

# Practice Management Insight

A report on events affecting Oklahoma providers

July 2016

## HEALTHCARE FRAUD

Many cases involving healthcare fraud involve either Medicare or Medicaid, but other criminal investigations also involve private insurance companies or research grants. Medicare Fraud and Medicaid Fraud investigations may result in charges filed in the federal courts. However, some Medicaid fraud investigations are processed through the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office or the Office of the District Attorney for a particular county. When federal investigations occur, they are generally handled by the FBI or the Office of Inspector General for one of the affected federal agencies, but other agencies such as the FDA or some branches of the military investigative services may also be involved.

[More Information](#)

## Medicaid Fraud in Oklahoma

The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit possesses both criminal and civil authority. The criminal units investigate and prosecute Medicaid providers that submit fraudulent billing to the state program. The unit receives referrals from the Oklahoma Health Care Authority as well as calls from concerned citizens.

The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit is also tasked with investigating abuse, neglect and exploitation of residents in Medicaid paid nursing homes. Most referrals come from the Department of Health. However, the unit also receives information from local law enforcement, concerned family members, and hotline tips.

Oklahoma statutes provide for "whistleblower" claims. These claims are brought by private citizens on behalf of the State. The civil function of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit represents the State's interest in these cases. The civil unit also files lawsuits against providers that submit fraudulent claims against the Medicaid program.

[More Information](#)

## Treating Depression Might Help Stem Heart Woes

Effective treatment of depression seems to reduce a person's risk of heart disease, according to a new study.

Depression is a known risk factor for heart disease, but how treatment for depression affected that risk was unclear, researchers said.

This study of 7,550 people found that effective treatment for depression could lower a patient's heart risks to the same level as those who never had depression, reducing their chances of stroke, heart attack, heart failure and death.

## Why professional and experienced interventionists are necessary

It began with this. A simple post from a dear friend on Facebook. It said please do not hire interventionists who are not professionally trained, who are inexperienced and have no certifications or insurance.

She went on to say that she was outraged because a young man, who has had no professional training and has zero experience doing interventions, had posted on his Facebook page pictures of significant checks given to him by two families for the

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 4

**Independence Day**

July 11

**Teen Addiction Severity Index**  
[Oklahoma City](#)

July 11

**43A Mental Health Law Training**  
[Oklahoma City, OK](#)

July 12

**New Employee Orientation**  
[Oklahoma City, OK](#)

July 15

**Motivational Interviewing**  
[Oklahoma City, OK](#)

July 18

**Therapeutic Options Train the Trainer Recertification**  
[Oklahoma City, OK](#)

July 19-22

**Therapeutic Options Train the Trainer for New Trainers**  
[Oklahoma City, OK](#)

July 25

**Oklahoma Determination of ASAM Service Level**  
[Tulsa, OK](#)

**JULY is ...**

**Juvenile Arthritis Awareness Month**

**Nations Cleft & Craniofacial Awareness & Prevention Month**

of stroke, heart attack, heart failure and death. The risk of major heart problems was: 4.6 percent among those successfully treated for depression: 4.8 percent among those without depression; 6 percent among those with depression who did not respond to treatment; and 6.4 percent among those who developed depression during the study.

[More Information](#)

pictures of significant checks given to him by two families for the interventions he did. Next, the checks clearly displayed the family name of the hiring entity, which leaves the unsuspecting family with zero confidentiality. Here there are no ethics and there are health risks for the identified patient.

[More Information](#)



Happy 4th of July from your friends at OrionNet Systems!

**Let us Build your Website**

Don't go looking for clients  
Let your clients find you

Contact us today for more info!  
www.iorion.com  
onsmarketing@coxinet.net  
(405) 286-1674

**ThinkHealth Needs Your Feedback!**

ThinkHealth was recently added to Capterra's Top Mental Health Software Products list!

Please [click here](#) to give a review on your ThinkHealth System.

**DHS Announce Foster Care Recruitment Goal Reached**

Governor Mary Fallin today announced that her Oklahoma Fosters initiative with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS), private and faith-based partners has achieved its goal of recruiting more than 1,000 new foster families in Oklahoma.

DHS also reports that the number of children in state custody has dropped below 10,000 for the first time in three years.

This is the first time DHS has reached its foster care recruitment goal since the Pinnacle Plan was launched in 2012 to reform the state's foster care system. Oklahomans have again responded to a crucial need in our state," said Fallin.

[More Information](#)

**House passes long awaited Murphy bill**

The House passed the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R. 2646) Wednesday with a 422-to-2 vote. It's a piece of bipartisan legislation that has stalled for years and has gone back to the drawing board several times.

Among the provisions, it creates an assistant secretary position within the federal health agency that would have oversight of behavioral health programs and sets up grants for treatment and prevention programs. New HIPAA guidance was part of the original bill but was scaled back in the iterations, so it now simply directs the federal agency to clarify rules about disclosure of information to help improve care for those who are in treatment.

[More Information](#)



**ThinkHealth**  
Practice Management Software  
software solutions for the behavioral health industry

**OPEN MINDS**  
Market intelligence to navigate. Management expertise to succeed.

**BEHAVIORAL**

**DAMI**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE**  
THE BUSINESS OF TREATMENT AND RECOVERY



**ADDICTION PROFESSIONAL**  
ORIGIN OF CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
**SAMHSA**



**Follow ThinkHealth on Twitter!**



Questions or comments? Email us at [OrionNet@coxinet.net](mailto:OrionNet@coxinet.net) or call 405.286.1674  
To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).