



To: MASCA Members
From: Ellen Kluesner and Diana Carr, MASCA Presidents and Jill Watson, Executive Director
Date: January 4, 2010
RE: MO HealthNet PSO requirement

The Missouri Department of Social Services, MO HealthNet (MHN) Division developed a new payment policy rule, 13 CSR 70-15.200, for acute care hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers. The rule affects medical services that result in a preventable serious adverse event or hospital- or ASC-acquired condition. The rule requires ASCs that accept MO HealthNet to have a contract with a patient safety organization (PSO) in place beginning January 1, 2010.

The Missouri Ambulatory Surgery Center Association officers have expressed their concern with MO HealthNet about including ASCs in this state rule that was intended at the federal level for hospitals only. No other states in the nation have included ASCs in the implementation of this rule. MASCA will explore possibilities to remove ASCs from this rule once the General Assembly convenes in mid-January.

In the meantime, the rule will take effect, and MASCA recommends that ASCs either plan to comply with the rule or do not accept Medicaid. MASCA has researched the available PSOs around the nation. Based on our research, we believe the best and most cost effective option for Missouri ASCs is with the Missouri Center for Patient Safety (MOCPS).

MOCPS has offered a flat rate of \$2500 for MASCA members as well as the opportunity to pay the fee on a bi-annual basis and commit to a one-year term. MOCPS will require only \$1250 upon 30 days of invoice, which would be mid to late February, and the remaining \$1250 will be due in August.

If you have executed an agreement with MOCPS and did not get this rate or payment terms, please contact MOCPS for an adjustment. If you are not a current member of MASCA, you can obtain a membership application at www.missouriasca.org.

A copy of the contract you will need to engage the MOCPS is available on the MASCA web site – www.missouriasca.org. It is our understanding that MO HealthNet will not be proactive in its enforcement of this rule, but you are advised to contract as soon as possible with a PSO if you accept Missouri Medicaid.

Feel free to contact MASCA at 816.531.8432 with any questions.