



“Achieving a quality, equitable and sustainable health system”

Coming Soon

The Bermuda Nursing Council, in conjunction with BHeC, has developed draft Standards of Practice, which will be taken to stakeholders for consultation shortly. The Standards will provide guidance on what is expected for all nurses registered with the Bermuda Nursing Council and details the principles and values on which good nursing practice is based. BHeC is working with other professional groups to develop Standards of Practice.

Employee Insurance

An employer was found guilty and fined for not providing employees with health insurance in court last month, following BHeC’s enforcement. If you know patients who are employed without health insurance, report it to BHeC.

Visit our web site at www.bhec.bm for all our publications and updates

What happens after discharge?

Our Bermuda Sun “Matters in Healthcare” Q&A column recently ran two questions from patients on who is responsible for their care after hospital discharge and following overseas care. What struck us wasn’t the questions, but the havoc created when we tried to find the answers. As we consulted to formulate a response, we found the first reactions were not as responsive and cooperative as we’d hoped. We don’t attribute this to the individuals, but see it as a symptom of our need to develop stronger cooperation in this essential area of healthcare delivery. We know this is on the radar of BMDA and BHB, and take heart that a more collaborative environment is developing. Thanks to the one physician who did pull through!

Top Five Facts about Home Medical Services

The Home Medical Services (HMS) benefit is included in every health insurance policy in Bermuda.

This means all insured patients are covered for specialized medical care in their home. Below are five facts about HMS:

- 1. Process:** A patient must be referred by a physician to a BHeC-Approved HMS agency for procedures included on the HMS Fee Schedule. Examples are infusions and wound care. The services are covered by all insurance policies without co-pays.
- 2. Coverage:** The HMS Fee Schedule includes both services and infusion drugs that will be covered 100% for insured patients who are referred by a physician.



- 3. Infusions:** The HMS Referral Form must be sent by a physician to a BHeC-Approved HMS agency specifying the procedures the patient requires. The HMS agency will coordinate with the insurer for approval of the service under the HMS benefit. For IV referrals, the agency will fill the prescription

on behalf of the patient; the patient never receives from the physician or fills these prescriptions.

- 4. Initial Home Visit:** On the referral form ‘home visit’ can only be used in conjunction with another procedure the patient needs. For example, the home visit may be to assist with wound care.

- 5. Agencies:** There are three agencies to which the patient can be referred. These are: LTC Solutions, Home Healthcare Ltd. and PALS.

The referral forms and fee schedule can be found at: www.bhec.bm/for-professionals/forms.

Contact us on 292-6420 or healthcouncil@bhec.bm

Procedure Coding Success

Physicians have been diligent in providing ICD codes when making referrals for lab and diagnostic imaging tests since the Claims Regulations 2012 requirement came into place in April. The most recent compliance reports shows nearly 70% of

referring physicians used ICD codes when making referrals for labs. Providing ICD codes is fundamental for moving our health system forward and collecting data on our Island’s health. We’re well on track to achieve 100% completion.

Free ICD training courses are running on 5th, 17th & 26th July

To sign up contact BHeC on: 292-6420 bhecforums@bhec.bm

