



Anesthesiology News Updates

**FEBRUARY
2013**

BlueCross BlueShield and BlueChoice HealthPlan of South Carolina Announcement

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina (BCBSSC) and BlueChoice HealthPlan of South Carolina Inc. (BCHP) are pleased to announce that each company will be offering a new statewide Individual product line on the Health Insurance Exchange (HIX). We are soliciting your practice's participation in the preferred network of providers for these new lines-of-business for each company. [Read More](#)

Sequestration: What practice executives need to know

"Sequestration" is a process of automatic, largely across-the-board permanent spending cuts to enforce budget policy goals. It was first authorized as part of legislation aimed at balancing the budget and reducing deficits in 1985, commonly known as the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act.

[Read More](#)

Hundreds of Providers to Participate in Bundled Payments Initiative

More than 500 healthcare organizations will participate in a government initiative that will test how bundled payments for episodes of care can result in more coordinated care for beneficiaries and lower costs. [Read More](#)

Health Care Reform – 2014 is Almost Here!

MGMA's Washington counsel created this memo outlining the upcoming changes that will be implemented in 2014 as part of the Affordable Care Act. [Read More](#)

CMS releases RAC report to Congress

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) submitted its annual report to congress on its Recovery Audit program. The report spells out the program's performance in fiscal year 2011. During that year, Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs) identified and corrected \$939.3 million in improper payments, which included \$797.4 million in overpayments to healthcare providers and \$141.9 million in underpayments. [Read More](#)

Non Payment Policy for Deliveries Prior to 39 weeks: Birth Outcomes Initiative

Starting this month, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will no longer provide reimbursement to hospitals and physicians for elective inductions or non-medically indicated deliveries prior to 39 weeks gestational age. [Read More](#)

