



HASC Briefs

Partnerships with County and State Fuel L.A. Care Health Plan Membership

L.A. Care Health Plan recently announced that it is now providing health insurance to more than 1 million low-income residents in Los Angeles County through a number of programs that include Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and Medicare Special Needs Plan.

Aside from the economic downturn, L.A. Care's growth was fueled by its partnerships with the county and state. For example, L.A. Care was selected in 2011 by the state to transition seniors and

people with disabilities (SPDs) into managed care. This transition of SPDs into managed care alone has led to a growth of approximately 8,000 to 10,000 members per month.

The state's proposed plan to move dual eligibles into managed care is another initiative that may further contribute to L.A. Care's growth once the four pilot projects are selected. Los Angeles County is expected to be selected as a pilot county given the large dual-eligible

population of 370,000 and potential savings to the state. It is anticipated that the selected health plans and counties will be announced in early April.

L.A. Care's membership breakdown is as follows: 963,000 Medi-Cal members; 17,000 Healthy Families members; 40,000 In-Home Support Services workers' coverage; and 2,600 Medicare Advantage HMO SNP members.

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CalOptima Searching for New CEO

The CalOptima Board of Directors held a special board meeting last week, voting to hire the national search firm of Witt/Kieffer to conduct the search

for the agency's new chief executive officer. Witt/Kieffer has indicated the search process will span an 18-week period. Mike Engelhard, who has been serving

as CalOptima's CFO, has been appointed Interim CEO.

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Next Wound Care Training April 2-6 in Santa Barbara

HASC, in partnership with the Wound Care Education Institute (WCEI), will bring members of Southern California's hospitals, long-term care providers and home health agencies a four-day skin and wound management training course followed by a certification examination. Both will be offered at four locations in Southern California.

The next session will take place April 2-6 at the Goleta Valley Medical Office, 5333 Hollister Ave. in Santa Barbara.

WCEI's Skin and Wound Management Course seminar provides participants with current evidence-based education in the areas of skin and wound management. The course is open to anyone, but only licensed health care providers (MD, DO, DPM, PA, PT, PTA, OT, NP/APN, RN, LPN/LVN) can take both the skin and wound management course and the wound care certified (WCC®) exam from the National Alliance of Wound Care®.

Upcoming training dates include:
• April 16-20, Double Tree Hotel

in Norwalk

- May 7-11, Embassy Suites in Ontario
- June 7-10, Hampton Inn and Suites in Burbank

Use discount code HASC12 to save \$600.

For full registration information, visit http://www.hasc.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/hasc_wound-care2012.pdf.

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Upcoming Fee for Value Webinar to Focus on Reducing Readmissions

The next *Fee for Value* webinar, presented by HASC, the Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, and The Camden Group, will take place Thursday, April 19, and is titled *Ensuring Your “Engine” Runs Smoothly: Reducing Readmissions and Improving Patient Throughput*.

The session is part of the *Your Journey to Fee-for-Value* series and will be followed by three more webinars providing critical insight

on positioning your hospital for the new health care landscape.

Presenters Patricia Hines, PhD, RN, and Daniel Cusator, MD, MBA, vice presidents of The Camden Group, will shed light on how to take a structured approach to reducing readmissions that includes an assessment of your organization’s risk for readmissions, strategies for prevention as you transition the patient to post-hospital care, and ways to improve

patient throughput throughout their inpatient stay.

The session will take place from 10 to 11 a.m. Individual webinar registrations are \$150 for Members and \$200 for Associate Members. Visit <http://www.hospitalcouncil.net/post/navigating-road-fee-service-fee-value> for full registration information.

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Southern California Patient Safety Meeting Held March 6

Practical Strategies to Reduce Readmissions was the focus of the March 6 Southern California Patient Safety Collaborative Track II meeting. A summary of highlights from the meeting in the latest *Fast Facts* will be available soon online.

In addition to the Care Transitions Learning and Action Network, the meeting featured topics that included:

- *Community Building — Establishing Shared Commitment*

- *Navigating the Community-Based Care Transitions Program (CCTP) Application Process: Panel Presentation*

- *Reducing Avoidable Acute Care Transfers with INTERACT*

- *Navigating the CCTP Application Process: Roundtable Discussions with the Experts*

SCPSC meetings are presented by HASC, Health Services Advisory Group and the National Health Foundation, and take place at Pacific Palms Conference

Resort, Industry Hills.

Partners for *Patient Safety First...a California Partnership for Health* include:

- Anthem Blue Cross
- The three regional hospital associations of California: Southern California, San Diego & Imperial Counties, and Northern & Central California
- The National Health Foundation

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ACHE Conference Well Attended by HASC Region CEOs

George Mack, HASC vice president, Payer & Provider Relations, spoke recently at the American College of Healthcare Executive’s 2012 Congress on Healthcare Leadership. His seminar, *Blue Ocean Thinking through Collaborative Process Performance Improvement*, examined the innovative partnership between HASC and Blue Cross of California that has successfully unmasked waste, improved inefficient workflows and eliminated unnecessary re-work.

The HASC/Blue Cross of

California work group has recently expanded to include case managers, UM cohorts and Blue Shield medical directors responsible for the health plan’s medical review processes as it seeks opportunities to improve clinical denial rates.

Several CEOs from member hospitals in the HASC region attended the ACHE conference. Among the attendees were: Roger Seaver, CEO, Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital; Carolyn Rhee, CEO, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center; Delvecchio Finley, CEO,

Los Angeles County Harbor/UCLA; and Kevan Metcalfe, CEO, Corona Regional Medical Center.

HASC Inland Area Regional Vice President Dimitrios Alexiou received a Fellow in ACHE (FACHE) at the conference. Although not in attendance, Ruthita Fike, CEO, Loma Linda University Medical Center, was recognized for receiving her FACHE this past year.

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