

THE HEARTBEAT OSCA NEWSLETTER

FEB 2023

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MEDICARE



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT Drs. Christopher Raymond, Robert Ault, Brandy Spaulding and Craig Banks, heading to a meeting with US Senator Sherrod Brown to discuss legislation that would improve coverage and access to chiropractic care for Medicare beneficiaries.

Last month, Doctors of Chiropractic from around the country met in DC to advocate for improved coverage of chiropractic services in Medicare

Members of the OSCA including Dr. Robert Ault, Dr. Chris Raymond, Dr. Craig Banks and Dr. Brandy Spaulding were in Washington DC to advocate for improved coverage of chiropractic services in Medicare. They were joined in meetings by other Ohio DCs and chiropractic students planning to return to Ohio upon graduation.

The group met with the offices of Congressman Brad Wenstrup, Congressman Mike Carey, Congressman David Joyce, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty, Congressman Bill Johnson, and US Senator Sherrod Brown. The group engaged in meaningful conversation with elected officials and urged them to support upcoming legislation.

Since Chiropractic's inclusion in Medicare in 1972, there have been no changes or updates to chiropractic coverage for Medicare beneficiaries. The out of date coverage leads beneficiaries to shoulder a large portion of the financial responsibility to receive the non-invasive, non-pharmaceutical care offered by DCs.

Legislation introduced in the 117th Congress garnered bipartisan support with 155 co-sponsors. Once re-introduced, the OSCA will continue efforts to increase support of the legislation by Ohio's Congressional representatives. Passage of this legislation would allow Medicare coverage of chiropractic services consistent with each state's scope of practice. Improving coverage and removing barriers to access would be in line with best practice clinical guidelines which encourage the use of conservative treatment options first.

Medicare fee schedule has additional updates for 2023

Click this link to access the updated fee schedule for Medicare. Of note, rates have updated since originally releasing in December.

OHIO MEDICAID

Recredentialing for Ohio Medicaid providers is paused. Please read details below to see how this impacts you.

IMPORTANT: PAUSE ON PROVIDER AGREEMENT REVALIDATION/RECREREDENTIALING DUE DATES

Attention providers,

Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is pausing provider agreement revalidations/recredentialing by pushing out all pending provider revalidation due dates in the Provider Network Management (PNM) module by 180 days.

The update will apply to all providers who have not begun the revalidation process, including those that currently display the “Begin Revalidation” button. This indicates the provider has already entered their 120-day period before the revalidation is due. Dates will officially be pushed out in the system during the week of February 6. Once the dates are pushed out by 180 days, all providers will still have a 120-day notice before a revalidation or recredentialing is due.

WHAT ACTION DO I NEED TO TAKE?

If you do not see the “Begin Revalidation” button in the provider record, you do not need to do anything. The update will move the dates out another 180 days.

If you do have the “Begin Revalidation” button, this means you are within the current 120-day window for revalidation.

If you have not started, please do not click on the “Begin Revalidation” button. Once the deployment takes place during the week of February 6, that button will disappear if you have not launched the revalidation workflow.

EXCEPTION: Please note that if you have already started a revalidation, it must be completed and submitted as this change cannot be applied to providers that are currently in the revalidation workflow.

Ohio Next Gen officially launched on February 1st

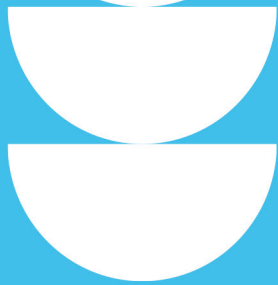
This created a centralized location for submitting claims and prior authorizations. The Provider Network Management (PNM) portal will be a central location for provider management. If you use electronic billing through a clearinghouse, the clearinghouse would be responsible for ensuring delivery of claims to the new fiscal intermediary. If you submit claims for yourself, you will want to ensure you have set up an administrator/agent account to manually enter the claims in the new PNM portal. The first step in this process is to set up an OHIO ID account. Once completed, you will use your Ohio ID to sign into the PNM portal and link your provider account. **Additional guidance can be found here.**

E/M code coverage with Traditional Medicaid

If you are experiencing denials of E/M codes when billing Traditional Medicaid for dates of service on or after February 1, when E/M and CMT and billed together, please contact the OSCA with the following information:

Date of service
Codes billed
Claim number for eob

We are still in communication with the Department of Medicaid on this issue and will update you on previously denied E/M claims as soon as we have additional guidance from ODM.



2023 EVENTS SCHEDULE

The OSCA has several in person and live webinars currently scheduled and several **in the works** for the upcoming year.

CLICK HERE

To visit the OSCA events page for more info or to register for an event.

IN PERSON TRI-CITY TOUR

Compliance and HIPAA Updates You Need to

Know 2023 with Dr. Ty the Compliance Guy

May 10th – Akron/Canton

May 11th – Youngstown

May 13- Columbus

ACUPUNCTURE CERTIFICATE UPDATES:

LUNCH AND LEARN WEBINARS

12-1pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month

1
MAR

Building the Foundation for Clinically Supportive Documentation, featuring Dr. Gregg Friedman

2
AUG

TOPIC TBA

5
APR

Front Desk Education for Insurance Billing Success, featuring Lisa Maciejewski West

6
SEPT

Documenting and Tracking Treatment Progress, featuring Dr. Gregg Friedman

3
MAY

TOPIC TBA

6-8
OCT

Annual Convention –
Hilton at Polaris
Columbus Ohio

7
JUNE

Documenting the E/M Codes, featuring Dr. Gregg Friedman

1
NOV

TOPIC TBA

5
JULY

No lunch & learn Happy Independence Day!

6
DEC

How to Properly Document Treatment Codes, featuring Dr. Gregg Friedman

HB 509, introduced during lame duck of the last general assembly, made changes and updates to many Occupational Licensure rules. This impacted Ohio licensed DCs by reducing the number of hours required to obtain an acupuncture certificate from 300 to 200. This was signed into law by Governor DeWine on January 5, 2023 and will take effect April 5, 2023

The OSCA will be starting another acupuncture program in Ohio this year. The 200 hour program will consist of a combined 6 in-person weekends and 50 online hours.

The breakdown will be:

4 in-person weekends for the 100 level

2 in-person weekends

50 online learning hours for the 200 level.

DCs wishing to obtain the 300 level hours will have the opportunity to sign up for 100 online learning hours at the 300 level.

Dates will be announced soon for the 2023 program. If you are interested in participating, reach out to the OSCA at 614-229-5290 to be added to the list.

CHIROPRACTIC RESEARCH CORNER



Summary provided by
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CHIROPRACTIC AND LUMBAR SPINAL STENOSIS STUDY

Source: Smith FL, Olding K, Malaya CA, McCarty M, Haworth J, Pohlman KA. The influence of flexion distraction spinal manipulation on patients with lumbar spinal stenosis: A prospective, open-label, single-arm, pilot study. *J Bodyw Mov Ther.* 2022 Oct;32:60-67.

Lumbar Spinal Stenosis (LSS) can cause significant pain, interfere with activities of daily living, and may result in progressive disability. Emerging evidence indicates chiropractic care may improve LSS symptoms and function. Chiropractors should include LSS in the differential diagnosis for people over age 50 who have leg pain or paresthesia with walking or prolonged standing and where walking distance is diminished.

Emerging evidence indicates that manual therapy, including spinal manipulation, may improve both LSS symptoms and patient function. Jensen et al (1) states that conservative treatment, which includes supervised exercise and manual therapy, is recommended as first line treatment. Chiropractors provide manual therapy and the chiropractic treatment of LSS most often includes flexion distraction type spinal manipulation (2). Flexion distraction manipulation appears not only to be an effective intervention for pain but also disability among patients with LSS.

This reviewed study aimed to assess the effect of a pragmatic course of care including flexion distraction manipulation in reducing postural sway and improving performance-based mobility and disability in patients with the clinical diagnosis of LSS.

METHODS:

- Prospective, open-label, single-arm, pilot study conducted in a chiropractic office in rural Ohio
- Patients > age 48 yrs with clinical diagnosis of LSS (leg or buttock pain while walking; relief of symptoms with bending forward or relief when using a shopping cart or bicycle; motor or sensory disturbance while walking; normal and symmetric foot pulses; lower extremity weakness; low back pain; duration of symptoms and signs is more than 1 month; able to stand and walk without assistive devices for at least 20 m)
- Twelve participants received spinal manipulation at the Cox® Certified chiropractor's discretion (Cox Technic flexion-distraction and decompression)
- Data were collected at baseline, midpoint and final visits prior to care on each visit
- Objective data included Timed Up and Go (TUG), Five Times Sit to Stand, and balance (force plate)
- An additional balance assessment was also conducted after care on the baseline visit
- Subjective data included: Activities-Specific Balance Confidence Scale (ABC-6), Zurich Claudication Questionnaire, and pain ratings

RESULTS:

- Participants reported significant statistical and clinical improvement in all patient reported outcomes, including improvement in confidence in their balance (ABC-6); claudication symptoms and in all claudication subscales of symptoms and physical function; NRS Back Pain and Buttock and Leg Pain
- The performance measures of TUG and Five Times Sit to Stand times at both the mid and final visits were also significantly improved
- While both anterior-posterior sample entropy and mean frequency of sway reduced during the baseline visit (pre-treatment to post-treatment), no statistically significant changes were found in balance measures between the baseline and final visits

CONCLUSIONS:

- These preliminary findings need replication, preferably with a randomized controlled trial
- A pragmatic course of chiropractic care including spinal manipulation statistically and clinically improved pain ratings, balance confidence, and Zurich Claudication Questionnaire scores in patients with LSS
- Timed Up and Go and Five Times Sit to Stand durations significantly improved
- Immediate decreases in sample entropy and mean frequency of sway suggest an effect of care on postural control

References:

1. Jensen RK, Harhangi BS, Huygen F, Koes B 2021 Lumbar spinal stenosis. Bmj 373, n1581.
2. Stuber K, Sajko S, Kristmanson K 2009 Chiropractic treatment of lumbar spinal stenosis: a review of the literature. J Chiropr Med 8, 77-85.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Dean Smith is founder of chiropractic science – dedicated to publicizing and disseminating chiropractic research through podcast interviews with the experts that are doing the research. Listen to free chiropracticscience.com interviews on iTunes. Dr. Smith is also a Clinical Professor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He was awarded the 2018 Researcher of the Year by the American Chiropractic Association and 2021 Chiropractor of the Year by the OSCA. He has a practice of chiropractic in Eaton, Ohio.



SCAM ALERT ISSUED BY THE OHIO STATE CHIROPRACTIC BOARD (OSCB)

The OSCB has put out an alert to all licensed DCs in Ohio to be on the lookout for scam attempts. An email was sent out to licensees imposing as the board and asking the licensee to provide information and/or download a document through an encrypted message.

Click here to read the announcement posted on the Ohio State Chiropractic Board's website and see a screenshot of the communication in question.



In Memory

Allison L West

JULY 11, 1963 – DECEMBER 23, 2022

Allison Leigh West, age 59, passed away Friday, December 23, 2022. She was born July 11, 1963, in Huntington, West Virginia, and raised across the river in Proctorville, Ohio.

At the time of her passing, Allison was the Communications and Marketing Coordinator for the OSCA. She had the unique ability to positively impact those around her and she loved her time working for the chiropractic profession.

She is **deeply missed** by all who knew and loved her.