

The PACE Monthly Dose

Clinical updates and outcomes for the PACE community

CAREKINESIS®

March 2019

[Visit Our Website](#)

PACE Case: Transitioning to a Comfort Care Path

An 80-year-old female PACE participant has a high medication burden of 15 chronic medications. She and her PACE center physician feel that she is on too many medications now that she is on a comfort/palliative care pathway. Her physician wishes to reevaluate her medication regimen and reduce her medication risk score, which is currently 16/50 (moderate).

[Learn more about this case.](#)



2019 National PACE Association Spring Policy Forum

The National PACE Association (NPA) Spring Policy Forum in Washington, D.C. on April 1 - 2, 2019, is just around the corner and we look forward to seeing you there!

City Sips & Capital Conversations - Please Join Us!



Join us for City Sips & Capital Conversations prior to the Spring Policy Forum, on **Sunday, March 31, 2019**. The event will be held in the District Ballroom at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.

Because space is limited, please [RSVP by Sunday, March 17, 2019](#).

We look forward to seeing you for cocktails, chats, and light bites!

CareVention HealthCare News

Cognify's 3rd Annual User Group

Cognify's 3rd Annual User Group will be held on **April 9-10 in Charlotte, North Carolina**. Cognify, a subsidiary of Tabula Rasa HealthCare (TRHC) is part of TRHC's CareVention HealthCare Division. The User Group, a prelude to the North Carolina PACE Association's Annual Conference, will feature new topics and multiple tracks with a focus on administration, clinical, compliance, and more. For more information, email success@cognify.com.

TruChart User Group

TruChart users should save the date for the annual TruChart User Group on **August 7-8, 2019**. This year's conference will be held in Moorestown, New Jersey, at TRHC's administrative offices. Complete details will be forthcoming.

David Wensel of Midland Care Featured in *SearchHealthIT* Article



David D. Wensel, DO, Chief Medical Officer of Midland Care in Topeka, Kansas, was recently featured in an article in [SearchHealthIT](#).

Dr. Wensel discusses Midland Care's use of TRHC's medication risk management system, as a component of CareKinesis, and how it plays a vital role in reducing participant's medication-related risks, adverse drug events, and total number of medications taken.

[Learn more about our partnership with Midland Care.](#)

Webinar - Best Practices in Pain Management: Opioid Pharmacologic Therapy Optimization

CAREKINESIS™
WEBINAR SERIES

Join us on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 3:00 PM EDT for Best Practices in Pain Management: Opioid Pharmacologic Therapy Optimization. This webinar is exclusively for CareKinesis Clients (Compliance Directors, Quality

Managers, Medical Directors, PACE Prescribers, and Nurse Clinicians), and will be presented by Lisa A. Banks, PharmD, BCGP, Vice President of Clinical Initiatives and Deborah Quillen, Client Development Liaison and Business Development Coordinator.

The webinar will provide an overview of topics that will help the attendee:

- Explain the origination of the CMS opioid policies and the opioid epidemic.
- Understand the CMS opioid policies and safety alerts for Medicare drug plans.
- Review guideline-based approaches to pain management.
- Differentiate pain management treatment options, including clinical pearls.
- Understand considerations for safe and optimized opioid pharmacologic therapy.

[Registration is now open for CareKinesis clients.](#)

Inspira Life MedaCube Success Stories

Inspira Life, our PACE partner in Vineland, NJ, recently shared stories about their MedaCube success in [two local publications](#).

The MedaCube is an in-home dispensing system that helps PACE participants continue to live independently and avoid nursing home or assisted living admission. CareKinesis is the exclusive national provider of MedaCube to PACE, and currently has deployed more than 100 MedaCubes across our PACE clients. The average adherence across all devices is >96%, as measured by those participants who received medications from the devices.

To learn more about how the MedaCube can benefit your participants, email info@carekinesis.com or call 888-9-PharmD. For 24-hour customer service, please contact 833-971-3480.



Health and Human Services Potentially Eliminating Safe Harbors for Part D Drug Rebates

For PACE, Drug Manufacturer Rebates are collected by Pharmacy Benefits Managers (PBMs) who take a percentage of the rebate and provide the remainder to the PACE health plan. The PACE plan is required to submit 100% of the rebate as direct/indirect remuneration, or DIR, annually. Several PACE Organizations have stopped accepting rebates due to the Part D audit regulatory scrutiny requiring knowledge of the origin of every dollar rebated. This allows the PBM to keep 100% of the rebates.

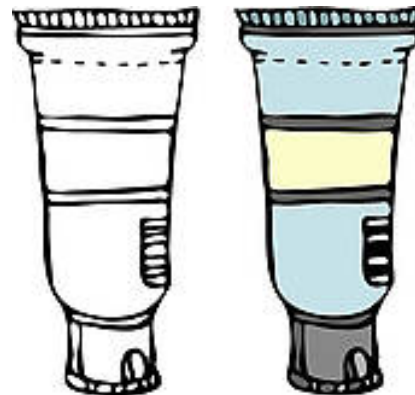


On January 31, 2019, Health and Human Services issued a proposed rule that eliminates the rebates drug makers pay to PBMs on Medicare Part D plans as protections from anti-kickback laws. The rule also applies to safe harbor protections for Medicaid managed-care organizations. In its place, the agency will propose new safe harbor protections to safeguard certain PBM service fees and a second protection for certain price reductions made at the point of sale.

[Read more about these potential changes.](#)

Study: Topical Pain Cream No More Effective than Placebos

In a recent study published in the [Annals of Internal Medicine](#), researchers found that compounded topical pain creams were no more effective than placebo creams. The government-funded study analyzed the effectiveness of compounded creams to treat localized chronic pain, and included 399 military treatment facility patients. Because the creams provide little benefit at a high cost, routine prescription and use should be reduced.



[Read more about the study.](#)

Upcoming Events & Webinars

March

- 26 - Drug Specific Deprescribing in the Geriatric Population
- 27 - Best Practices in Pain Management: Opioid Pharmacologic Therapy Optimization and Monitoring
- 31 - City Sips & Capital Conversations

- 1-2 - NPA Spring Policy Forum

[See our complete list of on-demand PACE-specific CE programs.](#)



Subscribe

Missed an issue of the PACE Monthly Dose?

STAY CONNECTED:

