

# DFW-APIC Government Affairs Committee

## September 2015

### NATIONAL ISSUES

REMINDER: Read your weekly APIC E-News and visit APIC's Public Policy page for updates on federal issues

#### APIC Public Policy (2015)

<http://apic.org/Advocacy/Government-Affairs-and-Advocacy>

#### APIC E-News Highlights (2015)

<http://apic.org/Member-Services/Publications/E-News>

- ACIP issued revised influenza vaccination recommendations for the 2015-16 flu season. New recommendations no longer indicate a preference for the use of live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) for children age 2 through 8.
- APIC submitted comments to CMS on infection-related provisions in proposed rules updating the Hospital Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems (OPPS/ASC) and the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) for Calendar Year 2016.
- CMS published the final rule updating the Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment System and Long Term Care Hospital Payment System for FY 2016. This rule includes updates to quality reporting programs for acute care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals, and cancer hospitals. APIC staff is reviewing the final rule for any changes that will impact infection prevention or HAI reporting requirements.
- APIC provided comments to the CMS on infection-related provisions in the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Facility Quality Improvement Program (QIP). APIC's comments focused on the need for a robust data validation process, request for a QIP scoring system that includes value for both reporting and outcomes, and support for a patient influenza vaccination measure.
- Please take a moment to echo the message of your fellow IPs who already submitted a letter to Congress supporting funding for federal HAI and antibiotic resistance prevention efforts. Federal programs with the most vocal support will receive more funding, while others face cuts. Program cuts would mean that the system stays in place without the resources necessary for updates and user training. **It takes 60 seconds (or less) to electronically submit your letter.** We need Federal investment in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) and the Antibiotic Resistance Solutions Initiative. Please take a moment to submit your letter to Congress. It's easy! Please go to the APIC website – Public Policy – Take Action.

#### Texas HAI/PAE Reporting Resources:

Be sure and check the website below for updated information on facility requirements and/or sign up for e-mail updates:

**Texas HAI Homepage:** [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/infection\\_control/hai/](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/health/infection_control/hai/)

### Texas Register (2015)

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>

**Last Review Completed: 8/28/2015**

**Current Search Parameters for Review:**

25 TAC: Chapters 2, 97, 133, 135, 200

30 TAC: Chapter 330; Subchapter Y

**Key: X Pending**

X	Date	Action	Title/Ch./Rules	Topic / Comments
				no new POI

