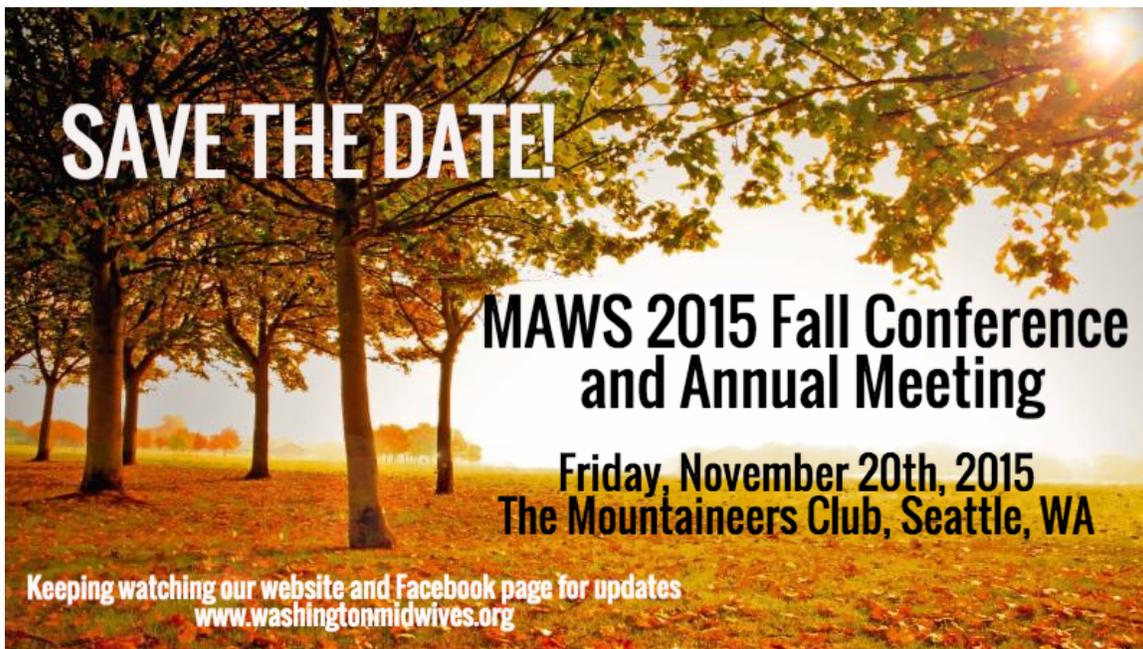


Midwives' Association *of* Washington State



The MAWS eNews

October 21st, 2015



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Reimbursement Committee Update

First Choice: No more Physician letter needed. The DOH transfer form is now acceptable when you recredential, or credential for the first time.

Birth Center Breastfeeding Friendly Washington

When the DOH launched Breastfeeding friendly Washington in August, they received 3 requests from LMs to launch a similar program for birth centers- we have 24 in WA. The department is ambivalent

Premera: Regarding Premera's ACA (Affordable Care Act) plans, which were referenced in the letter that all LM credentialed with Premera got regarding Tier 5 and Tier 4 plans, Premera states that PCPs will be the only ones in Tier 5, LMs will be listed as specialty providers in Tier 4. We do NOT need a PCP referral in order to see or bill for clients under the Woman's Health Care law. ACA members will get a booklet that reminds them of the self-referral law for maternity care. Newborn care for the first two weeks is also covered under self-referral.

We are still waiting on getting diagnosis codes reestablished for LMs. It's moving slowly through all the departments. In the mean time, Premera is still following the coding lists they released for Licensed Midwives, so any claim corrections going back should be corrected for the limited list of diagnoses and the similarly limited list they released for procedure codes.

The lay midwife listings in the provider directory and Blue card denials: It was a national level taxonomy code issue. They only have three listings for Midwives, CM/Midwife, CNM or lay midwife. There is no LM available. At this point we will be listed as Midwife in the directory. More importantly we are fighting to make sure we will be listed as maternity and woman's health care providers. That way clients will find us. Not resolved is changing Midwife back to LM and retroactive change for denied billing.

Still working on the unbundling issue. Please let us know what codes they still deny you for "out of scope." You can recode your claims and resubmit them if the claim denial is within one year of processing. Especially labor management. The code currently paying and being allowed for labor management by Premera is 59410 with modifier 52 (for "reduced services") with diagnosis V22.1.

HCA: another meeting on Thursday, October 22nd in Olympia to increase Facility Service fee and professional reimbursement.

Regence: as you all know there was an LM audit demanding \$24,000 back for unbundling. Nothing fraudulent billed. Lawyer was hired and many hours of preparation found that according to contract Regence can not change billing practice without giving notice by 60 days (like the Premera letter). The same codes that Premera denied are taken back but retroactive. Some home births were flagged as "included in facility fee". We met with an audit review board and brought our lawyer. The Seattle people got it but there are members from Idaho, Oregon and

about launching it for birth centers as the original plan was to do- hospitals, and if there was staffing to do clinics, daycares and worksites. If you think that birth centers would be interested in the recognition (it is free but requires manpower for the application process) it would be ideal if **you can send letters or emails to our upper administration.**

[Click here for the link to the hospital 10 steps](#)

Breastfeeding Friendly Washington Ten Steps for Birthing Hospitals:

- Have a written breastfeeding policy that is routinely communicated to all healthcare staff.
- Train all healthcare staff in the skills necessary to implement this policy.
- Inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding.
- Place babies skin-to-skin with their mothers for 60 minutes immediately after birth and help mothers recognize and respond to feeding cues.
- Show mothers how to breastfeed and how to maintain lactation even if they are separated from their infants.
- Give infants no food or drink other than breastmilk unless medically indicated.
- Practice rooming-in to allow mothers and infants to remain together 24 hours a day.
- Encourage breastfeeding on demand. Teach mothers cue-based feeding regardless of feeding method.
- Give no artificial nipples or pacifiers to breastfeeding infants.
- Establish a system for referring mothers to out-patient and community support.

Email or letter to be sent to:

Janna Bardi-

Janna.Bardi@doh.wa.gov

John Wiesman (Secretary of Health)

jmwiesman@doh.wa.gov

Dennis Worsham (Deputy Secretary)-

Dennis.Worsham@doh.wa.gov

Call for 2015 MAWS Board Student Representatives

The Board has approved revised procedures for student representatives (**[here](#)**).

Students play a valuable role on the Board; they represent their classmates and peers to the Board, and in this role they ensure the mission of MAWS represents the

Utah on that review board. If anyone else gets an audit please let us know ASAP. If we don't get this thrown out all practices will get an audit with refund requests. We are hopeful that we can fix this in the second or third round of appeals cause we are not giving in. Now we wait, Regence has the next move.

If you have any questions about this update, please contact the reimbursement committee at reimbursement@washingtomidwives.org

Washington State Doula Survey

I'm writing to ask your help in an effort to better understand the doula workforce in Washington State. This 31-question survey will provide essential data to the Washington State Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities.

Take the Washington State Doula Survey

The Interagency Council on Health Disparities is an advisory body to the Governor, Legislature and state agencies. It provides recommendations for how the state can reduce health disparities and promote health equity, especially to reduce adverse birth outcomes.

Since there is strong evidence that doula care improves birth outcomes, the Council is exploring a recommendation to promote access to doula care among women enrolled in Apple Health, the state's Medicaid program. They want to identify ways how doula care can be reimbursed by Medicaid and to identify strategies to promote a diverse doula workforce.

You can help! [Take the Washington State Doula Survey](#) Thank you for your participation.

Warmest regards,

Annie Kennedy, Director
Simkin Center



student voice and that students are informed and involved in the work of MAWS to advance the profession of midwifery in Washington State. Going forward, three student representatives will be selected for a term of one year. At least two of these students will represent MEAC accredited schools.

The Board typically meets once per month. Most meetings are in the Seattle area, though members can call in to meetings--so it is possible to join from a distance. Learn more about Board participation ([here](#)) and learn more about your role as a student representative ([here](#)).

If you're interested in applying, please email your resume and statement of interest. Applications must be received by Sunday, November 8, 2015. Questions? Please email them to Amanda at info@washingtomidwives.org.

Please save the date! The next MAWS Conference and Annual Meeting is coming up on November 20th, and the Board Annual Retreat will be on December 4th. The annual retreat is mandatory for board members.

Continuing Education and Upcoming Events

UW Midwifery Update

The UW Midwifery Update will be held on Wed. Jan 27, 2016 at Shoreline Conference Center. For more information please click [here for the postcard](#) and [here for the website](#)

Midwifery Works!

November 5-8, 2015 Scottsdale, AZ
Advance registration for Midwifery Works! 2015 is happening right now, and this week we're unveiling the first of our confirmed education sessions and workshops. Whether you're in school, entering the workforce, or in the trenches, our inclusive program is packed with practical knowledge to enhance your career, your practice, and your professional life. Register [here](#).

Perinatal Care Certification

Perinatal Care Certification focuses on achieving integrated, coordinated, patient-centered care for clinically uncomplicated pregnancies and births. The certification program will use standards, guidelines, and The Joint Commission's perinatal care core performance measures for managing and monitoring aspects of perinatal care that are critical to improving and maintaining

Postpartum Support International is shaking things up! Announcing our new name, new website and refined purpose: *Perinatal Support Washington (PS-WA) - Committed to lifting the veil on perinatal mood disorders and treating them effectively*

Providers who touch families in the childbearing years are invited to come envision the kind of resource PS-WA could be for our professional community. Parents are invited to share experiences of how PS-WA can best support our families and those experiencing perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

We'll share the scoop on our current services and host a generative discussion to identify gaps for us as professionals, and ways we can come together to strengthen the web of support for providers and families.

Wednesday, November 4th - 6:30-8:30pm
Hors d'oeuvres and beverages provided.

2100 building- 2100 24th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144 ([map](#))

Please let us know you are coming by
[RSVPing here!](#)

DOH Update on CPM Bridge and Midwife-in-training Rule Making

Hello Everyone,

I wanted to update you on the CPM Bridge and Midwife-in-training rule making. The final language was filed on Sept 30, 2015 with an effective date of October 31, 2015. There were a number of changes made to the language after the hearing, mostly editorial.

The filed CR 103 form and the final language with changes are attached. [Click here](#)

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kathy Weed, Program Manager
Occupational Therapy Practice Board
Midwifery Advisory Committee
Nursing Assistants
360-236-4883
kathy.weed@doh.wa.gov

**Are You on Facebook?
"Like" the MAWS Page!**

the health of newborns and their mothers. For more information please click [here](#).

LGBTQ Workshops

[MAIA Midwifery](#) and Fertility's web-based workshop for birth professionals, "Providing Culturally Sensitive Care for LGBTQ Families" is new and improved, and coming up on November 7. MEAC CEU's are provided. Read more at: www.maiamidwifery.com

CONFERENCE 2015

Advanced Practice in Primary and Acute Care

This conference offers health care providers an opportunity to validate and enhance clinical competencies, acquire new assessment and management skills, examine critical issues in health care at the state and national level, foster a strong coalition of providers in advanced practice, and learn about new products, services, and pharmacotherapeutic agents.

Conference faculty include distinguished national, regional and local experts.

Concurrent sessions allow participants to design their own educational tracks in the areas of acute, adolescent, adult, family, geriatric, midwifery, pediatric, psychosocial and women's health care.

November 5-7, 2015 Washington State Convention Center.

20.6 contact hours (16.0 pharmacology hours at the advanced practice level)

[Register here!](#)

Simkin Center at Bastyr

- Birth Doula Skills Workshop
- Postpartum Doula Skills Workshop
- Pre and Perinatal Massage Certification
- Certified Educator of Infant Massage
- Dancing for Birth

To register for any of these workshops, please follow the link [here](#).

Have you done your Peer Review yet?

If not, let MAWS help! The protected safe space of Peer Review and Incident Review enables midwives to freely discuss clinical cases with their peers providing them with an opportunity to improve their practice and future outcomes.

Two branches of the QMP program provide mechanisms for quality improvement:

- **Peer Review** which each midwife must complete on a regular basis every 2 years with at least 3 other professional MAWS members

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.



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.

Would you like your story shared in the MAWS newsletter? Please email us!

(professional MAWS members must be WA State Licensed Midwives)

- **Incident Review** which is organized by the QMP committee and is conducted by a specially convened panel whenever an outcome occurs which meets "Sentinel Event" criteria and warrants a review.

If you are a MAWS member in need of a Peer Review, organize one! Now anyone can organize a Peer Review as long as s/he:

1. Is a current MAWS member.
2. Has participated in at least one Peer Review before.
3. Contact **Christine Tindal** in order to receive all of the necessary, updated and official paperwork and verify the member status of participants (**as every midwife who participates in your Peer Review MUST be a current MAWS member**).

Interested in our All-Region Peer Review? Please contact Christine Tindal. This is usually done just before or just after our Fall Conference in November.



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