

GAPNA *eAlert*

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New Online Educational Sessions Available: "Pharmacotherapeutics: Lipid Lowering Agents in the Gerontology Population"

Advanced practice nurses seek pharmacology continuing education. GAPNA has identified that need for its members and has developed "[Pharmacotherapeutics: Lipid Lowering Agents in the Gerontology Population](#)," a new, two-part series available in GAPNA's Online Library. Part I reviews the current research and the guidelines on cholesterol management while Part II covers medications and implications for the gerontologic advanced practice nurse. Click below for more information on CNE and how to purchase!

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Portable X-Rays – Comments Needed by September 4th!

CMS proposed regulations July 6 to clarify that Medicare will cover and pay for portable x-ray services ordered by nurse practitioners. The new Medicare regulations are not final - they could be weakened unless CMS hears from you and your colleagues how important the ordering of portable x-ray services is to your patients and practice. Agency officials also need clear examples demonstrating the appropriate use of portable x-ray services to care for Medicare patients, including situations in which portable x-ray services may be appropriately required on the same day other services are provided in a clinical setting. It is critical that CMS officials get an accurate understanding of how portable x-ray services contribute to the ability of nurse practitioners to provide the best care for their patients.

Submitting Your Comments

Upcoming Events

**DE Valley Chapter
"Management of Clostridium Difficile - Associated Diarrhea (CDAD)"**
Thursday, September 13th at 6:30pm
Dinner Meeting at the [Dilworthtown Inn](#) in Pennsylvania
RSVP to Denise Lyons
Dlyons44@comcast.net

This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

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Connect with GAPNA members and other professionals through [the GAPNA Page on Facebook](#).



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The most simple and effective way to submit comments on a proposed regulation is directly through the federal government's website at www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for "submitting a comment" to proposal "CMS-1590-P."

Talking Points

In your own words and using your own experience and examples:

- Support the proposed change in Medicare regulations clearly authorizing coverage of and payment for portable x-ray services ordered by nurse practitioners.
- Provide examples of how you use portable x-ray services to provide more timely appropriate care for Medicare patients.
- Explain how limiting the ordering of these services to only physicians interferes with patient care and increases Medicare's costs.
- Provide examples of situations in which portable x-ray services are appropriately provided on the same day as other services in clinical settings, how commonly these situations arise, and how current documentation requirements should be sufficient to validate that services are appropriate, and problems that could be caused by restricting same-day portable x-ray and clinical services.

Help Prevent Termination of AHRQ and Protect Research Funding

AcademyHealth has been monitoring the language and next steps in the Labor/HHS spending bill, a draft of which was released July 19 and passed through sub-committee mark-up July 20. As written, it completely eliminates the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (Sec. 227), and prohibits any patient-centered outcomes research (Sec. 217) and all economic research within the National Institutes of Health (Page 57, line 19).

AcademyHealth issued a [public statement](#) on July 17 and today signed onto a *Friends of AHRQ* letter in opposition to this bill, and they are urging you to do the same. The bill is scheduled to go to full committee markup the week of July 23. They ask that you take immediate action to share your concern and opposition with your elected representatives, your friends and social networks. To read more of this article or to find out how you can help, [click here](#).

You are subscribed to GAPNA's eAlert, a publication for GAPNA members and colleagues. From time-to-time, you will receive an e-mail such as this one with important news and information relevant to gerontological nursing. If you wish to update your email address, please do so by [editing your profile](#) on the GAPNA Web site. If you would like to unsubscribe from the GAPNA eAlert, [click here](#).

The Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA) is the organization of choice for advanced practice nurses who want to pursue continuing education in gerontological care and who seek peer support from experienced clinicians.

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