



January 20, 2011 Issue 6

Upcoming Events

Feb. 3, 2011: FSCI day-long kick-off event in Orlando.

Feb. 2011: FSCI SCR training (scheduled pending return of contracts)

Mar. 1, 2011: FSCI data collection begins (following completion of training)

Mar. 4 – 6, 2011: ACS Florida Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting

Contact

To join FSCI or if you have questions, contact:

Martha DeCastro, MS,RN,CIC
Vice President of Nursing
Florida Hospital Association
Email: martha@fha.org
Tel: 850.222.9800

To subscribe to this newsletter, contact:

Debbie Hegarty
Surveys/Special Projects Manager
Florida Hospital Association
Email: debbieh@fha.org
Tel: 407.841.6230

In this issue:

- [Reminder: FSCI Enrollment Forms Due to ACS](#)
- [Register Now: FSCI Kick-Off Event Feb. 3](#)
- [FSCI seminar at ACS Florida Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting](#)
- [CMS Issues Proposed Rule Rewarding Hospitals for High-Quality Care](#)

Reminder: FSCI Enrollment Forms Due to ACS

Remember to turn in your FSCI enrollment form to the American College of Surgeons, attention Whitney Watson, via mail, fax or email listed below as soon as possible. **Hospitals must return FSCI enrollment forms and contracts to be enrolled in FSCI training.**

Once enrollment forms are turned in, hospitals will receive FSCI contracts, which are due back to ACS by **Friday, Feb. 4**. Please contact Whitney or Martha DeCastro, Martha@fha.org, with any questions as you're filling out your form.

American College of Surgeons
Attn: Whitney Watson, ACS NSQIP
633 North Saint Clair Street 22N
Chicago, IL 60611
Email: wwatson@facs.org
Phone: 312-202-5261
Fax: 312-202-5063

[TOP](#)

Register Now: FSCI Kick-Off Event Feb. 3

Mark your calendars to join us for the statewide **FSCI Kickoff Event** on **February 3, 2011 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.!** All FSCI participating hospitals (including those participating in ACS NSQIP Pediatric or one of the full ACS NSQIP Options) are invited to attend the day-long event at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport Hotel, featuring guest speakers on the importance of robust data, the value of collaboratives, advice for new Surgeon Champions and SCRs, and a preview of what you can expect as a member of the FSCI collaborative.

The day's events will allow Surgeon Champions, SCRs, hospital leadership and other members of the quality improvement team to learn more about FSCI, discuss plans for working together as a QI team, and determine how the program will be implemented in their own hospitals.

General session presentations include:

- - **The FSCI Collaborative: A National Example for Quality Improvement**
 - **Clifford Ko, MD, FACS**, ACS NSQIP director and director of the ACS Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, overseeing ACS trauma, cancer and quality improvement programs
 - **Keynote Address: The Power of Collaboratives**
 - **Bruce Spurlock, MD**, nationally recognized expert on quality improvement collaboratives and leading change
 - **Working Together to Improve Care in Florida: Update from Florida ACS**
 - **Joseph J. Tepas, III, MD, FACS, FAAP**, Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at the University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville, and member of the ACS Board of Governors
 - **Case Study: Baptist Hospital of Miami**
 - Presenters to be announced

Afternoon breakout sessions for Executive/Quality Improvement leaders, Surgeon Champions and SCRs, and a panel discussion, will help you discuss with your team how you will implement the program in your hospital. For a detailed agenda and more information, please click [here](#).

Please note that training on the FSCI online Workstation and data collection will occur following the kick-off event; training dates and registration information will be announced soon, and contracts must be completed to be enrolled in FSCI training.

There is **no registration fee** for hospitals that have already enrolled in FSCI. Thanks to BlueCross and BlueShield of Florida for supporting the event.



[TOP](#)

FSCI seminar at ACS Florida Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting

Surgeons, mark your calendars for the ACS Florida Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting March 4 – 6 at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress in Orlando. A session on the Florida Surgical Care Initiative on Saturday, March 5 from 2 – 4 p.m. entitled, "Florida Surgical Care Initiative – What Users Must Know," will provide additional background on FSCI and update surgeons on program implementation. It will be an opportunity for FSCI surgeon champions to discuss with colleagues thoughts and experiences from their respective institutions, and hear more about statewide and national policy implications of FSCI, the nation's largest statewide surgical quality improvement program.

For more information on the meeting, please click [here](#).

[TOP](#)

CMS Issues Proposed Rule Rewarding Hospitals for High-Quality Care

On January 7, 2011 CMS issued its proposed rule on how it will reward hospitals for providing patients with the highest-quality care¹. The value-based purchasing program will rate hospitals on quality of care and patient satisfaction and reward them accordingly with higher reimbursements.

Importantly, within the proposed rule, CMS states that it plans to expand "the types of measures beyond process of care measures to include an increased number of outcome measures."

Currently, CMS is working with ACS on five proposed outcomes-based measures, including the four measures that will be a part of the FSCI program. In November 2010, CMS announced its intention to contract with ACS on those measures.

Increasingly, policymakers are seeing the importance of using risk-adjusted, 30-day outcomes measures to provide a complete and more accurate picture of care. FSCI members are truly on the leading edge of quality and are well-positioned as health reform measures like value-based purchasing are implemented in the coming months and years.

Sources:

¹ "Medicare proposes new hospital value-based purchasing program." Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. January 7, 2011. Web. January 14, 2011.
www.cms.gov

[TOP](#)



A joint initiative of the
Florida Hospital Association and the
American College of Surgeons



Supported in part by a grant from



BlueCross BlueShield
of Florida
www.bcbf.com