

Familiarize Yourself with Healthcare Industry Resources

Harris County Medical Society (HCMS):

The Harris County Medical Society (HCMS) has developed pages, guides, and other resources to assist staff, administrators, physicians, etc. on an abundance of topics. Below are just a small sample of the resources HCMS.org has to offer.

Our [Medical Records](#) page has loads of information to assist with questions about consent, payment for record copies, compliance timeframes, storage, etc.

Our [Practice Management](#) and [Practice Resources](#) pages are full of subject matter including Telehealth, ethics, reputation management, starting a practice, leaving a practice and other material relevant to practice management.

Our [Billing and Payers](#) page has instructions on the appeal process for Aetna, BCBSTX, Cigna, Humana, Medicare, United Healthcare, and ERISA (self-funded) plans. At the bottom of this page are several appeal letter templates that can be modified to suit the needs of your practice.

Our [Tools and Resources](#) page has grids, calculators, compliance posters links, often needed letters and templates, etc. Information on a myriad of topics can be found on these web pages.

[HCMS Direct](#) is a free notification listserv on select topics (CME Opportunities, Legislation Issues, Healthcare Quality, Practice Management and Insurance, etc.) disseminated to subscribers to alert practices on upcoming deadlines, changes to regulations and payer policies, etc. Sign up for one or all.

[The Harris County Physician Newsletter](#) is a publication issued every month with information for your practice, as well as news about medical economics, public health and legislation. Look to the classified section for employment and lease opportunities, events, and products and services.

Texas Medical Association (TMA):

The [TMA website](#) also has great information on legislative issues, CMEs, a compliance calendar, consulting services, and many other resources.

Other Resources:

Medical Group Management Association: <http://www.mgma.com/>

Medical Economics: <https://www.medicaleconomics.com/>

American Academy of Family Physicians: <http://www.aafp.org/home.html>

American Academy of Professional Coders: <https://www.aapc.com/>