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— American Medical News —

American Medical News Oct. 11, 2010

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TOP STORIES

Many physicians see Medicaid pay cut as enrollment rises

Twenty states enacted reductions in 2010, and more adopted cuts for 2011. But with stimulus money running out, states are bracing for the worst.

Posting emergency wait times: Good marketing or good medicine?

Hospitals see an opportunity to boost revenue, but doctors say the growing trend could discourage patients from seeking appropriate care.

GOVERNMENT & MEDICINE

Public health, liability and other bills win approval in House

Legislative efforts to address concussion prevention, arthritis research and liability protection face uncertain futures as the Senate will be working under an end-of-year deadline.

Organized medicine stands up against Medicare pay cuts

Medical societies sign a letter warning Congress that a 23% reduction could force some physicians to limit the number of Medicare patients they treat.

PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

Residents to work shorter shifts under more supervision

The ACGME approves new standards that place increased emphasis on patient safety, proper transitions in care and fatigue management.

Physician shortage projected to soar to more than 91,000 in a decade

Increases in residency positions are needed to counter rising demand for Medicare and expanded coverage for the uninsured under health reform, the AAMC says.

OPINION

FROM RECENT NEWS

Health reform questions
Your patients will ask, here are some answers

Advocate for unity
Incoming AMA president

Health IT to-do list
Timetable for maintenance and security tasks

Editorial - **What editorial writers are saying about GOP's pledge on health care**
The Republican House members' "Pledge to America" includes a vow to "repeal and replace" health system reform.

BUSINESS

"Speed dating" growing as patients, doctors look to strike a match

What started as a small experiment at a Texas hospital is becoming an increasingly popular way to help physicians build their practices.

As insurance premiums rise, employees pay a bigger share

Patients are less likely to receive the medical attention they need when they must pay more for coverage.

E-prescribing growing in popularity across the country

About 200,000 office-based prescribers do so electronically, says a national report. The higher numbers could indicate readiness to meet the government's "meaningful use" requirements.

Technically Speaking - **Cell phone photos tested as diagnostic tools**

POSTED LAST WEEK

- **Comparative effectiveness research panel made up mostly of doctors** - Oct. 5
- **Virginia struggles to retain physicians** - Oct. 5
- **New AMA product analyzes fees for doctors' offices** - Oct. 6
- **Chicago doctors to spread system of reporting, reducing medical errors** - Oct. 6
- **Aetna rates go up for 65,000 policyholders in California** - Oct. 7
- **Medicare costs could dip if atrial fibrillation treatment improves, study finds** - Oct. 7
- **Accountable care organization set up by Cigna, Atlanta physicians' group** - Oct. 8
- **Preferred asthma diagnostic tool for children is underused** - Oct. 8

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