

TMGMA ENEWS

September/October 2018



Message from the President

Firefighters. Most days that is what we are; or at least that's the way I feel most days. It seems that we are working to resolve whatever the hottest most urgent issues are. As I write this, water is dripping down the walls of Exam Room 10; same place it was leaking last year. Payroll goes in today and the new time clock hasn't been the seamless integration with the payroll system that was promised. Such is the life of a medical practice executive.

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My name is Kelly Davis and I am your new Tennessee Medical Group Management Association president. I greatly appreciate the opportunity you have given me to serve TMGMA and you, our members. We have an excellent board comprised of practice executives from all across the state. They represent small one or two physician practices to large multi-facility healthcare systems. It is from this diverse background that we work to fulfill the mission of TMGMA which is to "...provide resources through education, mentoring, networking, and advocacy." It is through the educational resources TMGMA provides, monthly webinars, bi-monthly newsletters and two conferences a year, which helps me to know what is truly important in managing my practice. It is through the mentoring and networking opportunities that have come from attending TMGMA conferences and serving on the board that has given me a network of advisors that can help me address the problems that come up with working in healthcare today.

This year we have three areas on which we are focusing:

- *Member communication—We will be sending out quarterly surveys to both regular and affiliate members to see how we can better serve you.*
- *Mentoring—The Trusted Advisor initiative seeks to match up practice executives across the state that are interested in a peer-peer relationship.*
- *Large Healthcare System Outreach—With the by-law changes that were approved at our fall conference in Memphis, we established a new membership category for large healthcare organizations. For one annual fee, an organization can enroll in TMGMA as many managers as they want.*

Who's your favorite Superhero? Coming up this spring you can "Be the Superhero of Your Practice" by coming to Chattanooga on April 3-5, 2019 for our annual Spring Conference. It's at the beautiful downtown Westin Hotel. We have got a fantastic line up of speakers presenting on topics from creating a high-performance culture in your practice to active shooter training. Registration will be opening soon.

I encourage you to support your local chapters and TMGMA. Volunteer to be on your local chapter board or on the TMGMA board. Volunteering creates those networking opportunities which are so important to each of our own personal success.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your president. I look forward to working with you in 2019!

J. Kelly Davis, BS CMPE
President, Tennessee MGMA





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ACMPE Corner



Hello Tennessee MGMA members! My name is Loretta Duncan and I am your new TMGMA ACMPE Forum Representative. For those of you who do not know me, I am a Sr. Medical Practice Consultant for the Medical Practice Services department at SVMIC.

I have been a Fellow of the American College of Medical Practice Executives since 2009 and I am so excited to be involved with ACMPE Certification and Fellowship for TMGMA! As my first official duty, I thought it would be helpful to remind you of some important information related to the 2019 changes.

What the 2019 changes mean:

For Nominees:

If you do **NOT** hold a bachelor's degree or have **120 college credit hours by Dec. 31, 2018** you will need to:

- ◆ **Complete and pass** both examinations by the **Dec. 1-15** exam cycle. (Deadline to register for the December exam cycle has ended. If you did not register to sit for the exams in December, please see <https://www.mgma.com/career-pathways/career-advancement/board-certification/2019-program-enhancements> for the 2019 requirements or contact me at LorettaD@svmic.com for additional information.)
- ◆ **Log all 50 hours** of continuing education (CE) hours under the current CE requirements, starting 30 days prior to their acceptance date. **If you pass your exams, you will receive a 6 month extension to complete 50 hours of CE by June 31, 2019 under the 2019 continuing education requirements.**

If you **have a bachelor's degree, 120 college credits or are currently in the process of completing your degree**, you will remain as a nominee and will need to begin working toward the following starting on Jan. 1, 2019:

- ◆ Earn your CMPE credential within **three years**. If accepted before Jan. 1, 2019, you will have **until Dec. 31, 2021 to complete the program.**
- ◆ Log 50 hours of CE credit under the new 2019 CE requirements.

ACMPE Corner

For CMPEs pursuing Fellowship:

If you do **NOT hold a bachelor's degree** by Dec. 31, 2018 and want to pursue Fellowship under the 2018 requirements you must:

- ◆ **Receive approval on a business plan proposal or paper outline AND submit a final business plan or manuscript by Dec. 31, 2018.**

If you have a bachelor's degree AND seven years of healthcare management AND two years in a leadership role; OR have a master's degree with five years management, AND two years in a leadership role, you will need to begin work on the following starting Jan. 1, 2019:

- ◆ **Complete Fellowship within two years of your application date.** If accepted before Jan. 1, 2019, you will have until Dec. 31, 2020 to complete.
- ◆ If you have a paper outline submitted and accepted prior to Jan. 1, 2019, you may continue working on your paper manuscript up until two years from the outline approval date.
- ⇒ Starting in 2019, business plan submissions will be the only acceptable submission if no outline is previously accepted.
- ◆ Log 50 hours of continuing education (CE) every three years following the new 2019 CE requirements. These CE requirements also apply to maintain current CMPE credential in 2019.

If you have not started the road to certification, I encourage you to start the process! You'll find tons of information here <https://www.mgma.com/career-pathways/career-advancement/board-certification/2019-program-enhancements> but feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions you may have. I am happy to help you through the process.

I'm looking forward to seeing a record number of CMPEs and Fellows from Tennessee in New Orleans in 2019!

Happy Holidays!

Loretta Duncan, MS, FACMPE, CHC
LorettaD@svmic.com

TENNESSEE MGMA 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE

BE THE
SUPERHERO
OF YOUR PRACTICE



MGMA[®]
TENNESSEE

April 3-5, 2019
The Westin Chattanooga

TMGMA Legislative News

TMGMA works closely with both the MGMA and TMA Government Affairs staff to provide our members with the latest legislative & regulatory information. TMGMA members are encouraged to participate in grassroots activities, anecdotal surveys, and contacting your elected officials on issues of importance to medical practices. For more information on how you can get involved or questions on any legislative issue, contact your TMGMA Legislative Liaison Sharon Cannon, FACMPE smcannon2000@yahoo.com.



[Sign up to Be Doctor of the Day any Tuesday throughout Session](#)

Save the Date for 2019 Day on the Hill: [March 26th](#)

Post-election, TMA will be sending out a Relationship Survey looking for Grass Tops Relationships

2019 Legislative Priorities:

Balance Billing: Special Interest groups have pushed the Tennessee General Assembly during the past few years to address the issue of "surprise medical bills," including filing a bill to remove the ban on the corporate practice of medicine.

Opioid Epidemic: New restrictions on prescribing and dispensing opioids are no doubt achieving the governor's stated goal of reducing overall initial supply, but are also unreasonably obstructing some patients from accessing legitimate, effective pain management.

Scope of Practice: The 2019 session will defend against any proposals from other groups that would threaten patient safety and quality of care by removing physicians oversight for nurses, PAs or any other mid level providers.

Mat Parity: Medicated-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the use of FDA- approved medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a "whole-patient" approach to the treatment of substance use disorders. This year TMA will ask that there be a resolution encouraging health insurance companies to include Medication-Assisted Treatment therapies in patients' health plans and reimburse specialist who provide MAT services at rates comparable to other treatments. Using medications in combination with counseling and behavior therapies is a necessary strategy in the ongoing fight against Tennessee's opioid abuse epidemic.

Tips for Contacting Your Legislators

As this new year approaches and opportunities present themselves for us to be heard. I wanted to provide you with some tips for contacting your Senator or Representative. I think that many people shy away from making contact because they simply don't know how to. So I hope these tips will help you make that connection.

Whether in person or written, your legislators really do want to hear from you. Here are some helpful hints to make your time with them effective:

In person:

- ◆ Be punctual and courteous.
- ◆ Be patient, expect that they may run late due to a hectic schedule or an extended meeting.
- ◆ Be flexible, interruptions most likely will happen.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE CONTINUED

Writing your legislators:

- ◆ Always be courteous and respectful.
- ◆ Make your point with facts and not emotion.
- ◆ Make sure you time your correspondence in accordance with the legislation.
- ◆ A letter or email can be lost, missed, forgotten if it's delivered too early or too late.
- ◆ Keep the letter or email to one page and one issue per letter/email.
- ◆ The first paragraph should state your purpose for writing using the bill number, ie S.B. # _____ H.B.# _____
- ◆ Use examples and personal experience to support your position.
- ◆ Email addresses may be found on the TN General Assembly website at www.capitol.tn.gov



The most effective correspondence are from a legislator's constituents; so be sure to include your address and tell the senator/representative that he or she represents you.

Phone:

- ◆ Find your senator's or representative's phone number by going to the Tennessee General Assembly website at www.capitol.tn.gov
- ◆ If you are unable to speak to the legislator, ask to speak with the aide who handles that particular issue. If speaking to the aide, explain that you would like to leave a message "please tell Senator/Representative _____ that I support/oppose and then give the bill number. State the reasons you support or oppose.
- ◆ You may request a written response to your telephone call.

Some additional tips:

- ◆ Only contact legislators hearing a bill or working in a committee where the issue that you are concerned about is being introduced. Remember timing is everything.
- ◆ Don't allow your party affiliation to restrict your contact with legislators. You may find that some issues will cross party lines and they really do want to hear from you.
- ◆ Always try to start and end the conversation/correspondence on a positive note.

Coordinate your efforts with the TMA Government Affairs Division, you may contact Rebecca Loftly at Rebecca.woods@tnmed.org. Don't forget about Dialogue in the District!

Sharon Cannon, FACMPE
TMGMA Legislative Liaison

Save The Date

TENNESSEE MGMA 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE • APRIL 3-5, 2019 • THE WESTIN CHATTANOOGA

A promotional graphic for the Tennessee MGMA 2019 Spring Conference. It features silhouettes of a superhero and a superheroine standing in front of a city skyline. The text "BE THE SUPERHERO OF YOUR PRACTICE" is written in large, stylized letters. The MGMA Tennessee logo is in the bottom left corner. The dates "April 3-5, 2019" are at the bottom in a red banner.

MGMA
TENNESSEE

BE THE
SUPERHERO
OF YOUR PRACTICE

April 3-5, 2019

TMGMA Webinars



Access all of our past webinars on demand by logging in to our website. Webinars are housed for up to twelve months!

Next Webinar: [Reimbursement and Coding Updates for 2019*](#)

Tuesday, December 13th at 12:00pm

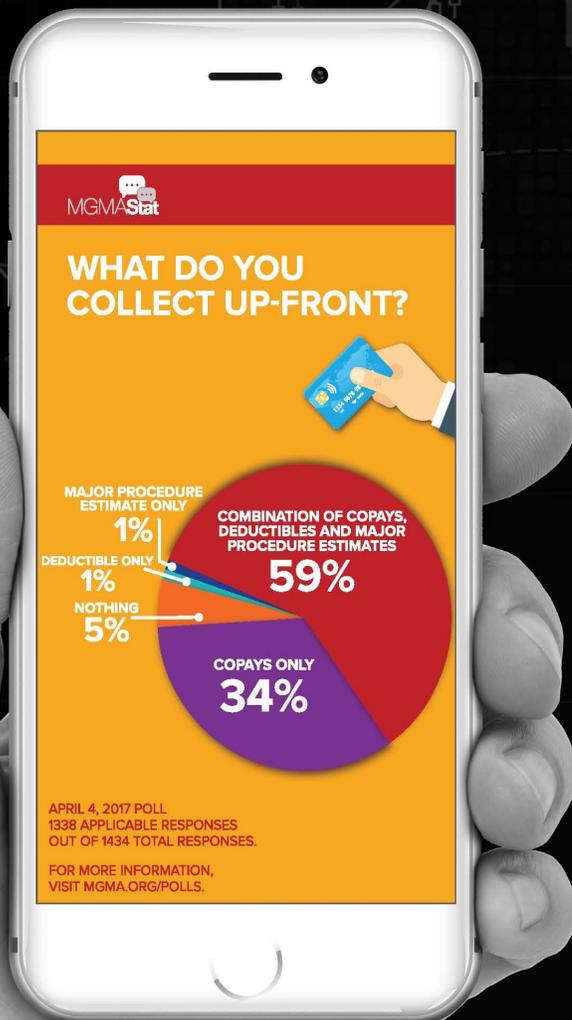
Registration <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7886913848721538562>

***This webinar has been approved by AAPC for 1.0 CEU**



Join MGMA Stat

Curious to see if other healthcare professionals are experiencing the same issues you face? Get answers to your most pressing questions. When you sign up for MGMA Stat, you will benefit from industry polls and data-rich articles on a weekly basis via text message.



How does it work?

- Every Tuesday, participants receive a polling question on a specific healthcare topic via text message
- Within 18 hours, participants respond to the question
- Poll results and related content with actionable tips are delivered via text message within 48 hours

What is the value?

- Get credible insight on the most important topics around the business of healthcare
- Receive timely data and resources to help with practice management challenges
- Benchmark your performance relative to your peers

Join MGMA Stat by texting
TMGMA to 33550 – it's
that easy.

