

On the Pathology Scene

A PUBLICATION OF THE ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGISTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2014—A Good Year for ISP

As we start this new month I want to update you on the activities of the Illinois Society of Pathologists. 2014 was a good year for ISP and I would be remiss if I did not mention again that under the fine leadership of Eleni Bourtsos, MD, the Anti-Markup and

Robert DeCresce, MD

the ACO bill were passed. Eleni and I and others spent a great deal of time in Springfield over the past few years and these efforts paid off! Many thanks also to Barry Ziman and the College of American Pathologists for its guidance and strategy. As you realize we spent a significant portion of the ISP's Advocacy Fund on lobbyists and meetings, which helped with our timing, strategy and success. Remember in my last message to you I mentioned that another specialty was able to raise \$75,000 in less than one year to oppose the Anti-Markup bill. Please donate to Advocacy.....the donation form is attached.

We Need Anti-Markup Stories

The Anti-Markup Bill went into effect January 1, 2015. If you have questions or stories about compliance issues with the law, please let us know what's going on. You can write to me at rdecresce@rush.edu, or Pam Cramer at pcramer@illinoispathology.org.

The law is clear:

A physician who orders, but who does not supervise or perform, an anatomic pathology service shall disclose in a bill to the patient the name and address of the physician or laboratory that provided the anatomic pathology service and the actual amount paid or to be paid for each anatomic pathology service provided to the patient by the physician or laboratory that performed the service.

The ordering physician, when billing a patient, insurer, or third-party payer, shall not markup or directly or indirectly increase, the amount subject to disclosure.

Prohibition does not prohibit a referring physician from charging a specimen acquisition or processing charge if the charge is limited to actual costs incurred for specimen collection and transportation, and the charge is separately coded or denoted as a service distinct from the performance of the anatomic pathology service.

Specific questions regarding interpretation of the law as applied to certain business arrangements must be referred to the pathologists' or the group's attorney. However, please share any stories you have, or have heard, with us regarding confusion over compliance with the law's requirements.

CIGNA - - It's Not Over Yet

We are not finished....the specter of CIGNA's "re-evaluating their Modifier 26 policy..." and not paying for professional component for CP has not been resolved. For that reason we will stay focused and on top of this issue. And we will need money to stay focused and protect pathologists. We are working with Cigna and our attorney on a special task force for discussion. Stay tuned.

Donate NOW to Advocacy

We need your Advocacy Donations as we continue to fight these legislative battles, and if there are pathologists in your group who are not members, they need to join. Please support ISP!

Supporter	\$100-\$499
Contributor	\$500-\$999
Advocate	\$1000-\$1999
Benefactor	\$2000-\$2999
Cornerstone	\$3000-\$4999
Presidents Circle	\$5000 and up

2014 ISP Leadership

I'm pleased to report that the following pathologists will lead ISP this year, please join me in working with them toward another successful year. Please share your thoughts with any of them, their emails are below:

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**Watch for information on the ISP's
Spring Meeting "Advocacy Update" in
newsletters and on the ISP website**

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

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