

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

March 2012

Medicare OIG Considers ARNP Orders for Home Care X-rays Fraud

In a recent Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG) report entitled "Questionable Billing Patterns of Portable X-ray Suppliers" published December 2011 (OEI-12-10-00190) the following statements were made.

Medicare paid at least \$6.6 million for portable x-ray services that were ordered by non-physicians and therefore not covered. Nurse practitioners ordered \$4.3 million of these services, while physician assistants and podiatrists ordered \$1 million and \$900,000, respectively. Registered nurses, chiropractors, and other medical professionals accounted for the remainder.

According to the OIG payments for portable services ordered by non-physicians clearly violate Federal regulations and should be recovered. Therefore, we recommend that CMS: Collect the \$6.6 million in overpayments for portable x-ray services rendered in 2009 that were ordered by non-physicians.

ANA Report on APRN Distribution in Urban and Rural Areas

ANA, in collaboration with the WWAMI Rural Health Research Center at the University of Washington, is pleased to announce the release of the new report - Understanding advanced practice registered nurse distribution in urban and rural areas of the United States using National Provider Identifier data. The attached document provides you with additional information from the report. Please feel free to widely distribute to your members.

Access the policy brief here:

<http://www.nursingworld.org/APRNdistributionbrief>

Access the full report here:

<http://www.nursingworld.org/APRNdistributionreport>

Campaign for Nursing

The Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future is preparing to observe its 10th anniversary and display a unique mosaic image celebrating the nursing profession. A photo mosaic is a compilation of many individual pictures that are used to create a single image.

Your photo can be included in The Art of Nursing: A Portrait of Thanks Mosaic Project with a few simple clicks of your mouse. By participating in the project, not only will you become a part of nursing history, but you'll also help encourage and inspire the next generation of

nurses. For each photo uploaded on or before April 30, 2012, the Campaign will donate \$1 to the Foundation of the National Student Nurses Association (FNSNA) to help fund nursing student scholarships.

To become a part of this historical image of nurses and nursing, simply upload your photo at campaignfornursing.com/portraitofthanks then follow the easy instructions, and within minutes your photo will be uploaded to the project. The file must be a .jpg

Learn more about the Mosaic Project on the Nursing Notes by Johnson & Johnson Facebook Page.

Adopted Changes to Washington Administrative Code 296-20-010

The Department of Labor & Industries has adopted changes to the Washington Administrative Code 296-20-010. The amended WAC will do the following: Clarify when and under what circumstances a provider may bill an injured worker for a "no-show" or "missed appointment" related to the industrial injuries on an allowed claim. The amended WAC will become effective March 23, 2012.

To read the amended WAC visit:

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/rules/AO09/35/0935Adoption.pdf>

Please contact Aaron Huff at Hufa235@lni.wa.gov with any questions regarding this rulemaking.

Preceptors Needed for Seattle University

Seattle University needs preceptors for our ARNP students. Spring Qtr 3/26-6/9

Students complete 150 hours over 10 weeks. We need ARNPs, MDs, PAs in: Family, Geriatrics, Psychiatrics, Pediatrics, Midwifery, Women's health, Urgent Care, Specialty (eg; cardio, neuro, etc)

We are offering some perks for your talented, tireless efforts. Please contact Linda Frothinger at: 206-293-4416 or frothil@seattleu.edu.

Guiding the Future... Love to teach...

Precept an FNP, ANP or PNP student!

Precepting involves 1 to 2 days a week for the 10-week quarter, Spring, Fall &/or Winter.

Preceptors needed for beginning to advanced students.

Contact Fiona Shannon, fiona@uw.edu for more information on precepting University of Washington students.

2012 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda

Legislative Success!

Priority Issue: Authorizing Pharmacists to Accept All Prescriptions from Out-of-State ARNPs

A law passed in 2010 authorized pharmacists to accept prescriptions from ARNPs licensed in any state or in a province of Canada that shares a common border with the state of Washington. Shortly after the law was signed, a legal analysis identified a technical error. Only the pharmacy act was amended. For pharmacists to accept all prescriptions, a section of the state's controlled substances act also needed to be amended. This technical error resulted from an inadvertent omission when the bill was drafted.

House Bill (HB) 1486 would authorize Washington pharmacists to fill prescriptions for controlled substances prescribed by out-of-state ARNPs by amending RCW 69.50.101.

Status: Passed by the House of Representatives 1/17/12 and by the Senate 2/24/12. The bill was signed by the Governor on March 7 and is effective June 7, 2012.

Actively Support

SB 6037 Limiting access to reports and records of autopsies and postmortems

This bill was amended to allow ARNPs, upon request, to meet with the family of a decedent to discuss the findings of the autopsy or postmortem.

Status: The bill died as it did not receive a vote by the Senate.

HB 2186 Concerning licensed midwives ability to work with RNs and LPNs

Licensed midwives will be added to the list of providers who can give orders to RNs. A registered nurse may execute a medical regimen as prescribed by a licensed midwife. A RN may also administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, at the direction of a licensed midwife

Status: The bill passed the House of Representatives 1/26/12 and the Senate on 2/24/12 and was signed by the Governor March 7, 2012 and becomes effective June 7, 2012.

HB 2648 Removing the expiration for the additional surcharge imposed on registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to fund the Washington Center for Nursing

Status: The bill passed the House of Representatives on February 13 but died in committee in the Senate due to an oversight. It may be considered during special session.

Active Opposition

SB 6394 Requiring transparency for patients regarding training and qualifications of health care professionals

This bill would have required a health care professional that holds a doctorate degree to identify the type of license, registration, or certification they hold in all advertisements containing their name. Promoted by the Washington State Medical Association, the bill was unnecessary because the Uniform Disciplinary Act already precludes false advertising.

Status: Our lobbyist successfully worked with others to have the bill removed from a scheduled hearing and the bill died in committee.

HB 2366 Requiring certain health professionals to complete education in suicide assessment, treatment, and management

The bill would require certain health professionals to obtain six hours of education in suicide assessment, treatment and management every six years. It was amended in the House of Representatives to include all RNs and many other health professions. The Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee amended the bill and removed many health professionals, including RNs, from the requirement. AUWS opposes this mandate as ARNPs conduct a self-assessment of continuing competency needs and can obtain suicide prevention education if it is relevant to their practice and professional needs.

Status: The bill was passed by the House of Representatives February 10, 2012 and was passed by the Senate March 3, 2012 and was sent to the Governor.

Monitor

SB 6237 An act relating to a career pathway for medical assistants

The bill blends the existing health care assistant categories the medical assistant certification and creates four new credentials: Medical Assistant-Certified; Medical Assistant-Registered; Medical Assistant-Hemodialysis Technician; Medical Assistant-Phlebotomist. It establishes qualifications for new applicants, a scope of practice, portability and exemptions.

Status: The bill was passed by the Senate February 9, 2012 and by the House on February 29, 2012. The House and Senate concurred on March 5 and it was sent to the Governor.

January 23, 2012

Dear Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner:

We Need Your Help!

ARNPs United of Washington (AUWS) invites you to become more actively involved in your professional organization through your financial contribution. **Contributing to AUWS is the best investment you can make for your present and future professional practice.** Through increased participation and financial contributions, you have the opportunity to:

- Vote for our board of directors
- Receive the state newsletter ARNP Care electronically
- Participate in our committees
- Contribute to the profession

The actions of AUWS benefit all the advanced practice nurses in the state of Washington. Our organization funds the lobbyist who represents all of us in Olympia. Representation is essential for monitoring and forwarding the interests of all ARNPs in state legislation.

Furthermore, **AUWS connects us with one another through ARNP Care, our newsletter, the AUWS website, and our new Facebook page which provide regular updates on important information.** These resources keep you informed of state and national developments relevant to our practice.

The efforts of AUWS have assisted in providing Washington State the broadest scope of practice in the country. We have full prescriptive authority. We can practice without a required collaborative practice agreement. **The Pearson Report rates Washington as A+ an exemplary state** in which to practice as a nurse practitioner¹.

We ask for your participation and financial contribution to become a sustaining member of AUWS. Your contributions ensure the continuation of our work supporting all ARNPs and our practices. **Please donate one day's pay to your organization, ARNPs United.** If you earn \$60,000 a year, consider contributing \$230. Even small donations help; **any amount is greatly appreciated.**

To contribute, please fill out the enclosed form, or visit our website auws.org to donate online. If desired you can split your donation into monthly payments.

Thank you for your support!



Nancy Lawton, MN, ARNP, FNP, President

1. The 2011 Pearson Report, The American Journal for Nurse Practitioners, NP Communications, LLC (www.webnponline.com)



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Dear Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner,

Did you know that ARNPs United could accept your contribution through the use of a Visa or MasterCard? All you need to do is fill out the Credit Authorization Form below and return it by mail or fax. Thank you for supporting ARNPs United!

_____	_____	_____
Name on credit card,	Credit Card Number	Expiration Date
_____		_____
Signature		Phone Number
_____	_____	_____
Billing Address	City	State Zip

I would like to make:

A one-time contribution of \$ _____

An annual contribution of \$ _____

A monthly contribution of \$ _____

Please bill me monthly on or after the 1st or 15th of every month until notified to stop.

Mail or fax to: ARNPs United of Washington State, 10024 SE 240th St., Ste. #230, Kent, WA 98031 Fax #: 253.852.7725

CE Opportunities

UW Health Care and Social Work Certificates

Advance your skills, expand your network or earn contact hours and CEUs. UW Professional & Continuing Education offers the following certificate programs: Gerontology (online), Geriatric Mental Health (classroom), Medical Management (classroom), Psychological Trauma: Effective Treatment and Practice (online & classroom), Integrated Behavioral Health (online), and Infant Mental Health (classroom). Visit our website for full descriptions and start dates: www.keeplearning.uw.edu.

Lead EKG Interpretation: Critical Skills

Earn 7 ANA approved contact hours while updating quality of patient care and decreasing liability in this 1 day seminar.

4 sites and dates: April 30, Olympia; May 14, Bellingham; June 11, Kelso; July 10, Wenatchee; Additional sites and dates pending.

Presented by Nursing Education Consultants

For brochure, Email: NursEdCons@mail.com or phone 206.795.5740

Meetings

Puget Sound Nurse Practitioners Association

Join us! Puget Sound Nurse Practitioners Association is a non-profit organization supporting ARNPs in Puget Sound since 1998. We meet every other month and offer a social hour/networking and a speaker presentation.

Annual dues are \$40/\$20 for students. \$20 per meeting for guests. Apply for membership and find meeting information at <http://PSNPA.org>

Private Practice NP Discussion Group

All are welcome. Meetings will be Sep/Nov/Jan/Mar/May on the second Thursday of the month in May from 6:30-8:00 at FamilyCare of Kent in Kent, WA. Effective with the September meeting we will be moving to the 3rd Thursday of the month for meetings. RSVP at least 48hr in advance to mwiley@familycareofkent.com so we can order food and drinks. Address and directions on www.familycareofkent.com. Sponsored by NP Central.

West Sound Advanced Practice Association

Meets the second Thursday of the month. Meetings include networking/dinner/educational session. E-mail Fionafnp@centurytel.net for more information.

Thought for the Day

Believe in Yourself!

And in your dream, though impossible things may seem. Someday, somehow you'll get through to the goal you have in view.

Mountains fall and seas divide before the one who in his stride takes a hard road day by day, sweeping obstacles away.

Believe in yourself and in your plan. Say not – I cannot – but, I can. The prizes of life we fail to win, because we doubt the power within.

Author Unknown

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 and Continuing Education Ads of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, 131-180 words are \$105, and greater than 181 words are \$175. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. 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, more than 130 words are \$175. Ad Inserts are \$750 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, #230, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.852.7725. Email care@nurse.net.

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