To: KHA HIT Contacts  
From: Sally Othmer, Senior Director of Data Services  
Date: August 24, 2016  
Re: KSHIMSS Luncheon at KHA Convention, CMS Proposes Hospital OP Prospective Payment Changes for 2017, Electronic Clinical Quality Measures, ONC Issues Draft 2017 Interoperability Standards Advisory

Good Morning,
Below are some items of interest and news of note.

**KSHIMSS Luncheon at KHA Convention “Security Strategies for Hospital Health”**
There is still time to register for the [2016 KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show](https://registration.kha-net.org) in Overland Park, Sept. 8-9. The KSHIMSS luncheon and educational session is on Friday, September 9 from 12:00 to 1:50 p.m. Judy Corzine with Stormont Vail Health and Tom Walsh with TW-Security will present on Strategies for Hospital Health. Online registration is available at [https://registration.kha-net.org](https://registration.kha-net.org). Credit card payment is required for online registration. If you have any questions regarding the convention or the registration process, please feel free to call KHA at (785) 233-7436.

**CMS Proposes Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment Changes for 2017**
The proposed OPPS rule offers some good and some bad news relative to EHR incentive requirements. While it appears CMS heard some recommendations relative to Modified Stage 2 and Stage 3, the requirements are still premature.
The 90-day reporting period in 2016, the proposal to revise the threshold for patient electronic access to just one patient, the removal of the 2 objectives for clinical decision support and CPOE and the reduction of public health measures from 4 to 3 are appreciated.
That said, there are still some opportunities. 2018 is premature for Stage 3. Reductions in thresholds are welcome but the all-or-nothing approach is still untenable. Legislation has been introduced to reduce to 70%, we shall see. CMS continues to require clinical information reconciliation for stage 3. We appreciate that the threshold is reduced, but believe the requirement for clinical information to be premature.
KHA will submit comments, due September 6.

**Electronic Clinical Quality Measures and the Final IPPS Rule**
On Tuesday, August 2, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published the [final rule](https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/Inpatient-Hospital-Payment-Systems/Downloads/2017-IPPS-Final-Rule.pdf) for fiscal year (FY) 2017 Medicare payment policies and rates under the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) and the Long-Term Care Hospital (LTCH) Prospective Payment System (PPS). The final rule affects discharges occurring on or after October 1, 2016.
In the final IPPS rule, CMS finalized requirements to expand the number of eCQMs that hospitals must report for CY2017. This year hospitals must report 4 eCQMs and submit 1 quarter of data. For 2017, CMS finalized that hospitals must report on eight eCQMs and a full year of data. This is a significant increase and there is tremendous work that needs to be done before eCQMs are truly reflective of the quality of care that is delivered. The AHA special bulletin on the final rule is available here [http://www.kha-net.org/FurtherInformation/DownloadsHITCriticalIssues/d135265.aspx](http://www.kha-net.org/FurtherInformation/DownloadsHITCriticalIssues/d135265.aspx).

**ONC Issues Draft 2017 Interoperability Standards Advisory**
The Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology released yesterday for public comments, its [2017 Draft Interoperability Standards Advisory](http://www.kha-net.org/FurtherInformation/DownloadsHITCriticalIssues/d135265.aspx), an updated list and assessment of the standards and implementation specifications available to meet clinical health IT interoperability needs. The advisory is a non-binding document, but the standards and implementation specifications may be considered for rulemaking or other federal requirements. Comments are due Oct. 24. Additional information is available at the ONC blog [post](http://www.kha-net.org/FurtherInformation/DownloadsHITCriticalIssues/d135265.aspx).

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