

UPDATE: SPECIFICS ON ADDICTION CME FOR DEA CERTIFICATE

The MATE Act, intended to broaden access to addiction treatment medication, eliminates a previously required waiver to prescribe for addiction treatment and requires all DEA certificate holders to attest, one time only, to having eight hours of training for evaluating and treating substance use disorders. The specific CME requirements for those with pending summer DEA certificate applications and renewals may be satisfied by a variety of approved methods as seen in the table on the right.

[CLICK HERE FOR ORIGINAL DEA LETTER](#)

Training previously obtained in one of the programs listed in the table on the right, or a combination of 8 hours of substance abuse related CME obtained over time for state medical license renewals are acceptable. Four two-hour blocks of prescribing CME acquired from SVMIC for repeated TN state license renewals since 2014 is sufficient to allow attestation for your DEA renewal.

State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company, which provides malpractice coverage to more than 95% of providers in our network, has issued FAQ for MATE Act requirements for initial licensing or renewal. [CLICK HERE FOR FAQ](#)
[CLICK HERE FOR SVMIC BRIEF VIDEO](#)

REQUIREMENT ALREADY SATISFIED:

1. Board certification in Addiction Medicine or Addiction Psychiatry by ABMS, AABA or AOA
2. Completed [DATA-2000 waiver training](#)
3. Graduated in the last five years in good standing from a medical, APN or PA school with [>8 hour curriculum in substance use disorders](#)
4. Previous completion of total of 8 hours pertinent CME

If you are interested in obtaining free online instruction in the medical treatment of substance abuse disorders, SAMHSA provides access to a broad variety of topics in their training modules. [CLICK HERE FOR MODULE ACCESS](#)

ON HOLD AGAIN: CIGNA'S NEW 25 MODIFIER POLICY

After protests from many fronts, including significant pushback from the AMA, on May 22 Cigna quietly updated the banner on the M25 modifier policy pdf on its website to indicate that their new 25 modifier documentation submission policy is on hold. [Click here to view/download](#)

Cigna states that they are continuing to review this policy for future implementation, and other payers are taking a hard look at Modifier 25 as well. This modifier has always been a magnet for compliance issues and misuse. We do not expect this issue to go away over time. As always, we are following up with Cigna and watching for changes in other payer policies so that we may continue to bring you timely updates.

MetroCare is scheduling two lunchtime programs in August on The Proper Use of the 25 Modifier as a follow up to our three hour Modifier program earlier this month. This short program is especially good for providers as well as coders. Dates TBD at this time.

THE COVID PHE IS OFFICIALLY OVER

CMS has published an FAQ document that explains what exactly has ended as of May 11, 2023. [click here](#)

IMMEDIATE CHANGES:

For those who are providing telehealth encounters via non-HIPAA compliant platforms such as face time, the emergency waiver that allowed use of these platforms has expired rendering them no longer acceptable.

Coverage for vaccines and provider administered testing will be based on in-network status and may include deductible/copay depending on the patient's health plan.

Karen Scott, our coding expert, will present a brief lunchtime program discussing deadlines, telehealth rules, and coding changes:

The End of the PHE Lunchtime Program
July 12 OR July 25 12:15 PM

[CLICK HERE FOR EVENT CALENDAR ACCESS TO VIEW AND RSVP FOR UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

CODING BOOT CAMP on Four Fridays in June

June 2: Anatomy and Terminology Day

June 9: ICD Day

June 16: CPT Day

June 30: Review and Test Prep

CODING FOR NONCODERS

July 14: 9 AM

Details the origins, types and functions of coding and the role of proper coding for generating revenue and quality reporting

SVMIC Monthly Lunchtime Webinars

Practice management experts give these excellent monthly presentations from a risk management perspective. These are all at NOON

May 18: Front Desk Best Practices

JUN 15: Burnout: Is it Contagious?

JUL 27: OSHA for Medical Practice Staff

AUG 17: Payer Recoupments and Audits

SEP 14: Telemedicine Updates

OCT 12: Clinical Documentation

NOV 9: Billing and Supervising AP Practitioners

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

Taylor Bailey

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@](mailto:donna.pendergrass@metrocarephysicians.com)

metrocarephysicians.com



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

MetroCare Physicians

telephone 901.360.1360

fax 901.360.1336