federal Register on Jan. 18, 2017, update and propose additional changes to the confidentiality regulations found at 42 C.F.R. Part 2, which are often referred to as “Part 2.” As a result of the regulatory “freeze,” the confidentiality Final Rule will not become effective until Mar. 20, 2017 at the earliest. It was originally scheduled to take effect on Feb. 17, 2017. Accordingly, the Legal Action Center (“LAC”)’s analysis of the Final Rule will not be released to stakeholders until more guidance is available from the Trump administration regarding when and how the Final Rule will take effect. The SNPRM is also delayed until at least Mar. 20, 2017, but LAC will submit comments on the proposed changes prior to that date. LAC will share these comments with stakeholders when they are complete. We encourage all stakeholders to [submit comments](#) on the SNPRM.

### **Maximizing Third Party Funding Streams Revenue—Resources Related to Insurance Billing and Credentialing**

- ***Webinar – The MACRA Quality Payment Program: What Behavioral Health Care Professionals Should Know***  
**Date & Time:** Thursday, February 23, 11:00 AM Central time  
**To Register:** [Click here](#)  
**Organizer:** HIMSS  
**Description:** The Quality Payment Program (QPP) was developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the far reaching Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA); one of its provisions begins in 2019 when CMS will pay participating providers based on the quality and effectiveness of care they provide to beneficiaries. During this virtual forum you will hear from Paul Cotton, BA, Director of Federal Affairs at the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); and Elizabeth Arend, MPH, Quality Improvement Advisor at the National Council for Behavioral Health, two experts in initiatives that improve health care quality. They will discuss the importance of this new program to the behavioral health field.
- ***HHS: 9.2 million signed up for 2017 Obamacare coverage:*** More than 9.2 million people have signed up for Affordable Care Act coverage on Healthcare.gov this open enrollment season, compared to 9.6 million consumers who signed up last year.

Open enrollment last year ended with about 12.7 million plan selections, but that included both the 9.6 million signing up through Healthcare.gov platform and 3.1 million who selected a plan through state-based marketplaces. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said it expected to release a more detailed report that includes plan selections across all states in March. To view more, please [click here](#).

### **Outcome-Based Evaluation**

- ***CMS Extends Deadline for 2016 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) Electronic Health Record (EHR) Submission:*** CMS is extending the submission deadline for 2016 Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) data submission for the EHR reporting mechanism. Individual eligible professionals (EPs), PQRS group practices, qualified clinical data registries (QCDRs), and qualified EHR data submission vendors (DSVs) now have until March 13, 2017 to submit 2016 EHR data via QRDA. The original submission deadline was February 28, 2017. To view more, please [click here](#).

### **Public Policy/Advocacy**

- ***Webinar – Uniting to Protect Behavioral Health: Advocacy Webinar Series***  
**Date & Time:** Wednesday, February 15, 2:00 PM Central time  
**To Register:** [Click here](#)  
**Organizer:** National Council for Behavioral Health  
**Description:** With numerous emerging threats to Medicaid and behavioral health services, the National Council will hold biweekly policy webinars to provide updates on the latest news and advocacy opportunities out of Washington. They will monitor and provide updates on issues that matter most, including: the repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act, proposed reforms to Medicaid and details on government spending for behavioral health care programs. Each webinar will feature a specific Call to Action.
- ***Calls to Action for Advocates:*** 2017 is a critical year to advocate in support of addiction and mental health priorities. With major proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid and behavioral health funding, the National Council is reliant upon its members to act NOW to protect consumers' access to care. For more information on the latest opportunities and to get involved, please [click here](#).