

NARA SPRING CONFERENCE 2018
The New Health Care Environment
Crossing the Health Care Road with NARA

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

7:30—8:30 a.m. Light Breakfast and Conference Registration (City Center Ballroom)

8:30—9:45 a.m. President’s Welcome and NARA’s Vision for the Future of Rehab

- Stephen Hunter, PT, DPT, OCS
NARA President

9:45—10:00 a.m. Break

**10:00—11:00 a.m. “If you don’t know where you’re going, you might end up somewhere else!”
Yogi Berra**

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act along with FY 2018 budget and appropriations legislation have added trillions of dollars to the national debt creating pressure for entitlement reform including Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. The Trump Administration is actively pursuing an aggressive deregulation agenda to reduce the burden of federal regulation on American businesses including those in the health care sector. Congressional Republicans and the President are seeking to shift more responsibility for health care to state governments through legislation and the granting of waivers. The private sector is witnessing all manner of unprecedented consolidations, creating large service providers, purchasers, and payors with new market power. This session will examine these and other developments and lay the foundation for discussions during the conference.

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

11:00—11:30 a.m. The 2018 Mid-Term Elections—Same-old, Same-old or Sea Change?

The upcoming mid-term Congressional elections will be hotly contested, acrimonious, and perhaps historic. The results will undoubtedly impact health care legislation, regulation, and policy. If Democrats flip the House and/or the Senate, it will be more difficult for Republicans and the President to advance their agendas. So, which way are the political winds blowing? This portion of the agenda will attempt to answer that question.

- Matthew Hoekstra
Principal, Williams & Jensen, PLLC

11:30—1:00 p.m. Lunch on Your Own

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Wednesday, May 2, 2018 Continued

1:00—2:15 p.m.

Beyond the Therapy Caps

After 20 years of relentless battling, the outpatient therapy caps have been permanently repealed and a new claims review schemata put in its place. This session will feature Congressional staff members who were instrumental in securing the repeal—providing NARA members with the opportunity to thank them in person.

- James “J.P.” Paluskiewicz, MA
Senior Professional Staff Member (Majority)
Subcommittee on Health
House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Una Lee
Health Counsel (Minority)
Subcommittee on Health
House Energy and Commerce Committee
- Nicholas “Nick” Uehlecke
Professional Staff Member (Majority)
Subcommittee on Health
House Ways and Means Committee
- Amy B. Hall
Staff Director (Minority)
Subcommittee on Health
House Ways and Means Committee
- Beth Vrabel, J.D., M.D.
Senior Health Counsel (Minority)
Senate Finance Committee
- Brett Baker [Invited]
Health Policy Advisor (Majority)
Senate Finance Committee

2:15—2:30 p.m.

Break

2:30—3:45 p.m.

Claims Review After the Caps Repeal

The legislation which repealed the therapy caps modified the way outpatient therapy claims are reviewed. This session will discuss this new process and identify open questions about its implementation.

- Nancy J. Beckley, MS, MBA, CHC
President
Nancy Beckley & Associates, LLC
- Daniel E. Ciolek, PT, MS, PMP [Invited]
Associate Vice-President
American Health Care Association

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3:45—4:00 p.m. Break

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 Continued

4:00—4:30 p.m. TRICARE and Therapy Assistants

Congress has directed the Department of Defense to change its rules to permit coverage of physical therapy and occupational therapy assistants. This session will discuss the Congressional action as well as the steps which DoD intends to take to implement the change in law. It will also lay out the steps rehabilitation associations are taking to inform the rulemaking process.

- Heather Parsons
Associate Chief Officer for Federal Affairs
American Occupational Therapy Association
- Kara Gainer
Director of Regulatory Affairs
American Physical Therapy Association
- George G. Olsen, Esq.

4:30-5:00 p.m. Preparation for Hill Visits—Time to Say “Thank You”

This session will prepare NARA members for their visits to Capitol Hill and remind members to say “Thank you” for repealing the caps and directing DOD to provide TRICARE coverage for services rendered by assistants. Other issues which should be raised with Congress will also be discussed.

- Mark Anderson, PT
President, Mountain Land Rehabilitation, Inc.
- Kelly Cooney, CCC-SLP, CHC
Vice-President of Clinical Compliance and Training
Therapy Specialists
Member, NARA Board of Directors
- George G. Olsen, Esq.

5:00—6:30 p.m. Welcome Reception and Solution Partner Fest sponsored by WebPT
Location: New Hampshire Room

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Thursday, May 3, 2018

- 8:00—12:30 p.m.** **Conference Attendees Visit Capitol Hill**
- 12:00 p.m.** **Buffet Lunch Begins in City Center Ballroom**
- 12:30—1:30 p.m.** **Hill Visit Summaries/Feedback and Presentation on NARA-PAC**
- 1:30—1:45 p.m.** **Break**
- 1:45—3:45 p.m.** **HHS Office of Inspector General Settlements & Compliance Initiatives**
The Office of the Inspector General will discuss recent enforcement actions and priorities in the rehab industry and compliance initiatives of their office. We will also have a panel discussion on compliance effectiveness, with the OIG Guide as a resource, throughout the therapy continuum.
- Tonya Keusseyan
Senior Counsel, Office of the Inspector General
Department of Health and Human Services
- Panel Moderator
- Nancy J. Beckley, MS, MBA, CHC, Nancy Beckley & Associates
- Panel Participants
- Mark Anderson PT, President, Mountain Land Rehabilitation, Inc.
 - Chris Carlin, OTR/L, MBA, Vice President Operations, Hartford Healthcare Rehabilitation Network
 - Shawn Halscik, Chief Compliance Officer, Encore Rehabilitation
- 3:45—4:00 p.m.** **Break**
- 4:00—5:00 p.m.** **NARA Membership Annual Business Meeting**
- This session is for current NARA members. Those who are attending conference but interested in becoming a NARA member may attend.
- 5:00—5:30 p.m.** **NARA Board of Directors and Newly-Elected Officers Meeting**

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Friday, May 4, 2018

Special Event Requiring Pre-Registration

7:00—8:15 a.m. Bantering over Breakfast with George

Location: Potomac Room (Lower Level)

Start your day with George Olsen for an in-depth discussion of politics, policy, health care, and the latest Washington inside baseball. It is intended as a free-wheeling session triggered by questions posed by attendees. No speech! No lecture!

Conference Resumes in City Center Ballroom

7:45—8:30 a.m. Session Sign-In, Breakfast and Membership Networking (*Ballroom*)

8:30—10:00 a.m. Panel Discussion and Open Forum: CMS SNF Patient-Driven Payment Model (Revised and Renamed Resident Classification System Version 1 (RCS-1)); Overview of other Rules just Proposed by CMS

On April 27, 2018, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued a proposed rule which sets out FY 2019 Medicare payment updates and proposed quality program changes for skilled nursing facilities. Included in the proposal is a new SNF Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM) which replaces the recently discussed “Resident Classification System Version 1 (RCS-1). This session is intended as a detailed discussion about PDPM, its relationship to RCS-1, advantages and disadvantages of the proposal, as well as its potential impact on SNFs, rehabilitation providers, and patients. Active audience participation is strongly encouraged.

- Michael W. Cheek
Senior Vice-President
Reimbursement Policy
American Health Care Association & National Center for Assisted Living
- Mark McDavid, OTR-RAC-CT
Seagrove Rehab Partners
Member, NARA Board of Directors
- Representative from CMS [Invited]

10:00—10:30 a.m. Break

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Friday, May 4, 2018 Continued

10:30—12:30 p.m. A Little Help from Our Friends

This now-traditional session affords the organizations with which NARA works closely to share issues, ideas, and proposals important to them directly with NARA's members.

- Justin Elliott
Vice-President, Government Affairs
American Physical Therapy Association
- Kara Gainer
Director of Regulatory Affairs
American Physical Therapy Association
- Sharmila Sandhu, J.D.
Director of Regulatory Affairs
American Occupational Therapy Association
- Tim Nanof, MSW
Director of Health Care and Education Policy
American Speech-Language Hearing Association
- Daniel E. Ciolek, PT, MS, PMP
Associate Vice-President
American Health Care Association
- Michael Barnett
Manager of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
National Association for the Support of Long-Term Care
- Jonathan Gold, J.D.
Regulatory and Government Affairs Counsel
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association
- Mimi Zhang
Senior Policy and Research Analyst
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association

12:30 p.m. Closing Remarks and Adjournment