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# Newsletter



Independence Medical Group

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Independence Medical Group

August 5, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 2



Welcome to our second issue of the Independence Medical Group (IMG) newsletter.

## **New Providers to Independence Medical Group IPA**

- A-Med Health Care Center
- SGV Medical Supplies
- Comprehensive Medical Group
- Dr. Radhey Bansal
- Dr. Vijaykumar Patel
- Dr. Fernando Bravo



## **Happy Retirement Dr. Morledge!**

As of June 30, 2005, Dr Morledge has retired and will no longer be one of our ENT Providers. We wish him all the best and we appreciate the service he provided to our physicians, and patients. Please reference Independence Medical Group Specialty Roster for a listing of additional ENT referral options.

INDEPENDENCE  
MEDICAL GROUP  
SERVING THE  
COMMUNITY  
BETTER

## **Congratulations**

To Clinica Sierra Vista, Valley Medical Group, and National Health Services on receiving the Healthy Families Childhood Obesity Grants. Great Job!

## **Clinica Sierra Vista Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

On Saturday, June 4, 2005, a crowd gathered in front of Clinica Sierra Vista's Frazier Mountain Health Center to watch as the ribbon was cut and the new facility was dedicated to the community it so proudly serves. We congratulate Clinica Sierra Vista on this accomplishment and wish them the best.



## **Upcoming Events**

- Fall 2005: Independence Medical Group will be celebrating its first year anniversary with Health Net Medi-cal, additional information will be forthcoming.
- Medi-cal is sponsoring conferences for medical accounts payable staff to assist in the collection of CCS payments. You may access those conference dates via the Internet by visiting <http://pro.medi-cal.ca.gov/training.asp>
- The Local DHS office is holding an immunization workshop on October 5th from 5:30pm-9:30pm.

## **Introducing Nancy Wheeler**

Independence Medical Group would like to introduce to you and your staff our new Provider Relations Representative, Nancy Wheeler. Nancy will be visiting our provider offices and training staff with the Cerecons website. Any provider questions or concerns may be forwarded to Nancy Wheeler at (661) 335-7878 ext 205. She will gladly be able to assist you and your staff with any problems or concerns you may have.

## **FAQ**

Q—When a HIV patient is seen in my office where can we refer the patient?

A—Please call Independence Medical Group's Case Management Department at 866-814-4476 and ask for Marnel at ext 108. Marnel will assist you in finding community resources to help care for your patient.

## **Cerecon's Training**

Please remember that once you've been trained on **Cerecons** and you are submitting referral requests online, you do not need to fax the request. You will be notified by our referral department in the event additional information is needed. It is therefore very important that you check the status of your online requests periodically. Delays in obtaining additional information and incomplete requests cause needless delays in processing your requests. If you are not submitting requests for authorization through Cerecons, please ensure that all information has been completed prior to faxing your authorization request to 866-814-4478. Also, please ensure that you are appropriately labeling the request as a "STAT, URGENT or ROUTINE." Definitions of each can be found at the top of IMGs authorization request form.

## **Oxygen Referrals**

Please remember when submitting oxygen referrals, a copy of the patient's ABG report needs to accompany the request.



- Cerecons Training is available online with Amy Jackson at (714) 998-0866 ext 128 for claim submission only. On site training will be done by our Provider Relations Representative, Nancy Wheeler.





## Independence Medical Group

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### Health Tips

#### **AVOID EXCESSIVE HEAT**

It can have a severe impact on the health of many elderly persons. Staying indoors in air conditioned settings, not overexerting yourself and drinking plenty of liquids, unless restricted by your doctor, is advisable.



#### **What Can We Do to Help You?**

Do you have suggestions for improvement of Independence Medical Group's services? What would make your job easier? Please contact Nancy Wheeler at 335-7878 ext 205 with your suggestions for improvement. Independence Medical Group is dedicated to members and providers of Kern County.

#### **California Children Services (CCS)**

California Children's Services (CCS) is a state program developed under Title V of the Federal Social Security Act for SCHCN.

The program arranges, directs and pays for medical care, equipment and therapy services for children and young adults under 21 years of age who have serious medical conditions, as defined by the program.

#### **Qualifications for the CCS Program**

Following are examples of CCS eligible qualifications:

- Child is under 21 years of age
- Condition is:
  - a. present at birth
  - b. severe or disabling
  - c. resulting from accident or injury
- Child is a permanent California resident
- Financial eligibility is met

#### **Services Provided by the CCS Program**

- Diagnostic Evaluations
- Treatment Services
- Medical Therapy Program
- Medical Case Management
- High Risk Infant Program
- HIV Children's Screening Program
- Orthodontic Program



All primary care physicians have been sent a questionnaire that, when completed and returned to IMG, will be submitted to CCS. The member's CCS eligible condition must be managed by a CCS paneled physician for reimbursement.

#### **Announcements** **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**Oct 5, 2005**  
**Immunization Update**  
**Kern County Dept. Of Public Health**  
**Education Center**  
**5:30-9:30 pm**  
**(Dinner Provided)**

**IMG 1ST YEAR ANNIVERSARY**  
**CELEBRATION**  
*Date to be announced*

#### **Provider Notification Updates**

To avoid unnecessary confusion, and the potential disruption of patient care, providers are required to notify IMG when the following practice changes occur:

- **Closing** of a practice site.
- **Changes** to your practice address, telephone and/or fax numbers.
- **Opening** of additional practice locations.
- **Hiring** of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, or nurse midwives.
- **Termination** of employed physicians, Physicians assistants, nurse practitioners or nurse midwives.

Your IMG contract requires a minimum of **120 days** prior written notification for contract termination without cause.

For tax reporting purposes, notification should also be provided for other changes, such as a change in your Tax ID number, corporate name change or change in payment address.

Please send all written notification to Independence Medical Group in the manner stated in your contract.