Visiting Nurse Health System Sponsored Successful CEU Workshop on Healthcare Reform

Healthcare and a member of Georgia’s law is being challenged by many of the state’s members. Many people asked how healthcare Open Forum and question and answer sessions, held by Gunn, to Georgia’s in particular, and 1.5 Ethics. Topics covered included healthcare exchanges in general and Georgia’s in particular, hospice care reimbursement, and the ethics of healthcare – is it a privilege or a right?

Anne McSweeney, LMSW, President of Georgia Hospital Association, welcomed the attendees and introduced Anton Gunn, M.S.W., Regional Director of Region IV US Department of Health and Human Services. Gunn held an audience at the Georgia hospital’s Anderson Auditorium. Both workshops were coordinated by CEU Concepts.

The “PD Research – Sounds from Emory” project is to disseminate relevant PD research findings in a accessible format. This program will also help initiate a dialogue between Emory researchers and PD patients that has not existed in the past. WPF currently maintains on its website a “PD Newsfeed” of media links to new PD research findings. This project expands upon this service by providing a user-friendly web portal for purchase of CEU credits and ultimately save many lives.

At the Georgia Hospital Association (GHA), a long-time national leader in efforts to strengthen hospital quality and safety, further solidified that role by winning a federal contract that is guaranteed to take patient safety efforts in Georgia to the next level. With the December 14 announcement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), GHA, through its research and education foundation, became one of only 26 organizations in the country to be recognized as a Hospital Engagement Network, which will be charged with reducing hospital readmissions and identifying and disseminating best practice strategies to reduce healthcare-acquired conditions.

Under the new Partnership for Patients project, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center, which was established by the national government, will distribute $218 million to the participating state, regional, national or hospital system organizations. GHA is the only Georgia-based organization to be selected for the project.

“This is a significant achievement for the Georgia Hospital Association, but more important, it is a huge win for Georgia residents who deserve the safest, highest quality hospital care,” said GHA President Joseph Parker. “GHA is participating in the Partnership for Patients project to help provide a wide array of initiatives and activities to improve patient safety. It will also be required to conduct intensive training programs to teach and support hospitals in making patient care safer, provide technical assistance to hospitals so that hospitals can achieve quality measurement goals, and establish and implement a system to track and monitor hospital progress in meeting quality improvement goals. The activities of the Hospital Engagement Networks will be closely monitored by CMS to ensure they are improving patient safety.

GHA formally launched its patient safety efforts in 2000 with the creation of a highly-acclaimed patient safety organization, the Georgia Partnership for Health and Accountability (PHA). Today, 100 percent of Georgia’s acute care hospitals participate in PHA sharing best practice and patient safety practices and equipping Georgia health care consumers with information to make informed decisions about Georgia hospitals. According to GHA, this project provides a major boost in its efforts to boost up quality and patient safety programs.

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Georgia Hospital Association Awarded Federal Funds to Improve Hospital Care and Patient Safety

Wilkins Parkinson’s Foundation Creates a Program to Take PD Research from Hospital to Home

In an effort to continue raising awareness and pro- mote research for Parkinson’s disease (PD), Wilkins Parkinson’s Foundation (WPF) is spearheading a new project called “PD Research – Sounds from Emory,” thanks to a grant from the Community Engagement and Research Program of the Atlanta Clinical Translational Science Institute funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The “PD Research – Sounds from Emory” project is a collaborative effort between WPF and Emory University’s NIH - funded Morris K. Udall Center of Excellence for Parkinson’s Disease Research. The goal is to disseminate relevant PD research findings in a timely manner to patients with PD and their caregivers.

This will be accomplished using podcasts of interviews with leading Emory PD researchers that will be posted on the WPF website. Listening to lay research summaries presented by researchers in an easily accessible audio format will help to simplify and personalize the research findings for the listeners.

This program will also help initiate a dialogue between Emory researchers and PD patients that has not existed in the past. WPF currently maintains on its website a “PD Newsfeed” of media links to new PD research findings. This project expands upon this service by providing a user-friendly web portal for purchase of CEU credits and ultimately save many lives.

Achieving the Partnership for Patients’ objectives would mean approximately 1.8 million fewer injuries to patients in the hospital, saving more than 60,000 lives over three years, and would mean more than 1.6 million patients recover from illness without suffering a preventable complication requiring re-hospitalization.

The negativity and fear that followed, Hale said, directly impacted the bill – advance directive consultations are not covered under the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Erola, Medical Director of Hospice Palliative Care, explained the various changes that Georgia has made to the Medicaid Manual, including clarification on hospice care and hospice services is not possible audio format will help to simplify and personalize the research findings for the listeners.