

Annual Meeting Success

Dr. Carter Towne, chairman of the board of MetroCare Physicians, opened MetroCare’s 2019 annual meeting with a brief update on MetroCare and its mission advocating for physicians in the Memphis metropolitan area for over thirty years.



Dr. Towne spoke of the importance of the work at MetroCare in assisting physicians and their practices with adapting to the new healthcare environment that

holds physicians accountable for the quality, cost, and value of healthcare. [Click here](#) to view the slides

Dr. Towne continued with the observation that physicians should be leading this change to emphasize value and asked for interest and involvement from newer, younger physicians to begin to learn and take over the reigns from our long-time leaders at MetroCare.


If you have interest in learning more about our mission and possibly becoming a physician leader with MetroCare, please contact: Taylor Bailey, Executive Director taylor.bailey@metrocarephysicians.com

Keynote speaker: George Wortham, MD, CEO at HealthChoice

On May first, Dr. George Wortham transitioned from CEO of MetroCare to the CEO position at HealthChoice. His presentation, The State of Value-Based HealthCare in Memphis, centered around the HealthChoice Trilogy contracts with Cigna, UnitedHealthcare, and the Medicare Shared Savings Program.

By the Numbers
Trilogy MSSP vs. Average MSSP

CMS-HCC	CMS-HCC Label	Trilogy Rate per 10,000	All MSSP ACOs Rate per 10,000	Difference
HCC19	Diabetes without Complication	1,474	1,080	393
--	No HCCs	2,960	2,638	322
HCC22	Morbid Obesity	437	620	-182
HCC18	Diabetes with Chronic Complications	1,558	1,801	-242
HCC11	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	1,090	1,371	-281
HCC58	Major Depressive, Bipolar, and Paranoid Disorders	495	863	-367



Dr. Wortham opened by discussing the difficulties with healthcare affordability and the types of solutions expected from physicians by government programs as well as from employers and private payers.

[Click here to view full slide deck](#)

The patient data from the HealthChoice Trilogy Medicare Shared Savings program served as a real-world example of the effects on our network of insufficient or nonspecific documentation and coding of chronic disease in the Memphis Medicare population.

According to CMS, the Healthchoice Trilogy patient population appears to be far more healthy than MSSP patients across the rest of the country, with a much lower rate of morbid obesity, diabetes with complications, COPD, and major behavioral health problems. Apparently vast numbers of our diabetic population were reported as uncomplicated.

Dr. Wortham closed by urging providers and their staff to attend our free MetroCare seminars for coding and documentation education opportunities to learn best documentation and coding practices that can have a real downstream effect on revenue. For link to calendar [click here](#)

MetroCare Local Physician Panel Presentations

Exciting New Interventional Procedures in Cardiology

Explosive growth in the variety and applications of interventional cardiology procedures has led to less invasive repair methods for cardiovascular abnormalities and near immediate curative effect with minimal recovery time.

Drs. Michael McDonald and Mehul Patel of Sutherland Cardiology Clinic presented information on Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement, the Watchman procedure for prevention of stroke from atrial fibrillation, and MitraClip installation for prevention of mitral valve regurgitation, along with videos of their own cases illustrating the dramatic results.

For more details and referral information for this practice: [click here](#)



Dr. Michael McDonald and Dr. Mehul Patel of Sutherland Cardiology Clinic



Dr. Virginia Weaver of UTMP Weight Management and Wellness Center

UTMP Weight Management and Wellness

Dr. Virginia Weaver, along with Dr. Matthew Davis, is now a UT Methodist Physicians provider with their Weight Management and Wellness Center. Dr. Weaver spoke briefly regarding that practice, unique for our area because it features non-surgical treatment and management along with bariatric surgical procedures and repair of failed procedures.

Dr. Weaver noted the recent involvement of Susan Warner, MD, who is certified in Culinary Medicine. Dr. Warner applies nutrition information with cooking instruction to augment the services of their certified nutritionist and exercise counselors. Two full-time insurance specialists work to assist patients with payment authorizations and documentation.

For more information on this practice: [click here](#) to view their website

Appropriate Use Criteria for Advanced Diagnostic Imaging

Dr. Paul Carruth of Memphis Radiological PC brought attention to the current status of the new Appropriate Use Criteria for Advanced Diagnostic Imaging from CMS. This new initiative will touch almost every provider who cares for Medicare Part B patients by either ordering or furnishing CT, MRI, PET scans or nuclear imaging.

More detailed information on this new Medicare rule is available in our newsletter from earlier this year: to view that newsletter [click here](#)

Dr. Carruth introduced new information regarding the involvement of Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare in assisting practices with free access to their Cerner clinical decision support mechanism. [Click here](#) to learn more about this free online access to help those practices that may not have a CDSM embedded in their EHR.



Dr. Paul Carruth
Memphis Radiological PC

MetroCare Board Election Results

Attendees voted in our board election, and proxy votes were presented to allow those not present at the meeting to voice their opinions. A quorum was reached to allow for a final result tally on that day.

Six seats were up for re-election, three primary care and three specialist physician positions for three year terms.

The following were elected:

Primary Care: Charles Carter, MD, Todd Chappell MD, James Ensor, MD

Specialists: Schorr Benke, MD, Matthew Fields, MD, Mark Miller, MD

We thank Dr. K.C. Horne for his years of service to the board as he chose to retire his seat.

We Are Here to Assist You

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

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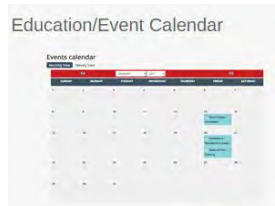
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EDUCATION EVENTS CALENDAR

[click here](#)

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