

# Practice Management Insight

A report on events affecting behavioral health and substance abuse providers

November 2015

## OrionNet Systems Wants Agencies to Work Smarter, Not Harder

OrionNet Systems has stated that they will be creating additional reports for their practice management software, ThinkHealth, before the end of the year in an attempt to help their agencies work smarter, not harder.

“With impending budget cuts from the state coming in January there can be no delay when considering how best to help our clients save time and money,” said Clyde Wafford, president of OrionNet Systems.

Oklahoma's budget and executive cabinet leadership has been meeting with state agency officials concerning the state fiscal year 2017 budget outlook. Leadership has advised that the budget outlook is grim. Agencies were requested to not submit any budget increases and to plan for potentially significant reductions.

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) may consider rate reductions for all SoonerCare providers as early as January 1, 2016. More detail will be provided in November during the formal public notification process, and no final decision will be made before the OHCA board meets on December 10.

The state has stated that in order to maintain federal funding for the program, they are limited with regard to the budget areas that can be cut. The majority of any budget reductions will be borne on the provider reimbursement fee schedule.

It is for this very reason that OrionNet Systems has plans to create additional reports that will help their agencies manage their practice more efficiently.

One of the aforementioned reports is the Agency Statistics Report. This report will enable agencies to keep better track of their numbers, such as the number of hours they are spending on each service.

“We want to make sure that our clients know exactly where their money is going so they can see more clients and give better services,” said Clyde Wafford.

[More Information](#)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**November 3**  
[Tribal Consultation day Meeting OHCA](#)

**November 10**  
[ABD Stakeholders meeting-OHCA](#)

**November 11**  
[Veterans day](#)

**November 12**  
[OHCA Board Meeting OHCA](#)

**November 14**  
[World Diabetes Day](#)

**November 15**  
[America Recycles Day](#)

**November 19**  
[Medical Advisory Committee Meeting OHCA](#)

**November 19**  
[Great American Smokeout](#)

**November 20**  
[ODMHSAS Board Meeting and Real Property Trust Meeting](#)

**November 26**  
[Thanksgiving Day](#)

### Epilepsy Awareness Month

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Epilepsy affects about 2 million people in the United States and is characterized by recurrent, unprovoked seizures. Delayed recognition of these seizures and inadequate treatment increases the risk for additional seizures, disability, decreased health-related quality of life and, in rare instances, death.

Although epilepsy can occur at any age, the condition is more likely to begin among children less than 2 years of age and adults older than 65 years

[More Information](#)

### Veterans and Active Duty Mental Health Concerns

Nearly 1 in 4 active duty members showed signs of a mental health condition, according to a 2014 study in JAMA Psychiatry. On this page we focus on questions that military personnel often ask, concerning treatment resources, disclosure and staying healthy during the transition to civilian life.

There are three primary mental health concerns that you may encounter serving in the military:

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)  
Depression  
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

[More Information](#)



NOVEMBER is ...

American Diabetes Month

Epilepsy Awareness Month

National Caregivers Month

Stomach Cancer Awareness Month

National Healthy Skin Awareness Month

National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month



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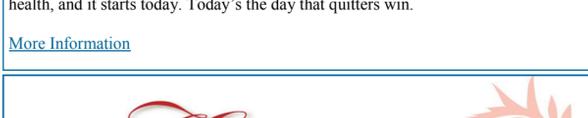
## The Great American Smokeout

Get ready to lose the habit, and become victorious over tobacco. The American Cancer Society Great American Smokeout event is your chance to triumph over addiction. Every November, we set aside the third Thursday to encourage smokers to go the distance, and to finally give up smoking.

About 42 million Americans still smoke cigarettes, and tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States. As of 2013, there were also 12.4 million cigar smokers in the US, and over 2.3 million who smoke tobacco in pipes — other dangerous and addictive forms of tobacco.

By quitting — even for one day — you will be taking an important step toward a healthier life — one that can lead to reducing your cancer risk. It's a race for your health, and it starts today. Today's the day that quitters win.

[More Information](#)



## OrionNet Systems Wants Agencies to Work Smarter, Not Harder—Part 2

Along with creating additional reports for their practice management software, ThinkHealth, OrionNet Systems has been focusing their efforts on features that could help their clients capture details related to staff processes.

“With impending budget cuts from the state coming in January as mentioned in our previous article, providers should be aware of where every dollar is going and how their staff prioritizes their time,” said Clyde Wafford, president of OrionNet Systems.

Leadership from Oklahoma's budget and executive cabinet has advised that the budget outlook for the state fiscal year 2017 is grim. More detail will be provided this month during the formal public notification process, and no final decision will be made before the OHCA board meets on December 10.

[More Information](#)

### Regenerative Treatment has Promise for Traumatic Brain Injury

The awareness of traumatic brain injury (TBI) has grown quickly in the past few years because of increasing media coverage. Many stories involve veterans and athletes, who comprise a large share of the more than 2.5 million TBI cases annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Behavioral health facilities traditionally have been working on symptomatic treatments, but the future of TBI treatment will revolve around regenerative treatments for the brain and advanced care coordination, according to experts.

[More Information](#)

### Apply Coffeehouse Rules to Group Spaces

Starbucks is doing pretty well, don't you think? Bars, restaurants and other gathering places also seem to be pretty popular. All of those various venues that are crowded, loud and generally inconvenient in a lot of ways is a lesson in group dynamics.

Despite what is commonly assumed, people don't naturally descend to the most convenient, the quietest or the most comfortable. People are energized by being around other people. But the gathering places that are successful understand that there have to be rules.

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