

MetroCare Annual Meeting 2023 is a Wrap

The MetroCare annual meeting took place at Chickasaw Country Club on Wednesday, November 8.

- **Monica Wharton, MLH EVP and COO** spoke about the depth of preparation and strategy for the implementation of Epic EHR. Tina Myers, VP of Epic Implementation added to the presentation with some specifics on physician training.
- **Andrew Watson, MD, TMA President** discussed Tennessee Medical Association ongoing legislative goals and specific planning for 2024. [click here to access his presentation slides](#)
- **Carter Towne, MD MetroCare Board Chair** gave a moving tribute to Dr. Gail Thurmond, and brief MetroCare/HealthChoice business and contract performance update for Trilogy Network contracts. [Click here for the slide deck.](#)



Serious Decrease in Medicare Revenue for 2024

The change that everyone will notice from the 2024 Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule is the 3.4% drop in the conversion factor, which will result in a 1.25% decrease across your overall fee schedule. It may not sound that bad until you think about the cumulative 26% decreases over the last 25 years.

And, as we all know, commercial payers tend to base their fee schedules as a percentage of what Medicare pays, so there can be negative downstream effects. Unlike commercial payers, the fee schedule for CMS can only be addressed through federal legislation. There is a small possibility of a "fix" from Congress in January in response to massive feedback.

Make your voices heard regarding your dissatisfaction with the upcoming changes in the conversion factor for 2024. Dr. George Woodbury Jr., Legislative Committee Chair of the Memphis Medical Society, gave us the details on talking points and contacts so that you may reach out to representatives from your state. [Click here for more.](#)

MetroCare Board Election Results

After votes were tallied including both in-person annual meeting votes and Survey Monkey results, the following were approved for reappointment to the 2024-2026 term:

John Buttross, MD
Randall Huling, MD
Jimmie Mancell, MD

Matt Ballo, MD
Brian Borkowski, MD
Dale E Hansen II, MD

The membership of MetroCare Physicians expresses appreciation for the many years of service of Dr. Lisa Young as she "retires" from the board.

CPT 2024 Updates:

Four Identical Three-Hour Sessions in December. Click specific date/time to RSVP

Dec 1 9AM

Dec 1 1PM

Dec 15 9AM

Dec 15 1 PM

**BOOT CAMP IS
BACK JAN 2024
ACCESS THE CALENDAR
HERE TO RSVP**

CMS 2024 Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule High Level View of a Few Big Things

1. **Conversion Factor Reduction: 3.37%** unless Congress implements a "fix" in January. Please see the article above with information on how to contact our representatives in Washington to ask for their help.
2. **Add-on code G2211** that compensates for maintaining a longitudinal relationship and managing complicated illness will be activated after years of delays due to fears of excess cost. Intended to help PCPs, who generally manage more than they are ever compensated for, many specialty associations are now putting out information on billing this code. Beware the likely compliance pitfalls. Look for more details to come in 2024 on proper use of this code.
3. **Compensation for screening for social determinants** will become and add-on code to AWV and E&M visits.
4. **Funding to pay practices for coordinating community resources** in response to problems discovered through SDOH screening is provided with specific requirements.
5. **Principle Illness Navigators** funding will pay for specifically trained navigators to help patients obtain all aspects of care for a complicated illness such as cancer.

[click here for more from CMS](#)

In Case you Missed It UnitedHealthcare Webinar for Providers re: New FedEx Plans

UnitedHealthcare has presented informative webinars giving information on details of their new 2024 healthcare plans at FedEx. The Surest plan is available from other employers, but the FedEx Surest plan, My Choice, has unique benefits. If you were unable to attend or wish listen again, click here for a video recording.

Cigna Q4 Provider Updates

Check out this packet of information from Cigna. Stay informed to prevent denials. [Click here](#)

**Jan 1, Optum Rx will cover OTC
Naloxone to ensure access.** [Click here](#)
for more

We Are Here to Assist You

A dedicated team of professionals is committed to assuring MetroCare physicians have the tools and resources to achieve success with the changes required by transition to value-based healthcare.

T. Carter Towne, MD
Chairman

t 901.360.1360

carter.towne@metrocarephysicians.com

Education/Event Calendar



Taylor Bailey, MHA, SHRM-P
Executive Director

t 901.261.7804

taylor.bailey@metrocarephysicians.com

Clinical Services

Fran Parker
Provider Relations and
Quality Improvement

t 901.261.7791

fran.parker@metrocarephysicians.com

Wendy Hughes, LPN
Quality Reporting Coordinator

t 901.261.7790

wendy.hughes@metrocarephysicians.com

Education Services

Donna Pendergrass, MD, CPPM,
CPCO Communications Director

t 901.261.7796

donna.pendergrass@
metrocarephysicians.com

**MetroCare Physicians telephone
901.360.1360 fax 901.360.1336**

Credentialing Services

Kelly Jordan, CPMSM
Credentialing Manager

t 901.261.7797

kelly.jordan@metrocarephysicians.com

Teresa Stacks
Credentialing Specialist

t 901.261.7792

teresa.stacks@metrocarephysicians.com