Is it legal to e-prescribe controlled substances?

While you may have heard otherwise, it’s legal to e-prescribe controlled substances in Ohio, as well as in 48 other states.

To ensure that you and other prescribers have the most up-to-date information possible, we’ve convened an Ohio E-Prescribing Task Force with representatives from Ohio and national entities to work through misconceptions and align procedures for the medical community.

Read an introductory story on the work of the Ohio E-Prescribing Task Force.

Here is a flyer for physicians and other prescribers.

This is a flyer for institutional organizations, such as clinics and hospitals.

Here is a flyer for pharmacists!

For more information, contact Cathy Costello at ccostello@ohiponline.org or Dottie Howe at dhowe@ohiponline.org.

Successful HIEs do exist:
Watch webinar

CEO Dan Paolletti and Brian Ahier, Director of Standards and Government Affairs at Medicity do a great job of explaining the critical role of HIEs in healthcare reform in this one-hour webinar sponsored by Medicity and HIStalk.

Brian discusses solutions that will eventually improve population health while Dan tells Ohio's story of how a grassroots approach to health information exchange has made CliniSync one of the most successful HIEs in the country. Watch it here on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPEjaSVdsT8

Thanks for your comments on MU3

Thank you for working with us to submit comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We worked collaboratively with the Ohio Health Information Partnership and the Ohio Hospital Association, with stakeholder input from many physician groups and individual hospitals – including children's hospitals, meaningful use field consultants and representatives from the vendor community.

Here are just a few of the recommendations we've made:

- Allow hospitals another quarter in 2015 to demonstrate MU
- Permit those who are ready to attest to Stage 3 measures to do so and others to defer to 2018
- Continued use of a 90-day period for all first time attesters
- Additional EH CQMs be developed to include more pediatric options
- Do not support API technology be offered as an alternative to the patient portal
- Recommend the electronic transitions of care measure be set at 20% for Stage 3
- Recommend that the portal measure for view, download and transmit be kept at the threshold of 5%
- Request clarification on clinical data registry options

You can download the PDF here.

Welcome new practices, specialties and LTPAC
facilities

We continue to have practices, long-term care and post-acute care facilities connect to the CliniSync Community every day. We welcome you and thank you for participating in the CliniSync health information exchange.

These members now can take advantage of results and reports delivery and other electronic communications at no charge.

Welcome:

ADL Data Systems in Hawthorne, NY
Akers, Mark, MD in Tiffin
Bellevue Healthcare Group in Bellevue
Capital Health Services in Dayton
Che-Fu Kuo, MD, PhD in Marietta
Fairfield Community Health Center in Lancaster
Gase, Andrew J, MD in Tiffin
Genesis Healthcare in 17 Ohio locations
Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus
Laurel Health Care in 40 locations in Ohio
Liberty Nursing Center of Portsmouth
Providence Care Center in Sandusky
Renal Services of Toledo in Oregon
Sears, C.D., MD in Tiffin
Southern Ohio Gastroenterology in Portsmouth
Southern Ohio Rheumatology in Portsmouth
Stansbury, Stephen, MD in Cambridge
Sylvania Family Health & Wellness Center in Sylvania
The Willows at Bellevue in Bellevue
Trilogy Health Services in 20 Ohio locations

Up-to-date listing of hospitals connected to CliniSync

We want to make sure you know where to go on our website to view the hospitals that are now live. While the listing is in pink at the top right of the front page of our website and says "Search for hospitals," you can go directly here if you want to view and download it now.

Blood pressure program kick-off in Cleveland 6/27

Join the American Medical Association, Johns Hopkins
University, and Health Services Advisory Group to learn about evidence-based best practices to improve blood pressure (BP) control of your patients. During this four-hour immersion, we will cover the core elements, key tools, resources, and case studies that highlight successful implementation of best practices. The event will be held June 27 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. with lunch provided at the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and Northern Ohio in Cleveland.

You will be introduced to the science and logistics of improving care, including practical examples of how to overcome barriers that impede BP control. From treatment regimes to adaptive change methods, we will describe the most effective approaches to achieving BP control in your practice or health center. This event serves as a kickoff to a curriculum for the Improving Health Outcomes: Blood Pressure (IHO: BP) program. IHO:BP was created to engage primary care teams in achieving optimal BP control. CMEs offered.

Speakers include:

- Vikas Bhala, MPH, MBA, Improvement Advisor, American Medical Association
- Romsai Tony Boonyasai, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- Donna Daniel, PhD, Director, Improving Health Outcome Strategies, American Medical Association
- Lisa Lubomski, PhD, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality

To register, click here. For more information, contact Bonnie Hollopeter, HSAG Quality Improvement Lead, at 614.307.2036 or bhollopeter@hsag.com.

**Deadline for MU comments due 6/15**

To give you the most up-to-date news on the proposed modifications to the MU rule for 2015-2017, we conducted a thorough series of webinars that can be viewed here.

If you have any comments on the Modifications to Meaningful Use in 2015-2017 Proposed Rule that you would like included in our response to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, please send them to Cathy Rich at crich@ohionline.org and Cathy Costello at ccostello@ohionline.org. **We would need these comments via email by Friday, June 2. They are due June 15.**
For information about the proposed rule, review the fact sheet and access an eHealth provider webinar presentation on the eHealth website.

Federal news you can use

Medicare EPs: Take Action by July 1
Payment adjustments for eligible professionals who did not successfully participate in the Medicare EHR Incentive Program in 2014 will begin on January 1, 2016. Medicare eligible professionals can avoid the 2016 payment adjustment by taking action by July 1 and applying for a 2016 hardship exception. Here is the notification.

eCQMs
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology are excited to announce that the 2015 annual updates for the 2014 electronic clinical quality measures (eCQMs) are available in the electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center, located on the HealthIT.gov website: http://ecqi.healthit.gov

Chronic Care Management
CMS recognizes care management as one of the critical components of primary care that contributes to better health and care for individuals, as well as reduced spending. Here is a fact sheet that explains the entire program.

Medicaid Managed Care
CMS has proposed a rule that would modernize the Medicaid managed care regulations to reflect changes in the usage of managed care delivery systems. You can read the rule here.

Video on PQRS and the Value-Based Payment Modifier
CMS has released the following MLN Connects video: The Physician Quality Reporting System & the Value-based Payment Modifier: What Medicare Eligible Professionals Need to Know in 2015. This MLN Connects video presentation provides an overview of the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and how your participation in 2015 will determine how the Value-Based Payment Modifier will be applied to your reimbursement in 2017.

Medicaid offers ICD-10 webinar June 12
A webinar offered by Ohio Medicaid will make practices aware of where they need to be with ICD-10 implementation today and what types of CMS resources are available to assist with the transition, including ICD-10 action plans using Roadto10.org