

# NARA 2010 Spring Conference Agenda

## Healthcare Reform: Preparation for the Impact on Rehab Businesses

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

- 11:30 a.m.                      **Registration Opens**
- 1:00 - 1:30 p.m.                **President's Welcome**
- Gregg Altobella, MS CCC-SLP  
NARA President
- 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.                **RUGs and MDS Update: MDS 3.0 and RUGs IV May Not Add up to "7" Unless you are Prepared!** *Speaker Sponsored by GiftRAP, Corp.*
- Marilyn Mines  
FR&R Healthcare Consulting, Inc.
- This presentation will identify the correlation between RUGs IV and the new assessment tool MDS 3.0; describe possible changes in rehabilitation reimbursement and methods of delivery; explain how to minimize potential financial losses; review RUG IV changes that impact therapy reimbursement; review MDS 3.0 and describe the importance of accuracy in its completion; and set out changes that may be required to ensure optimal therapy reimbursement.
- 3:30 - 3:45 p.m.                **Networking Break**
- 3:45 - 5:00 p.m.                **Being Ready for RAC and FI Audits: Red Flags: Opportunities to be Proactive**
- David L. Jackson, MD, PhD
- Dr. Jackson will provide background on key "red flags" for skilled rehabilitation audits in LTC and assist in increasing sensitivity to key vulnerabilities and understanding of quality-related issues that these flags may represent. He will review his personal experience with FI and legal reviews of skilled therapy issues in LTC, describe common errors in documentation and strategies in skilled rehabilitation, and review proactive approaches to always "being ready" for RAC and other audits, rather than "getting ready".
- 5:00 p.m.                        **Wine and Cheese Reception**  
Meet new colleagues and reconnect with others. NARA networking functions are invaluable opportunities to strengthen and build relationships that last.

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**THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010**

7:00 a.m.                      **Registration Opens**

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.            **NARA Membership Annual Business Meeting**

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.            **Introduction**

- Gregg Altobella, MS CCC-SLP  
NARA President

9:15 - 10:30 a.m.         **Overview of the Massive New Health Care Reform Law - the Patient  
Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA")**

- George G. Olsen, Esq.  
Williams & Jensen, PLLC

The PPACA makes major changes in the way in which health care is delivered and paid for and significantly alters key aspects of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. This portion of the program outlines these changes and describes the timeline in which they will occur.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m.         **Networking Break**

11:00 - Noon                **Provisions in the PPACA of Particular Note to Rehabilitation Providers**

- George G. Olsen, Esq.

The PPACA is replete with provisions which may impact providers of rehabilitation services in both the short and long term. This presentation will highlight those provisions and explore their potential ramifications for rehabilitation providers.

Noon - 1:30 p.m.            **Conference Luncheon**  
**Presented by sponsor Leo LaCroix and Tom Squire of MEDaddept**

The luncheon will include an awards ceremony featuring the new Innovation Award. Demonstration of the new NARA SharePoint Intranet.

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### THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010 (CONTINUED)

**1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Tax Provisions in the PPACA**

- Christopher W. Hatcher, Esq.  
Williams & Jensen, PLLC

The health care reform law includes numerous tax provisions of which both business and individuals must be aware. This presentation will describe these tax law changes and suggest some provisions which may be of benefit to some rehabilitation businesses.

**2:00 - 2:30 p.m. Report on the Status of Legislation to Prevent the Reduction in Payments Under the Physician Fee Schedule**

- Karina V. Lynch, Esq.  
Williams & Jensen, PLLC

Preventing draconian reductions in the physician fee schedule has become a vexing problem for Congress, and, of course, all providers paid pursuant to it. Recent months have witnessed a series of very short extensions of the fee schedule but a longer term solution remains elusive. This presentation will describe Congress' latest actions, the impediments to a longer term reform, and the prospects for a permanent "fix" to the fee schedule.

**2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Networking Break**

**3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Report on Outpatient Therapy Caps**

- Patrick Cooney  
The Federalist Group, Inc.
- Gayle Lee, JD  
Director, Federal Payment Policy and Advocacy  
American Physical Therapy Association

This panel will examine recent legislative initiatives concerning the outpatient therapy caps as well as plans for future Congressional action. In addition, current CMS activities, studies, and projects concerning the caps will be described.

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4:00 – 4:30 p.m.      **Briefing for NARA Member Visits to Capitol Hill**

- Mark Anderson, P.T.  
President  
Mountain Land Rehabilitation, Inc.
- Jenny B. DiJames, Esq.  
Williams & Jensen, PLLC
- George G. Olsen, Esq.

This panel will prepare NARA members for their visits to Capitol Hill on Friday morning.

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.      **Rehabilitation Agency Accreditation Projects – Agency Certification Through Accreditation; It’s On Its Way At Last!**

- Jeff Pearcy  
Executive Director  
American Association of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (“AAASF”)
- Mary Jo Spanihel  
President  
Spanihel & Associates

5:00 p.m.              **Adjournment**

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### FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2010

9:00 a.m. - Noon      **NARA Member Visits to Capitol Hill**

Noon - 1:30 p.m.      **PAC Luncheon and Capitol Hill Visit Discussion**

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.      **National Practitioner Data Bank**

- Michael D. Kans, Esq.  
Williams & Jensen, PLLC

The Secretary of Health and Human Services has issued a final rule expanding access to the information collected and disseminated through the National Practitioners Data Banks. Pursuant to this new regulation, queriers will now have access to state licensure actions against all health care practitioners including physical therapists and other rehabilitation service providers. This part of the program will provide a fulsome exposition of this new rule.

2:00 - 2:30 p.m.      **Fraud and Abuse Under the Obama Administration**

- George G. Olsen, Esq.

The Obama Administration is intensifying its efforts to identify, investigate, and prosecute health care fraud and abuse. Congress has added new enforcement authorities and funding to aid these efforts. This portion of the program will discuss these new initiatives.

2:30 - 3:00 p.m.      **Networking Break**

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.      **A Little Help From NARA's Friends**

- Justine Moore  
Vice President, Government and Payment Advocacy  
American Physical Therapy Association

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- Christina Metzler  
Chief Public Affairs Officer  
American Occupational Therapy Association
- Ingrida Lusiš  
Director of Federal and Political Advocacy  
American Speech-Language Hearing Association
- Mary Andrus  
Assistant Vice President, Government Relations  
Easter Seals

It is a NARA tradition to invite its sister organizations to participate on this panel to discuss issues of particular importance to each association.

4:30 p.m.

**Spring Conference is Adjourned**

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We would like to thank the following companies for their sponsorships of this conference:

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