



Weekly Bulletin – March 24, 2023



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

Final Agenda for our 30th Annual Conference, Wednesday, April 19, 7:45AM – 4:30PM at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando

Our speakers, panelists, and session topics are all confirmed for the upcoming conference! Click [HERE](#) to see the agenda and other pertinent information. **Codes for complimentary registration for our employer members have been sent out to our main contacts for each organization.** Please contact Tish Middleton, tish@flhealthvalue.org, if you have any questions.



Marilyn Bartlett



Lea Ann Biafora



Jennifer Cloutier



Scott Conard, MD



Christin Deacon



James Dolan



Cynthia Fisher



Daryl Gottlieb



Christine Hale, MD



Alex Jung



Pete Scruggs



Chris Syverson



Jordan Taradash

Employer Member Benefit: Issue Brief -- High Quality Health Information



The National Quality Forum (NQF) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organization that works to improve healthcare quality and value by bringing together a diverse group of organizations and institutions from every sector of healthcare.

NQF standards and measures provide the foundation for initiatives that improve value, make patient care safer, and create better outcomes. The Florida Alliance is a member organization of NQF.

How many consumers turn to “Dr. Google” for health advice and diagnoses? According to NQF, “A significant gap in accessibility exists between the information from credible sources and the information that consumers find, understand, and use.” This accessibility gap may be even wider when considering health literacy, health equity and disparities issues, and consumers who are affected by lack of digital access.

Promoting accurate and credible information for consumers’ use by identifying credible sources and increasing awareness of high-quality health information supplied by these sources is key, but this alone will not fully close the gap between consumers and high-quality health information.

NQF developed guidance on making high quality online health information more accessible to consumers and created a framework of five fundamentals to aid health sources across all health literacy levels in a new issue brief. These fundamentals include credible, attainable, authentic, reliable, and actionable.

Click [here](#) to view the issue brief.



UPCOMING EVENTS

REMINDER TO REGISTER: FLORIDA ALLIANCE 39th ANNUAL MEETING IS NEXT WEDNESDAY, March 29, 1:00PM - 3:00PM ET

Our keynote speaker is Dr. Marty Makary, Johns Hopkins Surgeon, Professor of Public Health Policy at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and New York Times best-selling author of “Unaccountable” and “The Price We Pay: What Broke American Health Care – and How to Fix it,” and principal investigator of [Improving Wisely](#), an initiative that advances high value care at a lower cost. **Dr. Makary will speak about his new initiative, Redesigning Health Care.**



Dr. Marty Makary

In addition to hearing from Dr. Makary, this event offers the opportunity to learn more about the important work the Florida Alliance is undertaking to improve the quality and value of health care in Florida.

If you have colleagues you would like to invite to attend the Annual Meeting, please share this link to register, and if you have not registered yet, please do so ASAP! **A reminder that this is a free event, open to the public.** Thank you!

To register, click [HERE](#).



Employer Member Educational Programs and Employer Learning Collaboratives

Reminder: Mental Health/Substance Use Employer Learning Collaborative – Session 7 March 27, 10:00AM – 11:30AM



Dr. Henry Harbin

The next Mental Health/Substance Use Employer Learning Collaborative (MH/SU ELC) session will cover the use of **Measurement Based Care (MBC)** in behavioral health. Dr. Harbin is a psychiatrist with over 40 years of experience in the behavioral health field and has held a number of senior positions in both public and private health care organizations. A Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute guide on the use of MBC in the treatment of MH/SU disorders makes a compelling case for the widespread adoption of tools employers should require provider networks to use to ensure the provision of high-quality care.

You may view the report in advance by clicking [here](#).

The Florida Alliance received a grant to participate in a Mental Health and Health Equity initiative spearheaded by the National Alliance. We have four employer members who have committed to participate and we have room for one more. Thanks to the City of Miami, Orange County Government, the Palm Beach County School District, and the Miami-Dade County School District for your engagement in this important learning and action collaborative. **For our other employer members, please plan to attend this ELC meeting on Monday to learn more about the project to see if your organization wants to claim that last spot!** (Or reach out to Karen van Caulil at karen@flhealthvalue.org today – first come, first served!)

We will also be sharing preliminary results for Florida from the Voice of the Purchaser Survey. Many thanks to those of you who took the time to respond to this important survey!

Please visit <https://flhealthvalue.org/our-work/mental-health-substance-use-elc/> to view past sessions of the **MH/SU ELC**. If you did not receive a calendar invitation for this session or need the invitation to be resent, please contact Lisa Hain, lisa@flhealthvalue.org.

Employer Member Benefit: Workplace Mental Health Resources

AMERICAN
PSYCHIATRIC
ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION



CENTER FOR
**WORKPLACE
MENTAL HEALTH**

When it comes to employee wellbeing, it is important to encourage and support it regularly

in company communications and activities. Encourage staff to disconnect after hours, take breaks and vacations, turn their cameras off during group calls as needed and take time off to recover from physical and mental health setbacks. It is also essential for organizations to normalize talk about mental health struggles at work. This can be done through official communications about mental health and what resources are available on a regular basis.

For supervisors, additional mental health and wellbeing training to leadership and managers is important. Initiatives such as a workshop to ensure managers and leaders know how to guide staff to needed support and basic techniques to make employees feel more comfortable seeking outside support can make a profound difference.

The Center for Workplace Mental Health offers resources to successfully engage employees and their families beyond COVID-19. One of them is entitled Employee Mental Health and Well-being During and Beyond COVID-19. A link to this resource can be found here: [Workplace Mental Health - Employee Mental Health & Well-being During & Beyond COVID-19](#)



In Case You Missed It

New Bills to Remove Hospital Tax Exemptions | Idaho Business Review



A legislator in Idaho is sponsoring a bill that would give local county commissions authority to remove property tax exemptions for hospitals. An additional bill sponsored by the legislator would immediately remove property tax exemptions for outlying medical and administrative facilities that are not part of the hospital's main facility.

The Representative sponsoring the bills stated that bringing hospitals back onto property tax rolls will reduce the burden for taxpayers by providing property tax relief for homeowners and other businesses. Click [here](#) to view the article.

"Eye-Popping" Executive Salaries Led These Hospitals to Lose Their Property Tax Benefits - Lown Institute

An article this month published by the Lown Institute questions if the tax-exempt status of nonprofit hospital systems deserves more scrutiny. A judge in a closely watched case in Pennsylvania wrote that existing laws “do not reflect the vast change in the American healthcare landscape from community-based charity-oriented hospitals to massive conglomerations of healthcare networks, doctor providers, surgical suites, and insurance plans.”

Click [here](#) to view the article.



Health Observances

Getting Ready for April – IBS Awareness Month

According to the International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD), irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a common disorder experienced by 10% to 15% of the population. IBS is a chronic illness that involves recurring abdominal pain and discomfort, changes in bowel habits, and other GI symptoms that can negatively impact quality of life.



Many people remain undiagnosed and unaware that their symptoms may indicate a medically recognized disorder. IBS Awareness Month aims to increase public awareness and reduce stigma about IBS.

Click [here](#) to download the 2023 IBS Awareness Month media toolkit from IFFGD with resources that you may consider sharing with your employees.