



HASC Briefs

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Task Force in Los Angeles Addresses Safe Pain Medication Prescribing in Emergency Departments

The Los Angeles County Prescription Drug Abuse Medical Task Force, a coalition of stakeholders that includes the California American College of Emergency Physicians, LA County Medical Association, the Hospital Association of Southern California, LA County Department of Public Health, LA County Department of Health Services and Kaiser Permanente, has been meeting to establish in Los Angeles County emergency departments (EDs) *Safe Pain Medicine Prescribing in Emergency Departments*. This program will be similar to one that has been successfully implemented in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

According to an online survey of Los Angeles County EDs completed by the task force, 55 percent reported not having a policy or guideline in place regarding opioid prescriptions written from the ED, and 87 percent reported that their ED and ED physicians would support a recommendation to adopt the guidelines contained in the patient handout. The Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County has joined the initiative and will provide PCP/Medical Home access for ED patients in need of follow-up after ED visits.

The task force's current goal is to confirm with participating EDs their intent to adopt and use the patient handout titled *Safe Pain Medicine Prescribing in Emergency Departments*. The task force will print and distribute an initial two-month supply of patient handouts to each ED in the county. The intent is for each ED to provide this handout to all ED patients or their guardians at the time of discharge from the ED. EDs will be responsible to print handouts after the initial supply has been used.

Additionally, the task force is developing a toolkit that will assist EDs as they implement the use of the patient handout. The toolkit includes guidance concerning pain management, patient satisfaction, EMTALA, addiction treatment referrals, community clinic referrals, as well as other resources. The task force is also developing a website, which will include all items in the toolkit, including an electronic copy of the patient handout as well as additional resources.

A media event to announce this countywide effort will occur later this spring and will highlight each institution's participation in the effort.

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City of Riverside Moves Closer to Approving a Second Ambulance Company for Inter-Facility Transports

The Riverside City Council approved changes to its ambulance ordinance in September 2013 to potentially allow for competition with inter-facility transports (IFTs) within the city of Riverside. After that meeting, four ambulance companies applied for permits to operate in Riverside. City of Riverside Fire Chief Mike Esparza went through the first application with CARE Ambulance and conducted interviews with Kaiser Permanente Riverside, Parkview Community Hospital

Medical Center and Riverside Community Hospital.

Esparza recommended that the Riverside City Council approve the application of CARE Ambulance. That recommendation was taken up by the Public Safety Committee of the City Council. After much discussion, that committee forwarded the recommendation to the full council for a vote that should happen within the next 60 days. Pres-

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Two Remaining Free Sepsis Trainings Available in May

It's not too late to register for the Patient Safety First (PSF) Collaborative's free Sepsis Simulation Trainings. Featuring high-tech simulation equipment, and the expertise of Medical Simulation Corporation educators, these three-hour simulation sessions are offered at no charge mornings and afternoons, Monday through Friday.

The remaining sessions will take place

these dates and locations:

- May 12 – 16, Citrus Valley Medical Center, Inter-Community Campus
- May 19 – 23, Saddleback Memorial Medical Center

This opportunity was extremely well received by approximately 40 PSF Collaborative hospital teams over the

past two years, and is back in 2014 by popular demand. HASC is very grateful to our hosting hospitals.

To learn more, visit <http://www.hasc.org/pod/sepsis-simulation-training>.

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Still Time to Register for Health Care Provider Wellness Conference

Join executives and wellness champions at a fun, one-of-a-kind location to explore the next generation of worksite wellness programs that help keep employees—and your organization—in good health. The 4th Annual Health Care Provider Wellness Conference, June 12-13 at Disney's Paradise Pier® Hotel in Anaheim, will be an opportunity to learn how to design and implement solid wellness programs that result in healthy and engaged employees and a stronger bottom line.

Hot topics to be addressed include:

- The Strategic Direction – CEO Panel

- Co-Creating an Organizational Culture of Well-being and Vibrancy
- Don't Throw Out the Baby with the Bathwater – A Measured Response to Critics of Workplace Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs
- Shattering Wellness Myths
- Workplace Financial Wellness – Why, What, How
- Healthy Workplace, Happy Employees, Profitable Organization
- A Tale of Two Kitchens: A Panel Discussion on the Partnership for a

Healthier America's Healthier Hospital Food Initiative

- Finding a Healthy Balance of Mind, Body and Spirit: A Discussion of Wellness Programs in California Hospitals
- Culture, Fulfillment and Productivity
- Trial and Error in Workplace Wellness

For complete information and to register, visit

www.hasc.org/2014WellnessConference.

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California Association of Physician Groups Annual Conference Coming in June

Registration is now open for the California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) 11th Annual Healthcare Conference, June 5-8 at JW Marriott at .LA. Live.

Breakout sessions will cover the following hot topics:

- Reform, Innovation and Accountability
- Innovations in Team Care Transformation
- Avoiding Re-admissions: Best Practices

- Development of Clinically Integrated Networks in a National Health System: The Journey from Volume to Value
- Getting to Know Fee-for-Service: Medicare Accountable Care's Second Year
- Medicare Shared Savings Plans: A CMS National Quality and Financial Performance Update
- Narrow Networks: How Are They Faring, and What Does the Future Hold?

The meeting will also feature networking opportunities at a golf tournament, a sports-themed exhibit fair and strolling dinner, a dinner dance extravaganza, and a farewell brunch.

AHA/CHA members receive a discounted rate. Register online at <https://capg.cvent.com/events/2014-capg-healthcare-conference/registration-85e1ee218280454499105a4bc5989b74.aspx>.

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ently, the three hospitals can only use AMR for IFTs.

Allowing hospitals to have a choice of ambulance provider will afford them to be able to choose a company that best meets their needs, provides competition to continue to receive the best service available,

and gives hospitals an alternative if one company is too busy to make a transfer due at a needed time. Also, the addition of a second company will align with what hospitals in Riverside County already have – choices in providers for IFTs.

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