



Date: August 13, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM

Three-part webinar series offered through the Iowa Hospital Association

July 16, July 30, Aug. 13

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

IHA Members: \$495 per organization

Non-IHA Members: \$595 per organization

**Please note: The registration fee includes an unlimited number of connections within the same hospital or health system corporate office.*

In February, the Biden-Harris Administration announced a comprehensive plan to educate and promote patient access to the full rights and protections for emergency medical care afforded under the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA). In May, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services identified a new method for the general public to directly file complaints for alleged EMTALA violations.

These changes bring heightened awareness and attention to hospital obligations under EMTALA. For Medicare-certified hospitals, adherence to EMTALA regulations and interpretative guidelines is critical to avoiding significant fines and the potential loss of Medicare participation. This webinar series through the Iowa Hospital Association will provide essential insights to ensure your hospital remains compliant with federal regulations and enhances patient care.

Part 3: Physician Involvement in EMTALA Compliance

The final webinar in the series will focus on physician involvement with the EMTALA process including on-call physician schedules, on-call physician rules, when an on-call physician must appear in the emergency department and how to deal with difficult patient situations such as leaving against medical advice and leaving without being seen.

Those attending this session will:

- Examine on-call physician schedules and rules.
- Understand when on-call physicians must appear in the emergency department.
- Learn how to handle challenging patient situations, such as those leaving against medical advice or without being seen.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Describe on-call physician rules, including when the on-call physician must appear in the emergency department.
- Describe the Office of Inspector General's role and recent on-call physician deficiencies and fines.
- Describe the organizational quality improvement program role with EMTALA.
- Examine documentation requirements for difficult patient situations.

These webinars are designed for leaders and staff organization-wide, including:

- CEOs
- Chief medical officers
- Chief nursing officers
- Compliance officers and legal counsel
- Safety officers
- Risk managers
- Department directors
- Quality improvement staff
- Behavioral health and psychiatric staff
- Emergency department staff
- Physicians
- Nurses

Nancy M. Ruzicka, BS, RPh, MBA, MJ, CHC
Owner, Ruzicka Healthcare Consulting

A recognized expert, Ruzicka focuses on state and federal rules, regulations and interpretative guidelines. She provides consultation to individual client hospitals, nursing facilities, rural health clinics, physician offices and other Medicare-certified healthcare providers through onsite mock surveys, remote consultation and interpretation of Medicare Conditions of Participation. Ruzicka also provides education on federal regulations throughout the nation to multiple state hospital associations. She has served as content expert and editor for regulatory client hospital education for Lammico, a medical malpractice insurance company.

Ruzicka previously worked as the Compliance and Integrity Officer at MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center and Director of

Regulatory Compliance at UnityPoint Health, Des Moines. She has more than 20 years of experience with the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals. While working for the State of Iowa, she surveyed hospitals, critical access hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, intermediate care facilities for developmentally disabled, nursing homes and other Medicare-certified entities. Ruzicka was responsible for updating state hospital licensing regulations, which had not been updated since the early 1970s.

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