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## Midwives' Association *of* Washington State



The MAWS eNews

October 27, 2014

### Greetings!

Autumn is officially here - the **2014 MAWS Fall Conference and Annual Meeting** is around the corner. This year the conference will be held at the beautiful Mountaineers' Seattle Program Center. There is an exciting line-up at this conference and we hope we will see you there!

Miles for Midwives 2014 had a great turnout and some incredible pictures. You can check out the pictures on the [Facebook page](#) of WZ Images to see them.

In the following eNews, you'll see information on the fall conference, a message from the Department of Health, some important information on mental health denials, dental resources for pregnant mothers and more.

See you at the conference!

-The MAWS Board of Directors



**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**  
**[Click here to sign up now](#)**

## 2014 Fall Conference & Annual Meeting

Communication and Collaboration:  
Building Bridges for Optimal Care

Friday, November 21st, 2014

### Presentations Include:

"Birth Center and Home Birth Emergency Transfers: The EMS Factor" Alyssa Hahn, RN and Lisa Stotts, EMT-P

"Communication and Collaboration: A Win-Win-Win Proposition" Audrey Levine, LM, CPM and Jodylyn Owen, LM, CPM

Also includes talks on placenta encapsulation research, genetic screening and an update from the Washington DOH

Questions? [info@washingtontmidwives.org](mailto:info@washingtontmidwives.org)

Find registration information at: [www.washingtontmidwives.org](http://www.washingtontmidwives.org)

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Katharine Allen, MA, President  
& Co-Founder, InterpretAmerica  
"No Pregnant Woman Left  
Behind: Providing Equal Care for  
all Languages and Cultures"

Interested in being a sponsor or exhibitor? [Register here](#)

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### Kreidler calls for insurers to review mental health denials back to 2006

Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler is directing all health insurers in Washington state to identify any policyholders who had mental health services denied because of a blanket or categorical exclusion since Jan. 1, 2006 and notify them of their right to have their claim re-evaluated.

The Washington State Supreme Court recently ruled that Washington's Mental Health Parity Act prevents insurers from using blanket exclusions for mental health services that may be medically necessary. Kreidler sent a letter to the insurers today

### Update on 2015 Lobby Day

Due to scheduling conflicts, Lobby Day has changed to Thursday, February 12th, 2015. We'll keep updating you as we get more information ready for this great event.

- [2014 Lobby Day Packet](#) for more information
- [Lobby Day Information](#)

**2015 Lobby Day will take place on  
Thursday, February 12, 2015.**

### Department of Health is Looking for Help

(PDF, 371KB), outlining his expectations for how to implement the court's decision and what steps he expects them to take on behalf of consumers.

[Read the whole news release here!](#)

## **Dental Resources for Pregnant Women**

Looking for some dental resources for pregnant women? Delta Dental offers free brochures.

[Click here to see all the educational materials order able online.](#)

## **Environmental Exposures: How to Counsel Preconception and Prenatal Patients in the Clinical Setting**

Seattle's own Sheela Sathyanarayana, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, University of Washington Department of Pediatrics, Seattle Children's Research Institute, discusses environmental exposures and how to counsel on reducing exposure. Environmental Exposures: how to counsel preconception and prenatal patients in the clinical setting

A large and growing body of scientific literature provides evidence that environmental exposure during the prenatal period can impact fetal development adversely and potentially have long-lasting effects throughout the lifespan. Several well-recognized scientific bodies that include the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Endocrine Society, and the President's Cancer Panel recognize that some prenatal environmental exposure can be associated with adverse birth outcomes and abnormalities in early childhood development with the potential for long-lasting impacts.

[Read the full article here..](#)

## **Update to Paper Charts!**

MAWS is reviewing and updating our paper chart templates! If you are using the MAWS paper charts (Client

**Dear MAWS members,**  
***I spoke with Lauren Jenks of the DOH about their interest in enrolling midwives in making this new birth certificate filing system user-friendly for us. Please consider helping out.***  
**Thank you- Valerie**

Department of Health is launching a project to replace the electronic birth registration system (BR3) and vital records database with a new system we call the Washington Health and Life Events System (WHALES). Our current system is over 20 years old. We must replace this aging system in order to assure that we are able to continue to register and maintain vital records well into the future. We expect to have a completed prototype of the new birth registration system by the end of November. Testing and training will begin around February 2015 with a planned pilot launch in April 2015. All facilities and providers will use the new WHALES system for birth registration beginning in May/June 2015.

We would like to invite several midwives or midwifery support staff to work with us on developing prototype screens for the new birth registration system in October and November. Please email [\*\*WHALES@doh.wa.gov\*\*](mailto:WHALES@doh.wa.gov) with your name and contact information if you would be interested in advising us on the usability of the new birth registration screens.

[DOH Newsletter on the WHALES project](#)

Please email [WHALES@doh.wa.gov](mailto:WHALES@doh.wa.gov) with any questions or comments you might have.

Thank you,

Lauren B. Jenks, MPH, CHES  
Health Statistics Manager  
Center for Health Statistics  
Washington State Department of Health

## **Midwives are Priceless, Here's Why...**

[Midwives matter now more than ever!](#)

## **Continuing Education**

[The Challenge of Pain 2015, 6th Annual Pain Conference for Healthcare Professionals.](#) January 21st & 22nd. Held at the Lynnwood Convention Center.

[The ACOG Statement Controversy and Your Practice \(WEBINAR\)](#)

Described by birth advocates as a "game changer" for birthing families and the

Registration, Prenatal Record, Antepartum Notes, Labor Flow, Labor Flow Progress, Labor Summary, Immediate Postpartum, Postpartum Follow - Up, Newborn) and have feedback or input about the data in the form and/or what you would like to see included or changed in the form please email Taylor at:  
[taylor@intandemmidwifery.com](mailto:taylor@intandemmidwifery.com)

## **Scheduled implementation of the new CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid) Ruling (The Flexibility Rule) for the Electronic Health Record Incentive Program**

Last month CMS announced the new rule regarding the use of 2011 or 2014 Editions of your EHR (Electronic Health Records) to attest for MU (Meaningful Use) in 2014. Please go to this link for more information on this rule:  
[educational resources](#)

What should you do now? To see if the new rule applies to you please access the decision tool found [here](#).

"The rule grants flexibility to providers who are unable to fully implement 2014 Edition CEHRT (Certified EHR Technology) for an EHR reporting period in 2014 due to delays in 2014 CEHRT availability."

Remember that if you have a 2014 product in place by October 1st, you may still attest as outlined in the original rule and you can do so at any time. Also, the rule does NOT apply to AIU (Adopt/Implement/Use) attestations. AIU attestations must use a 2014 CEHRT product.

To implement this rule change, the eMIPP system is scheduled to be updated in late October. If you intend to attest in 2014 using the 2011 or 2011/2014 option, the system will not be able to accept your attestation prior to that update. In addition to current documentation requirements, if you are attesting using 2011 or 2011/2014 CEHRT, you must submit a signed statement from your CEO, CIO, designated authority or system vendor briefly describing why/how you qualify under the new flexibility rule. eMIPP is expected to be ready to accept attestation's invoking the flexibility rule on and after 10/27/14.

professionals who care for them, join us to learn about the controversy and about how the guidelines may impact you and your practice. Wednesday, December 10, 2014 11am-12:30pm PST

## **Foundations for Best Practice in Lactation Care** at Bastyr University.

Earn a Lactation Educator Certificate in 5 days, instructed by expert faculty of Evergreen Perinatal Education. Monday-Friday, February 2-6, 2015 8am-5pm

Earn 3 CE contact hours by completing the online education, Resolving Shoulder Dystocia for the Active, Mobile Woman. Gaily Tully teaches this hands-on class for midwives, their active apprentices, and L & D nurses. Physicians and residents are also very welcome. For more information contact Gail email [gail@spinningbabies.com](mailto:gail@spinningbabies.com) visit the website <http://www.spinningbabies.com>

No More Kegels! This course was developed in response to skyrocketing rates of occurrence of Pelvic Floor Disorder, in an effort to bring the education and treatment of PFD in line with the science, which currently it is not, which is the reason the problem continues to get worse. Most literature on PFD gives some if not most of the blame for PFD on pregnancy and childbirth, despite the data that shows PFD rates to be equal among women who have never had children. For more information email [info@restorativeexercise.com](mailto:info@restorativeexercise.com) or visit the website <http://restorativeexercise.com/2011/no-more-kegels/>

The Wisdom of the Thirteen Moons was created to help midwives that are already working and those aspiring to become midwives to learn traditional ways of working with natural modalities instead of working with pharmaceutical drugs and ultra sounds in birth. The Wisdom Series will be specifically dealing with many situations that experienced midwives face and give a more traditional approach to dealing with them. Dealing with the overall health of the pregnant woman, bleeding after birth and more importantly, avoiding it in the first place. For more information contact Clare Loprinzi call 808-333-8990 email [ClareLoprinzi@gmail.com](mailto:ClareLoprinzi@gmail.com) visit the website <http://www.MammaPrimitiva.com>

Program deadlines have not changed.

For program year 2014:

- Eligible Hospitals can attest until Nov 30th
- Eligible Providers can attest until Feb 28th

Please direct any questions to our Health Information Technology team at

[HealthIT@HCA.WA.GOV](mailto:HealthIT@HCA.WA.GOV)

## Are You on Facebook?

### "Like" the Midwives' Association of Washington State!

If you're on Facebook, [visit us and "like" our page](#), and encourage your friends to "like" us, too. This is a great way to get the word out on MAWS' legislative work and events.



### **BUY PENNY SIMKIN'S UPDATED *COMFORT MEASURES FOR CHILDBIRTH* DVD & PENNY WILL DONATE 10% TO MAWS!**

This 90-minute interactive DVD contains more than 40 techniques for reducing and managing the pain of labor contractions. Christiane Northrup, MD states, "Comfort Measures is wonderful. I suggest that it be required viewing for all pregnant couples and childbirth professionals." Use [this link](#) to buy it now or [click here](#) to read more about it.



This is *your* newsletter. Please send any feedback or suggestions to [Amanda Anderson](#). We welcome suggestions for future topics, popular articles or research to include.