

STELLAR GOOD NEWS

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Stellar Software

Our Staff...

Josiah Reynolds

Lori Tauer

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124 1/2 North Willow Street
P.O. Box 1045
Harrison, AR 72601
1-800-741-4755 support
1-870-741-5070 fax
www.stellarchiro.com

Read previous issues of Stellar Good News on the resources page of our website!

Revised Reports

The **Carrier Payment Ratio** report (available from *Reports/Carrier Payment Ratio*) has been revised and is now significantly more accurate than it used to be. It can now properly correlate insurance payments with services within the specified range (even if the payments are outside that range) with about 90-95% accuracy.

In addition, the **Pre-Insurance Report** (*Billing Insurance/Pre-Insurance Report*) has also been revised to include more possible claim issues, and to display information in a more user-friendly format. *Tip:* If you click on a patient's information in the report and then click the Little Blue Guy with the Broken Arm™ in the bottom-left corner, you can jump straight to the patient's profile.

Changing Times and the Chiropractic Opportunity

From dynamicchiropractic.com, excerpted from the column by Reed Phillips.

Life is a whirlwind of change. Some areas change faster than others, but change they do. In the past six months, during what some have referred to as a global economic meltdown, we have seen corporate mergers and takeovers, bankruptcies, bailouts, stock market corrections, plant closures, home foreclosures, rising unemployment, perishing pensions, fluctuating gas prices, and a fear-gripping recession. While the rate of the economic decline appears to be slowing, no

one is predicting the decline is over; more change is surely yet to come.

In the area of health care delivery, change is also at our doorstep. Providers of care and their patients, regardless of their professional roots, should be concerned. With a firm resolve and health care industry support exceeding that of the early 1990s, President Obama has promised change in how health care will be delivered to U.S. citizens. No one plan has been accepted, but movement toward a single-party pay system has significant popularity. As health care reform blows across the skies, creating a "perfect storm," as the ACA calls it, chiropractic cannot be left "blowin' in the wind." We must be a prominent player at the table of decisions as the reform process moves forward.

No One Is Going to Bail Us Out

Fear of the unknown - the outcome of this reform process - makes for restless nights and anxious days. At this point, we can only speculate with predictions of "things will change." Perhaps a glimpse into the business and corporate world can offer some insight. Will the low-pressure gradient of the storm center be the catalyst for a merger of national associations? Times of economic stress hardly justify duplication of effort and costs merely to maintain egos and philosophical differences residing in the minds of those at the margins of the profession.

Read the rest at:

http://www.dynamicchiropractic.com/mpacms/dc/column.php?c_id=1533

IV Vitamin C Used to Recover Terminal Swine Flu Case

From mercola.com.

Dr. Thomas Levy sent me a case report where vitamin C was used to completely cure a case of swine flu. He says that adequately dosed vitamin C, to his knowledge, has never failed to cure an acute viral syndrome.

According to information he received from a colleague in New Zealand, John Appleton, the following occurred:

A Waikato farmer went to Fiji for a holiday and started developing flu-like symptoms, but decided to tough it out. He arrived back in New Zealand very sick with swine flu.

Tauranga Hospital was not able to treat him (what was not known at the time is that he has leukemia -- he didn't know either.) They sent him to Auckland Hospital, but he continued to deteriorate, despite the use of Tamiflu and antibiotics.

His brother-in-law (who knows a bit about vitamin C) contacted Dr. Thomas Levy in the U.S., who referred him to John Appleton.

John Appleton provided a lot of information on vitamin C and referred the family to CAM (Centre for Advanced Medicine), www.camltd.co.nz in Auckland. The family pushed to get him some IV vitamin C, but the hospital refused. CAM doctors encouraged the hospital to try vitamin C.

The patient deteriorated further and was on life support. The family was told nothing more could be done and life support would be switched off. His lungs were not functioning. The family said NO -- not until everything has been tried.

The hospital was pushed hard to give him IVC and reluctantly agreed, saying if there was no improvement by Friday, that's it.

The patient showed signs of improvement by Wednesday, to the hospital's surprise.

Read the rest at:

<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2009/09/24/IV-Vitamin-C-Used-to-Recover-Terminal-Swine-Flu-Case.aspx>

FDA gets a taste of its own medicine

From healthrevelations.com.

It's about time someone stood up and said, "Enough's enough."

The Food and Drug Administration is being sued for censorship and is accused of being in contempt of a court order.

This has been a long time coming.

The accusations stem from the FDA's constant meddling with the language it will allow to describe the health claims of vitamins and supplements – even when there are clear studies that back up their effectiveness. Back in June, the FDA pulled 13 claims it had previously allowed. Then, it rewrote four others to the point where they were completely useless.

The law firm that filed the suit has represented supplement makers and physicians over the years. They say the FDA's recent actions violate federal court rulings issued in 1999 and 2002, which declare that disclosure must be favored over suppression.

Right now, the FDA's main game is suppression – and it has a willing partner in the Federal Trade Commission, which also engages in the harsh censorship of good scientific information.

Both organizations now find themselves in court, with the FTC on the losing end of a decision in August. The FTC sought \$24 million in fines from a supplement maker, but a federal judge found that the company had "clearly offered support and substantiation for the claims regarding their products."

Read the rest at:

<http://healthrevelations.com/2009/09/22/fda-gets/>

Stellar Updates

Some recent changes and updates to Stellar (go to the Help menu in Stellar and click Download Stellar Update for the complete list):

Demand Bill

Non-insurance treatments are no longer included on the bill (*let us know if you are using this bill in a way that needs to show non-insurance treatments*).

Paper Claims

Boxes 9 and 9a are now left blank for Medicare secondary claims.

Posting

Can now post up to 30 service lines at once (up from 12).

Treatments

Listing can now print only treatments/items that are low on stock.

Patients

Changed duplicate diagnosis error into warning (allowing save).

Patients, Electronic Claims

Fixed ID numbers in documentation/box 19 possibly being read as diagnosis.