EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT HOT TOPICS
Screening, Stabilization, and Transfer of Psychiatric & Behavioral Health Patients in the ED

INTRODUCTION
This session will provide a general update on EMTALA, concentrating primarily on the unique risk issues and EMTALA issues related to screening, stabilizing, managing, and/or transferring psychiatric and behavioral health patients in the hospital emergency department. Other hot topics will also include opioid prescribing and pain management under EMTALA.

Managing psychiatric and behavioral health patients in the emergency department is currently one of the highest risk issues for hospitals and risk managers. Lack of inpatients beds, lack of community outpatient resources, and withdrawal of state supported programs for caring for the mentally ill have driven these patients to hospital emergency rooms leading to management and placement problems, and long-term ED boarding. The federal government deems these patients a 'protected class' and has adopted some unexpected and nearly unworkable interpretations of EMTALA which place hospitals at significant risk of citations, fines, and/or civil litigation.

OBJECTIVES
After completing this program, participants will be able to:

1. Describe strategies to enhance compliance with EMTALA, minimize potential liability, and improve patient care, with focus on problematic issues such as redirecting of patients, hospital owned ambulances/non-hospital owned ambulances, and access to hospital helipad.

2. Summarize “what’s new” with EMTALA and discuss the current state of EMTALA enforcement and litigation.

HOW TO REGISTER:
Online at www.mhanet.org or by completing / returning the attached form.
Payment due prior to attendance.

HPIC Clients can attend free of charge.
*Unsure if your facility is an HPIC client? Email gzirulnik@hpico.com and ask.

Continuing Education:
This continuing education activity will be submitted to the National Association for Healthcare Quality for 5.50 hours of CPHQ CE credit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROGRAM, CONTACT:
Ashley Simmons
(601) 368-3388 or asimmons@mhanet.org
3. Explain EMTALA requirements as they relate to administration of opioids in the ED, communicating of “pain policies”, and the posting of “pain signs” regarding opioid use.

4. Explain the process and the personnel required to medically and psychiatrically evaluate or 'screen' behavioral health and psychiatric patients presenting to the ED.

5. Identify which practitioners can medically and psychiatrically screen patients in the ED.

6. Describe the scope of the EMTALA mandated medical screening exam, including which laboratory, radiographic, or drug tests are required to medically or psychiatrically 'screen' ED patients.

7. Define what constitutes a psychiatric or behavioral health ‘emergency medical condition’ and when these patients are ‘stabilized’ under EMTALA.

8. Recognize the risks related to the prolonged boarding behavioral health patients in the ED.

9. Explain the legal duties related to providing on-call psychiatric services for the ED, and the legal requirements related to transferring patients or accepting behavioral health/psychiatric patients in transfer from other hospitals.

10. Identify strategies that reduce risk and comply with the law in handling behavioral health patients in the Emergency Department.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Robert A. Bitterman, MD, JD, FACEP is President and CEO of Bitterman Health Law Consulting Group which specializing in hospital-based emergency services, EMTALA, risk management/liability, and regulatory compliance issues.

Dr. Bitterman is past chairman and current member of the American College of Emergency Medicine’s (ACEP) Medical-Legal Committee and the contributing editor for the Emergency Department Legal Letter. He has published extensively on EMTALA, state laws, and risk management, and administrative issues concerning emergency services. Dr. Bitterman authored the widely used text on EMTALA - "Providing Emergency Care under Federal Law: EMTALA."
AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00  Registration/Welcome

9:00 – 10:30  Happy 30th Birthday EMTALA!

EMTALA Update
Medical Screening Exam (MSE) Issues
- Registration/financial/insurance issues
- Re-directing – Are you conducting and **documenting** a MSE?
- Hospital Owned/Non-owned ambulance and the helipad

Stabilization Issues
- When is a patient stable?
- Admission vs. ‘observation’ status

Transfer Issues

Regulatory Actions & Civil Liability

10:30 – 10:45  Break

10:45 – 12:00  Psychiatric & Behavioral Health Patients in the ED

Medical Screening Examination
Scope of diagnostic testing required
Psychiatric evaluation (Definition of Psychiatric EMC)
Role of the mental health counselor in the ED
Use of tele-psychiatrists
Stabilization/transfer requirements
Receiving hospital requirements
Documentation requirements
Refusal of treatment by suicidal patient
Emergency Commitment Law (72 hour hold)

12:00 – 1:00  Lunch

1:00 – 2:30  Behavioral Health Patients (continued)

2:30 – 3:00  Opioids and Pain Management under EMTALA

3:00 – 3:15  Break

3:15 – 4:00  Group Discussion/Questions – Additional hot topics facing EDs today (such as law enforcement requests for blood alcohols or ‘evidence’ collection, etc.)
ONLINE REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED. GO TO WWW.MHANET.ORG AND CLICK THE EDUCATION TAB OR COMPLETE/RETURN THIS FORM.

REGISTRATION FORM: EMTALA: EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT HOT TOPICS
OCTOBER 20, 2016 at the Mississippi Hospital Association

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<th>ATTENDEE NAME: LEGIBLE PRINT FOR ALL ENTRIES. THANK YOU.</th>
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DIRECTIONS TO MHA:
Exit 108 from I-55. Travel NORTH on Hwy 463. Turn RIGHT on Woodgreen Place (located near overpass).
Questions from the car? (601) 982-3251.

HOTEL INFO:
There is a block of rooms available at the Hilton Garden Inn, 320 New Mannsdale Rd, Madison.

To book your room, use the link in the e-mail or call the hotel directly at 601-420-0442 or the toll free number 877-782-9444 to make your reservations. When calling please reference the group booking code of HPC in order to receive the special group rate. The reservation cut-off date is October 6, 2016.


THREE WAYS TO RETURN COMPLETED FORM:
1. EMAIL to registration@mhanet.org
2. FAX to (601) 368-3200
3. MAIL to MHA, PO Box 1996, Madison, MS 39130-1996

You will receive meeting details at the above email address.

Contact Ashley Simmons, Education Coordinator, for more information:
Email: asimmons@mhanet.org
Phone: (601) 368-3388

CONFIRMED ATTENDEES will receive a meeting confirmation and/or invoice at time of registration.
QUESTIONS regarding this program? Contact an Education Representative at (601) 982-3251.