



ADMINISTRATORS ' AFTERNOON AGENDA

Friday, June 10, 2016 The Aqua Turf Club, 556 Mulberry Street, Plantsville, CT

12:35 Lunch & Registration for Practice Management Afternoon Session

1:15 Nutrition and Aging

– Elizabeth Johnson, Tufts University

Objectives: To review fundamental nutritional benefits from the food we eat and how this relates to keeping your office healthy and productive.

1:45 What Can Be Done - Advocacy for Patients

- Demian Fontanella, General Counsel for Office of Healthcare Advocate, PO Box 1543, Hartford CT 06144, demian.fontanella@ct.gov

Objectives: To describe some of the work the healthcare advocate has been doing and how it impacts the medical practice.

2:00 Politics Affecting Practice Management

- Stephanie Sprague Sobkowiak, Partner, Murtha Cullina, LLP

Objectives: To describe policies impacting medical practices in the workplace.

2:25 Protecting the Medical Practice from Med/Mal Claims

- Michael Rigg, J.D., O'Brien, Tanski & Young, LLP

Objectives: To describe cases of medical liability suits and discuss how these cases were preventable.

2:55 Connecticut Department of Insurance Update

- Gerard O'Sullivan, Director of Consumer Affairs Division, Department of Insurance

Objectives: Attendee will get an overview of how to report insurance related problems to the department.

3:15 Coffee, Tea and International Desserts

3:35 National Government Services - Is There a Problem?

- Judy Brown and Andrea Freibauer, CPC - NGS, Provider Outreach

Objectives: To identify current NGS coding issues and bulletins with regard to ICD- 10 and answer other questions regarding submitting claims.

4:00 Certificates

This afternoon program meets AAPC guidelines for 3.5 Core A continuing education units. Index # will be provided at the end of the meeting. Granting of prior approval in no way constitutes endorsement by AAPC of the program content or the program sponsor. The Connecticut Society of Eye Physicians designates this educational activity for a maximum of AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Separate Registrations are required for both the Morning and Afternoon Programs

JUDY BROWN, CPC - Provider Outreach and Education Consultant Part B

Judy is a Certified Professional Coder through the American Academy of Professional Coders and has worked with the Medicare Part B program for over 32+ years. Judy currently works for the Provider Outreach and Education Department and conducts formal seminars, webinars and teleconferences on a broad range of Medicare topics to our Medical Societies, Associations and provider groups. Prior to this Judy worked in the Electronic Media Claims (EMC) Marketing Department for nine years encouraging and supporting the submission of electronic claims as well as working as a Supervisor for a claims processing unit for nine years. She has also worked in the Provider Enrollment and Reimbursement Departments.



DEMIAN FONTANELLA

General Counsel for the Office of the Healthcare Advocate

Demian Fontanella joined OHA at the end of 2011, bringing a diverse background in medicine and law with him. He is a native of Central Connecticut and currently lives in Avon with his wife, their daughter, two dogs and cat. After college in Boston, he served a tour of duty in the United States Air Force as a medic in Albuquerque, New Mexico, after which Demian and his family returned to Connecticut where he took a position at the UConn Health Center as a member of a specialized surgical team.

While working at the Health Center, Demian completed his undergraduate work, receiving a degree in Political Science from Charter Oak State College and continuing on to the University of Connecticut School of Law as an evening student, from which he graduated in May, 2008. He interned with OHA from 2006-07, working on several pieces of legislation and projects.

He started a solo law practice following his admission to the CT bar, specializing in contract, family and civil matters, bringing his medical background to bear on his client's behalf, integrating the principles of mediation and ADR into his representation. He also advocated for healthcare reform and actively incorporated consumer outreach and education into his practice philosophy, providing free education sessions on consumer rights as well as raising awareness about the importance of advanced directives.

Since joining OHA he has been actively involved in consumer outreach and advocacy, client representation for issues with their healthcare coverage, promoting OHA's legislative initiatives and supporting Connecticut's evolving and multifaceted healthcare reform efforts. He provides legal counsel to OHA staff concerning client cases. In addition, Demian works with various stakeholders to promote the office's legal and legislative agenda, as well as engaging community partners to provide robust and effective outreach and education concerning the issues facing Connecticut residents.

Demian enjoys spending time with his family, in addition to cooking, home improvements, reading and the outdoors.

GERARD O'SULLIVAN, MA

Mr. O'Sullivan is the Director of Consumer Affairs at the Connecticut Insurance Department. The unit receives and reviews complaints from residents of Connecticut concerning their insurance problems, including claims disputes, and serves as a mediator in such disputes in order to assist the commissioner in determining whether statutory requirements and contractual obligations within the commissioner's jurisdiction have been fulfilled.

Gerard heads up the Department's Speakers Bureau speaking to groups throughout the state educating them on insurance and explaining consumer assistance and protection offered by the Department. Gerard also serves as subject matter expert on the Consumer Experience and Outreach subcommittee of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange.

Prior to taking this position with the Insurance Department he held several positions in the insurance industry including claims management, sales management and compliance. Gerard graduated from Quinnipiac University and received a Masters of Business Administration degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



MICHAEL G. RIGG, J.D.

Michael has been practicing law in Connecticut since 1996. For the first six years of his career, Michael worked in a law firm representing plaintiffs in personal injury cases and criminal defendants in both state and federal court. In 2002, Michael joined the law firm of O'Brien, Tanski & Young, LLP, and has focused his practice almost exclusively on representing physicians and hospitals who have sued for medical malpractice. His practice also includes representing clients in appeals before the Appellate and Supreme Courts of Connecticut.



STEPHANIE SPRAGUE SOBKOWIAK, J.D.

As the co-chair of the firm's Health Care practice group, Ms. Sobkowiak represents health systems, hospitals, physicians, physician groups and other clients in the health care industry. Her practice includes assisting those clients with a wide range of compliance, regulatory, managed care, risk management and reimbursement issues, including fraud and abuse, payor contracts, medical staff and credentialing matters, Certificates of Need and HIPAA and related security breaches.

Ms. Sobkowiak has experience assisting health care clients with a wide variety of contracts, from physician and physician extender employment agreements to service agreements and medical staff bylaws and related documents. She has negotiated numerous managed care agreements and counseled clients on a variety of issues related to payor relationships. She has also worked with physicians and other practitioners involved in matters before the Department of Public Health and with other health care providers involved in a variety of Medicare/Medicaid matters. She has lectured on meaningful use of electronic health records and general medical records issues as well as various other CMS and state law requirements. Ms. Sobkowiak received her B. S. summa cum laude from the University of Delaware and received her J.D. from Boston College Law School.