ACPM is hosting a webinar to learn about the significant changes in health care & public health that are being led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and private health systems and how these changes impact your practice of medicine at the individual and community levels.

The webinar will feature three speakers including Dr. Christa Singleton, Senior Medical Advisor at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Alexander Billioux, Senior Advisor and Medical Officer at Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Dr. Eliza Shulman, Senior Chief Innovation Engineer at Atrius Health Innovation Center.

REGISTER HERE FOR THE FREE ONLINE WEBINAR

WHEN: Thursday, June 16 from 2:30-4:00 PM Eastern
CME/MOC: 1.5 credits (No cost for CME!)
AGENDA: Click here to access the latest agenda.
Click here to access the promotional flyer and share widely with your networks.

ACPM had strong presence in Practical Playbook National Meeting

ACPM had a strong presence at the first Practical Playbook National Meeting held last month. Executive Director Michael Barry and other staff attended this meeting which brought together leaders and practitioners in public health and primary care. ACPM Fellow Steven Woolf was one of the plenary speakers who spoke about best practices on collecting, using and sharing data. Learn more about Practical Playbook, an initiative of the deBeaumont Foundation, Duke University and CDC.

To highlight HST-related news in the forthcoming newsletters or to remove your name from our mailing list, please click here.
Submit Comments on CMS' Proposed Rule to Modernize Medicare Payment for Physicians

On April 27, 2016, CMS released a proposed rule to implement key provisions of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). MACRA was a bi-partisan bill passed by Congress in April 2015 that reformed how Medicare physicians would get paid and hold them accountable for the care they deliver. The proposed rule replaces a patchwork of programs that determined how doctors were paid with a single framework called the “Quality Payment Program” which includes two paths:

- The Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) or
- Advanced Alternative Payment Models (APMs)

Click here for a video from HHS that explains how the Quality Payment Program works. You can access the complete PDF document of the proposed rule and submit comments on the rule till Sunday June 26, 2016.

CMS Finalizes Quality Measure Development Plan

CMS recently finalized the Quality Measure Development Plan, a strategic framework for clinician quality measurement development to support the new MIPS and the APMs within MACRA. The plan highlights the known measurement and performance gaps and identifies approaches to close those gaps through development, refinement and adoption of quality measures in each of the six quality domains: Clinical care, Safety, Care coordination, Patient and caregiver experience, Population health and prevention, and Affordable care. CMS will solicit input from stakeholders through the ongoing Call for Measures and develop measures with funds provided in MACRA and publish final measures on November 1 each year.

HIT: Nearly All Hospitals Use Certified EHRs

The adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs) are key objectives of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009 and the Federal Health IT Strategic Plan. According to an Office of National Coordinator (ONC) data brief released in May 2016, nearly all (96%) of non-federal acute hospitals possessed certified EHR technology. In addition, 84% of hospitals adopted a basic EHR system. This represents a 9 fold increase since 2008, when only 9.4% of hospitals had a basic EHR system.

Related tool: ONC Patient Engagement Playbook is a tool for health care providers, practice staff, hospital administrators and others who want to leverage health IT — starting with EHR patient portals — to engage patients in their health and care.

Funding Opportunity: ONC has recently announced a new funding opportunity called High Impact Pilots. Through this funding, awardees will be able to test solutions, evaluate scalability, and identify the potential impacts of their selected standards and technology solutions.