EMTALA Regulation Web Conference Series

Wednesdays, June 17, July 1 and July 15, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. CDT

Content
Medicare-certified hospitals and critical access hospitals with emergency departments must follow federal law and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regulations and interpretative guidelines for the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA). This three-part series will focus on EMTALA concepts, adequacy of medical screening and on-call physician issues. Fines have more than doubled since 2015 when CMS implemented the inflationary adjustment retroactive to the implementation of the EMTALA regulations.

Who should attend
This series is for all hospitals including general acute hospitals, critical access hospitals interested in EMTALA regulations and guidelines. Intended audience includes: behavioral health staff, CEOs, CMOs, CNOs, compliance officers, emergency medicine staff, legal counsel, nursing staff, obstetric staff and risk managers.

Part One: Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Part one focuses on the basic requirements of EMTALA and resources available to hospitals. The presentation will discuss EMTALA definitions and requirements.

Objectives
• Describe basic requirements of EMTALA.
• Describe the effect of 1135 waivers on compliance with EMTALA requirements.
• Describe why EMTALA is the most frequently cited deficiency.
• Discuss to whom and where EMTALA applies in the facility.
• Provide examples of how the hospital can stay current on changes in regulations.

Part Two: Wednesday, July 1, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Part two discusses EMTALA issues such as adequacy of medical screening examinations, certification of false labor, observation, EMTALA signage and appropriate transfers.

Objectives
• Define what language must be on required EMTALA signage and where it must be located.
• Describe what constitutes an adequate medical screening examination for behavioral health, obstetric and other patients.
• Describe what constitutes an appropriate certification of false labor.
• Detail what an appropriate transfer entails and what must be included on the transfer form.

Part Three: Wednesday, July 15, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Part three focuses on physician involvement with the EMTALA process including on-call physician schedules, on-call physician rules, when an on-call physician must appear in the emergency department and how to deal with challenging patient situations such as leaving against medical advice and leaving without being seen.

Objectives
• Describe on-call physician rules including schedules and when the on-call physician must appear in the emergency department.
• Describe the Office of Inspector General role and recent deficiencies and fines concerning on-call physicians.
• Describe the Quality Improvement Organization role with EMTALA.
• Detail documentation requirements for challenging patient situations.
**Speaker**

Nancy Ruzicka, health care consultant

Nancy Ruzicka is a consultant on state and federal rules, regulations and interpretative guidelines. She previously worked as director of integrity and compliance and privacy official at MercyOne Des Moines and director of regulatory compliance at UnityPoint Health-Des Moines. She also has more than 20 years of experience with the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals. Ruzicka holds master’s degrees in health law and business administration and a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy, all from Drake University. She is certified in health care compliance and maintains her Iowa pharmacy license.

**Fee**

- $200 per session for MHA member hospital
- $300 per session per organization for nonmembers

In order to allow for social distancing, pricing is set up per hospital rather than per connection. Please register just one person from your facility and have that person share the access information with others within your facility who wish to participate.

**Registration**

Visit the [event page](#) on MHA’s website and log in to register.

Prior to each session you will receive an email that contains instructions on how to connect to the web conference. Advance registration is required to ensure delivery of instructional materials.

If you do not receive an email from Cari Kronschnable prior to the program with web conference details, please contact her at cak@mnhospitals.org to confirm your registration has been received.

**Registration deadline**

Please register by 5 p.m. two business days before each session to ensure timely delivery of access instructions. Once the deadline has passed we will no longer be able to accept registrations.

**Cancellation**

Registration fees, less a $25 cancellation fee, are refundable if notice is received five working days before the program date.