

E-Newsletter

Wisconsin Society of Pathologists



Mark Your Calendars - Doctor Day 2017 is March 29

Physicians from across the state will converge at the State Capitol to meet with legislators and their staffs. Participants will represent more than 20 different physician organizations and partners. Doctor Day will again feature speakers at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center prior to visits with legislators at the State Capitol.

For more information and to register, [click here](#).



2017 WSP Conference - Save the Date

November 3-4, 2017
Fluno Center, Madison, WI

Watch for more information in the coming weeks, and checkout the [events tab](#) on the WSP website for additional details.

It's Never too Early to Reserve Your Room!

Room Rate: \$149

To make guestroom reservations, guests may call 1-877-773-5866 (toll-free) or 608-441-7117. Guests may also e-mail reservations@fluno.com. Please mention that you are with the WSP room block. The deadline for to make reservations at this special group rate is October 4, 2017.

CAP Update

CAP Develops MIPS FAQs and Infographic to Help Members Avoid Penalties

Pathologists must take action in 2017 in order to stop their Medicare payments from being cut in 2019 under the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) program. The CAP has developed several resources, including a MIPS [FAQ](#) and an [INFOGRAPHIC](#), for its members to help them take action as they prepare their data in order to avoid penalties and potentially earn a bonus in 2019.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will use this 2017 calendar year as a performance period to determine whether or not physicians and group practices will face penalties of up to 4% in 2019. Individual pathologists or group practices can stop the penalty by reporting at least one quality measure in 2017.

The MIPS program is part of the CMS Quality Payment Program (QPP) and is the next evolution of three quality programs: Meaningful Use of electronic health records (EHR), the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), and the Value-based Payment Modifier (VM). The QPP

reforms Medicare by receiving and validating physician-submitted data, providing performance feedback, determining MIPS scores, and adjusting payments.

The CAP has developed eight quality reporting measures specifically for pathologists-helping CAP members avoid tens of millions of dollars in Medicare penalties every year. The CAP has secured the inclusion of these measures in the MIPS program.

In order to avoid penalties in 2019, practices must submit quality reporting data for 2017 no later than March 31, 2018. By submitting data on one quality measure, a physician can stop the Medicare penalty. A physician can also attest to participating in a clinical practice improvement activity to stop the penalty. The CMS has not yet provided details on attestation but the CAP will keep members updated. Stay tuned for more MIPS related resources.

[Advocate for Pathology on Federal Issues. Register for the 2017 CAP Policy Meeting](#)

With a theme of Protecting the Practice of Pathology and Our Patients, let your voice be heard at the 2017 CAP Policy Meeting. From April 24-26, CAP members can connect with government leaders and policy experts to discuss the impact of federal regulation on their pathology practices.

[REGISTRATION](#) is now open. Check the **[CAP's website](#)** for more updates.

[Applicable Laboratories Must Report PAMA Data by March 31](#)

The Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) requires certain laboratories to submit private payor rates for clinical laboratory tests. Private payor data is due to the CMS by March 31, 2017.

To help you with the submission process, the CMS created a **[PAMA DATA COLLECTION USER GUIDE](#)** with step-by-step instructions and screen shots.

The CAP has added this invaluable tool to our pathology-specific **[PAMA RESOURCES](#)**, including an **[INFORMATIVE INFOGRAPHIC](#)** and **[PODCAST](#)**, to help laboratories understand regulatory requirements and upcoming deadlines. These resources and additional tools can be found on the **[CAP'S PAMA RESOURCES WEBPAGE](#)**.

Wisconsin Society of Pathologists

WSP@badgerbay.co | 920-560-5634 | www.wispath.com



Wisconsin Society of Pathologists | 563 Carter Court | Suite B | Kimberly | WI | 54136