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The Critical Care News Summary is an update from the Roundtable on Critical Care Policy. For further information on the Roundtable, please visit our website at www.CriticalCareRoundtable.org.

Roundtable News

Please Save the Date!

Congressional Outreach Day

When: Wednesday, October 5, 2011
8:30a.m. – 2:30p.m.

Where: Capitol Hill
Washington, D.C.

Additional details and a formal invitation to follow shortly.

Federal Activity

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

On Tuesday, the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Innovation rolled out details of the Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Initiative, which was authorized by the Affordable Care Act. The Bundled Payments Initiative seeks to improve coordination of care while patients are in the hospital, and after they are discharged, by aligning payment across an entire episode of care, rather than piece-meal reimbursement for each service. This new voluntary initiative will give health care providers incentive to collaborate and better coordinate care, by allowing them to share in the cost savings generated by improved outcomes.

Under this new initiative, providers—which could include physician groups, hospitals, physician-hospital organizations, nursing homes, and others— can apply to participate in one of four care models, three of which would involve a retrospective bundled payment and one which would pay providers prospectively. The Innovation Center broadly defined each model, providing applicants with flexibility in designing each demonstration, such as defining the clinical conditions, time period for episode of care, and services that would be within the bundled payment.

In both models, the bundled payment would include physicians' services, care by a post-acute provider, related readmissions, and other services tied to the episode of care. Applicants would be required to implement quality assurance programs and strong patient protections that would be

monitored by CMS. CMMI is now accepting applications for these demonstrations. Applicants for Model 1 must submit a letter of intent by September 22, 2011, while applicants for Models 2-4 must submit a letter of intent by November 4th. Further information on the application process can be found [here](#). Attached is the HHS fact sheet on the new initiative.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

On Wednesday, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an “Analysis of Input Received on Working Definition of “Patient-Centered Outcomes Research.”

The RFP includes two phases:

- Phase I is for a summary of the public input that is received by the deadline (September 2, 2011). It also calls for a summary report that includes recommendations for questions or issues that should be researched with patient and lay audiences, and appropriate methodologies for that research.
- Phase II involves execution of the proposed methodology for seeking patient and lay audience input, as well as production of a final report.

To view the RFP on the PCORI website, please click [here](#).

Department of Health & Human Services

Federal officials are challenging software application developers to design new Facebook applications to help people prepare for emergencies and get support from friends and family after an emergency strikes – from personal medical emergencies to natural or man-made disasters.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) issued the ASPR Lifeline Facebook Application Developer Challenge in collaboration with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a health-focused online community of developers, designers, patients, providers, health care organizations that promotes health technology innovation.

The online challenge runs throughout National Preparedness Month in September and the remainder of the 2011 hurricane season, closing Nov. 4. For more information, please click [here](#).