

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

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Medicaid Requires Tamper Resistant Prescriptions

by Bob Smithing

Effective October 1, 2007 tamper resistant prescriptions will be required for any prescription written for a patient covered by Medicaid. This is being required nationally by an amendment to Section 1903b(i) of the Social Security Act (42 USC193b(i), paragraph (23) which now states “(1) Payment shall not be made for amounts expended for medical assistance for covered outpatient drugs (as defined in section 1927(k)(2)) for which the prescription was executed in written (and non-electronic) form unless the prescription was executed on tamper-resistant pad (paper)”.

It is interesting to note that there is no requirement for prescribers to write tamper-resistant prescriptions but rather that pharmacists will not be paid for prescriptions if they are not tamper-resistant. According to MSNBC.com this provision was tucked into a spending bill for Iraq.

On August 17, 2007, The Department of Health & Human Resources, Centers for Medicaid & Medicaid Services sent a letter to all of the State Medicaid Directors. (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SMDL/downloads/SMD081707.pdf>) This is an excerpt from that letter.

The purpose of this letter is to offer guidance to State Medicaid agencies on section 7002(b) of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veteran's Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability appropriations Act of 2007. regarding the use of tamper-resistant prescription pads, which was signed into law on May 25, 2007...

To be considered tamper resistant on October 1, 2007, a prescription must contain at least one of the following three characteristics:

1) one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form;

2) one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber;

3) one or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms.

No later than October 1, 2008, to be considered tamper resistant, a prescription pad must contain all of the foregoing three characteristics. Failure of a State to enforce the tamper-resistant pad requirement of section 7002(b) may result in the loss of Federal financial participation.

According to the above letter the payment limitation does not apply to e-prescriptions transmitted to the pharmacy, prescriptions faxed to the pharmacy, or prescriptions communicated to the pharmacy by telephone

by a prescriber. Also exempt are prescriptions provided in skilled nursing facilities and certain other settings, if the facility provides the prescriptions as part of the facility charge. Prescriptions paid for by a managed care entity are exempt. Refills of written prescriptions presented at a pharmacy before October 1, 2007 are exempt as well. Drugs provided in the office incident to a provider visit, for which the office will bill Medicaid, are also exempted.

Tamper-resistant prescription pad suppliers:

- ☑ Medical Arts Press, www.medicalartspress.com, 800.328.2179, fax 800.328.0023, 1-2 week turn-around-time.
- ☑ Medi-Scripts, www.medi-scripts-services.com, 800.387.3636, fax 800.364.3209, 6-8 week turn-around-time.
- ☑ MicroFormat, Inc, www.RxPaper.com, 800.333.0549, 4 week turn-around-time. MicroFormat, Inc also has blank tamper-resistant paper for laser printers

Seeking Board of Directors Members for ARNPs United of WA State!!

Last October at the Primary Care conference, ARNPs United of WA State (AUWS) created a transitional board of directors to help revive the organization. Prior to October, there were membership renewal issues, bylaws untouched for a decade, a tired website, and a newsletter in search of members' contributions. Since October of 2006, 13 volunteer Board members, an Executive Director and a paid staff member have been working tirelessly to fix these problems and help the organization move forward. We have written a new set of bylaws, updated our monthly newsletter and our website (check both out at www.auws.org), doubled our membership by reaching out to all ARNPs across the state, and overall, brought the organization from worn out to downright great!

Now we need your help. This November, at the Primary Care conference, we will hold an election (our first in a very long time) for a new board of directors. All BOD positions are open; the transitional members have the option of running, as does every AUWS member. The bylaws call for 5 to 9 members on the BOD, with 4 of them serving as Board officers - President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary. The Chair of the Legislative Committee is automatically on the BOD as well (Legislative Committee members meet separately.) Board officers will be determined by the BOD after the election— so far it's been a case of who is willing and able to do what. The term of service is 3 years. The time involved is approximately 5-10 hours per month, as we have monthly to quarterly board meetings (which can be attended via conference call) and subcommittee work based on your area of interest. Our subcommittees in-

clude the ARNP CARE newsletter, the website, membership, and public relations.

If you are interested, know someone you would like to nominate, or have any questions about this opportunity to serve Washington's ARNPs and their clients, please feel free to email Heather Bradford, ARNP, CNM at hbradford@comcast.net or Therese Vafaezadeh, ARNP, FNP at Therese.vafaezadeh@seattlechildrens.org.

A Year in Review:

Life on the Transitional Board of Directors

by Therese Vafaezadeh

Last October while attending the Primary Care conference I decided to attend the ARNPs United general assembly meeting. At that meeting there was a call for people to join a transitional board; they were looking for new ideas and renewed energy (and a 1 year commitment). I decided this was a good opportunity to give back to my profession.

Over the past year I have become familiar with the work that ARNPs United has done to promote our profession in Washington State. I have learned much about our history of ARNPs ; as new nurse practitioners we take for granted our prescriptive authority and the fact that we do not need a joint practice agreement. I know as a student I didn't think much about how all these privileges came to be. As a board member, I am now working with those ARNPs who were instrumental in making these changes happen. It was only through their diligence and persistence that our profession in Washington State is what it is today. Being on the board has given me an educational experience that I did not get in school.

I have also learned that we have a professional lobbyist who works on legislation that affects all ARNPs. Over the past year I have come to realize how important it is to stay current with what is happening legislatively. There are other professions that are always looking for ways to curb our independent practice.

Elections for the Board of Directors will be held this coming November at the Primary Care conference. I highly encourage everyone to consider running for a position on the Board. In fact, I have enjoyed the experience so much, I plan to put my name on the ballot. The time commitment is approximately 5-10 hours per month and a 3 year term (and more if you would like!) Meetings are held monthly to quarterly. There is the ability to teleconference so you don't have to be physically present at the meetings. We hope to have board members representing various areas of the state and specialties. This is a great way to be involved and give back to our profession.

If have questions regarding the Board or if you are interested in putting your name on the ballot, please contact Heather Bradford CNM, ARNP at hbradford@comcast.net or myself at tvafae@hotmail.com.

CE Opportunities

Double Feature: Men & Women's Healthcare Conference

October 25-26, 2007 • Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle
Brochure available at
www.providence.org/everett/medical_staff/default.htm

Pacific NW 30th Annual Conference for Advanced Practice in Primary and Acute Care

November 7-10, 2007 • 6.0-20.5 contact hours • Washington State
Convention & Trade Center, Seattle, WA

Enhance your clinical competencies • Acquire new assessment and management skills • Examine critical issues at the state and national level and their impact on primary care practice • Foster a strong coalition of primary care providers • Learn about new products, services, and pharmacotherapeutic agents at this highly-acclaimed conference.

For information call CNE, 206.543.1047 or email:
cne@u.washington.edu or uwcne.org

The 10th Annual Nurse Foot Care Training

Saturday, Nov. 10th 2007 • Cherry Hill (Old Providence) Campus of
Swedish Hospital Seattle.

Topics will include routine nail & skin care, diabetic foot conditions & care, common foot problems & treatment, vascular problems, instruments/sterilization.

See wspma.org for registration form, FAQs, and course outline. You will be emailed a confirmation. It will include directions & a final lecture schedule. Instruction manual, breakfast & lunch included!

Classified Ads

Tacoma, Washington – Urology ARNP

Multi-specialty group seeks an ARNP to join a thriving Urology practice. Candidates must be qualified for licensure & certification in Washington State as an ARNP. You will enjoy excellent compensation, benefits, and system-wide support, while practicing your own patient care values. Located 35 minutes south of Seattle and 30 minutes from an international airport, Tacoma and the surrounding communities provide a broad range of educational and cultural activities for all ages. Nestled between the Cascade Mountains and the shores of Puget Sound, the region's year round temperate climate affords outdoor enthusiasts endless recreational opportunities, such as biking, hiking, climbing, skiing, and golfing. For more information regarding this fantastic opportunity, contact Provider Services @ 800-621-0301 or send your CV to www.blazenewtrails@multicare.org.
Please reference opportunity #554716.

Puyallup, WA – Psychiatry ARNP

The growing community of Puyallup, Washington is seeking a psychiatric ARNP to provide psychiatric evaluations and psychiatric medication management to individuals receiving counseling services at Good Samaritan Behavioral Healthcare. Experience and expertise working with children and adolescents is essential although there is the opportunity to work with clients of all ages. Located 40 minutes south of Seattle and 30 minutes from an international airport, Puyallup and the surrounding communities provide a broad range of educational and cultural activities for all ages. Nestled between the Cascade Mountains and the shores of Puget Sound, the region's year round temperate climate affords outdoor enthusiasts endless recreational opportunities. Qualified applicants must be flexible, self-motivated,

and committed to program development and patient care. If you would like more information concerning this opportunity, please call 800-621-0301 or email your CV to blazenewtrails@multicare.org or fax your CV to 866-264-2818. Refer to Opportunity #568-739
MultiCare is a Drug Free Workplace

Seeking Certified Nurse Practitioner

Nurse Practitioners at Evercare give wholeheartedly to their patients. And in return, they experience a career filled with rich personal rewards and true satisfaction. Evercare's success is driven by our Nurse Practitioners who share an ultimate goal of caring for the needs of the whole person. We invite you to join them in their mission. We invite you to make a difference.

We are experiencing exciting growth in Seattle and are actively seeking nationally certified **NURSE PRACTITIONERS** to provide direct care services to our members residing in long-term care settings. Manage your own caseload while collaborating with physicians and facility staff to maintain the health and well being of our enrollees. This role requires clinical experience in home care, long-term care or geriatrics. Recent NP graduates with experience as an RN will also be considered. DEA licensure is a plus.

Explore www.theheartofcaring.com - a resource designed with you in mind. Learn more about Evercare's culture of caring, and apply online if you choose. If you prefer, contact Mina Koukklan toll-free at 877.835.3156, ext. 2596, mkoukklan@uhc.recruitservices.com or fax your information to 877.464.3239. Evercare offers a full range of comprehensive benefits.

Diversity creates a healthier atmosphere: equal opportunity employer M/F/D/V.

Family ARNP

Family ARNP is needed at Tenino Family Practice for a full time position. New provider will take on patient population of departing ARNP. We are a friendly office that has been established for 22 years. We were designated a Rural Health Clinic in 1998, and have had a nurse practitioner since then. At that time we moved into a new building. Benefit package includes malpractice insurance and medical-dental-vision insurance. After three years employees are eligible for a SEP-IRA plan.

Our patient population is greatly varied and includes Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance. We emphasize a high standard of care for all of our patients from birth to death. To help give our patients the best care, the MD and ARNP meet weekly to discuss difficult issues amongst patients and standards of care. TFP also participates in a Diabetic Collaborative, which assists us in giving comprehensive care to our diabetic population. We use a recall system to help schedule routine appointments. Practice pace is adjusted to allow for thorough care.

Tenino Family Practice, PO Box 4020, Tenino, WA 98589
Phone: 360.264.5665 Fax: 360.264.5666

Full Time ARNP

Full time position available in a friendly NP owned family practice clinic in Auburn, Washington beginning December 2007 and extending thru April with the possibility of a part time or job sharing position following. Provider will typically see around 15 patients per day including pediatrics, womens health and adult medicine. Interested parties should fax CV to (253) 735-4153 attn: Stephanie Emmal, ARNP or email efe.llc@gmail.com. Practice website is www.whiteriverclinic.com.

Washington, Richland

Kadlec Clinic is a multi-specialty physician practice operated by Kadlec Health System. Kadlec Clinic is recruiting staff for the Senior Health Care Clinic. This individual will be under indirect supervision, provides independent geriatric primary care in a variety of clinical

settings to a specified population of non-emergency patients. Consideration for this position requires a current Washington State RN and ARNP licensure. Must be credentialed per Kadlec Clinic policies and procedures. Benefits included; salary DOE.

Fax or mail application to: Kadlec Clinic at APW, Attn: Human Resources, 945 Goethals, Suite 200, Richland, WA 99352.

Fax: 509-946-8963

ARNPs Wanted by Group Health

We are seeking skilled ARNPs to join our organization! Group Health (GH) is a non-profit health care and health insurance provider that exists to transform health care, working together every day to improve the care and well-being of our consumers and communities. We serve over 500,000 people throughout the State of Washington and northern Idaho. Our clinics offer great schedules that allow you to engage in valuable work while keeping a normal schedule. We offer great benefits. We collaborate as teams and foster innovative thinking to offer excellent care. We currently have several ARNP positions available, including a full-time position in behavioral health in Bremerton, three full-time positions in geriatric care in Seattle and Olympia, a part-time family practice role in Seattle, and a part-time role in our teen center in Renton.

If interested, please visit our website at www.ghc.org and click on the employment link to research GH's current ARNP jobs. To apply for a position, please email your resume directly to Henderson.L@ghc.org and apply online.

Group Health is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce.

Sleep Medicine - Tacoma, Washington

Private neurology group seeks an ARNP for thriving sleep medicine practice. Primary responsibilities include evaluation and management of patients with sleep disorders, with focus on obstructive sleep apnea & CPAP/BIPAP treatment. Candidates must be eligible for licensure & certification in Washington State. Excellent compensation, benefits, and group stability makes this an ideal choice for the provider who is looking to experience the best of Northwest living; from big city amenities to the pristine beauty and recreational opportunities of the great outdoors. For more information regarding this fantastic opportunity, contact Provider Services @ 800.621.0301 or send your CV to www.blazenewtrails@multicare.org

Please reference opportunity #598-751.

Full or Part Time Pediatrics

Well established 6-physician pediatric practice seeking a full or part time ARNP/PNP provider for same day and primary care services to children of all ages. Visit www.rentonpediatrics.com. Contact Jami at 425.271.5437 x104 for more info or fax resume to 425.656.4212.

Healthy Humor

The Boy's Report

A boy was assigned a paper on childbirth and asked his parents "how was I born?"

"Well honey..." said the slightly prudish parent, "the stork brought you to us."

"OH", said the boy. "Well how did you and daddy get born?" he asked.

"Oh the stork brought us too."

"Well how were grandpa and grandma born?" he persisted.

"Well darling, the stork brought them too!" said the parent, by now starting to squirm a little.

Several days later, the boy handed in his paper to the teacher who read with confusion the opening sentence:

"This report has been very difficult to write due to the fact that there hasn't been a natural childbirth in my family for three generations."

Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space-available basis. Position Available Ads of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, and greater than 130 words are \$105. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements of less than 65 words are \$70, of 66 to 130 words are \$105, or 131 words or greater are \$130. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75. Ad Inserts are \$550 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to ARNP Care, 10024 SE 240th St, #102, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.852.7725. Email care@nurse.net.

Inspirational Quote

If you build castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put foundations under them.

Henry David Thoreau

ARNPs United of WA State
10024 S.E. 240th St., Suite #102, Kent, WA 98031
253.480.1035 Fax: 253.852.7725
Email: au@nurse.net Web site: www.auws.org

ARNP Care
10024 S.E. 240th St., Suite #102, Kent, WA 98031
253.852.9042 Fax: 253.852.7725
Email: care@nurse.net Web site: www.nurse.org/wa/arnpcare

Editors:
Robert T. Smithing, MSN, ARNP
Madeline D. Wiley, MSN, ARNP
ARNPs United Contributing Editors:
Heather Bradford, CNM, ARNP (Legislative Chair)
Ann Darlington, CNM, ARNP (President)
Allegra Klein, ARNP
Production Staff:
Sarah Abid, Tracy Kiele
Publisher:
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Kent WA 98031
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