

## CMS launches new search tool for Open Payments data

Courtesy MGMA [www.mgma.com](http://www.mgma.com)

Have you found the newly-released Open Payments Program data difficult to search or sort? CMS has now released a new online search tool, which allows users to search by a physician's name, location or specialty. The search results also group payments and transfers of value into three categories: general payments, research payments and ownership in companies.

[Read more](#)

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## The office is closed

Did you know that your after-hours answering service must be HIPAA compliant? HIPAA violations by your answering service could subject you to fines. Read this interesting story here.

[More](#)

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## Google yourself

A good rule of thumb: if you **wouldn't want to show it to HR**, then consider it negative. You **don't have to be a bad person or a hardened criminal** to find yourself with a negative result or two showing up when people Google your name. [There are 5 common types of negative results that anyone could find themselves dealing with.](#)

## DHH Selects 5 for Bayou Health v 2.0

DHH has selected 5 insurance companies for its next phase of the Bayou Health program. They are Aetna Better Health of Louisiana; Amerigroup Louisiana; AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana; Louisiana Healthcare Connections; and United Healthcare Community Plan.

DHH says final steps include a readiness review of the 5 companies and approval by CMS in Washington. The new contracts are expected to start on Feb. 1, 2015. Recipients will be given the opportunity to choose the company that best meets their needs during a 60 day annual open enrollment period scheduled to start in November.

[Get the details here](#)



## *Horne Salary Survey deadline is November 9*

**HORNE's Medical Office Staff Salary Survey offers the opportunity each year to our members to have local and reliable research on competitive pay to enables offices to recruit and retain the best talent.**

Survey closes Sunday, November 9th. Results will be available January 2015 electronically.

[Get started now.](#) If you participate, you get a complimentary copy of the results. Non-participants pay about \$400 for this report.

[View highlights from the 2013 Medical Office Staff Salary Survey.](#)

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Coming soon: A kinder, gentler Anti-Kickback Statute and Civil Money Penalties Law?

A couple of fraud and abuse statutes that have long tripped up providers are about to undergo a long-overdue overhaul. [Get the details here from Jennifer Searfoss](#)



News  
*continues*

MGMA Louisiana Office . 4400 Amb. Caffery  
Suite A-295 . Lafayette LA 70508  
T 337.984.9777 F 1-866-816-1955

## Expect the unexpected: human resource issues

Personnel problems can consume a **practice administrator's time** like no other issue. You can start the day with an uneventful or well-planned schedule only to lose it all to a no-show employee, a doctor who wants to fire another nurse, a heated argument in the break room or an employee who violates a policy and is immediately escorted from the premises.

[Read more here](#)

## And on the lighter side...

*I just put a casserole in the oven*

Forbes Magazine posted its ["most ridiculous" excuses for skipping work.](#)



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## Study your contracts to avoid pitfalls

Contracts must be reviewed carefully before signing. These affect your bottom line. Understanding the language is vital. One important tip is that you can request a contract review anytime and most payors comply. [More tips](#)

## DeSalvo moves to Ebola arena

Dr. Karen DeSalvo of New Orleans is leaving her post as head of the U.S. **government's Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology** to assist HHS Secretary Sylvia **Matthews Burwell with the department's** response to the Ebola epidemic. Prior to becoming national health IT coordinator in December 2013, DeSalvo served as health commissioner for the City of New Orleans, where she helped the city rebuild its public health infrastructure after Katrina.

## Tips for Preventing Employee Theft and Fraud in the Workplace

The Small Business Administration offers helpful tips on preventing employee fraud in the workplace – it could be downloading and sharing company confidential information, manipulating expense reports, or stealing. [Learn more](#)

**THANK YOU** to **Lowry's Printing in Lafayette** for readily agreeing to sponsor our University of Louisiana-Lafayette Student Members who wish to attend Acadiana Chapter meetings. These students are enrolled in the Healthcare **Administration program**. Lowry's is a longtime vendor for MGMA-Louisiana activities, and an avid UL-L booster. [www.lowryspainting.com](http://www.lowryspainting.com)

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### Crossroads 1999 in Alexandria

This annual conference featured timely topics like Y2k, managed care, compliance and coding.

L-R in this photo are Phyllis Cornell (speaker) , Kathy Boudreaux (Acadiana president) and Andy Waldo, LMGMA president.



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