

Bi-monthly Publication

PBM Reform Advocates Preach Optimism As Congress Delays Action

Congress is living up to its dysfunctional reputation, at least when it comes to healthcare reform.

It appears unlikely that major, bipartisan priority items — like site neutral payment and pharmacy benefit manager reform, as well as substance use disorder policies — will be included in the upcoming government funding bill March 8, news outlets have reported.

A partial government shutdown will occur March 1 without an agreement. By March 8, the Department of Health and Human Services' funding will expire. As Congressional leaders express their frustration, health-related actions are taking a backseat. [Read More Here...](#)

NABIP Members Take Concerns About Employer-Based Insurance, Health Costs To Congress

Members of the National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals are asking Congress to preserve and strengthen employer-sponsored health insurance, address the cost of health care, and keep Medicare beneficiaries' access to advisors and brokers during their annual Capitol Conference February 25 - 28, 2024 NABIP emphasized to Congress that one of the association's primary goals "is to do everything we can to promote access to affordable health insurance coverage."

Preserving the strengthening employer-sponsored coverage NABIP supports relief for employers complying with Affordable Care Act reporting requirements, stating that the requirements are burdensome and confusing for consumers and employers alike. NABIP supports The Employer Reporting Improvement Act (S. 3204) and The Paperwork Burden Reduction Act (S. 3207), saying those bills will ease the compliance reporting requirements for employers offering health insurance coverage to their employees. The bills would allow employers to substitute certain identifying information, provide a larger window of time for employers to respond to IRS letters and limit the window of time for IRS lookback for prior compliance periods in accordance with regulation. [Read More Here...](#)



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Say HELLO to a Better Choice in Health Coverage



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Cross-Plan Offsetting in Group Health Plans—The DOL Makes its Position Clear

A Step Ahead

Under Section 404 of ERISA, plan fiduciaries must act for the exclusive benefit of plan participants and beneficiaries and use plan assets only to provide benefits and defray reasonable expenses of administering the plan. In addition, Section 406 of ERISA prohibits a plan fiduciary from engaging in self-dealing. The Department of Labor (“DOL”) has taken the position that “cross-plan offsetting” practiced by insurers and other third-party administrators (together, “TPAs”) that administer self-insured and insured group health plans violates Sections 404 and 406 of ERISA. [Read More Here...](#)

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Welcome to Moda Health Plan, Inc., the place you go when you want to experience better — better people, better plans, better services and better health. Let's help you get started.



Nexus is a marketer of insurance products designed for specific niches and represents leading carriers and distribution partners on a national basis.



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With Solstice you are accessing one of the largest dental and vision networks offering the most comprehensive array of dental, vision and life plans that fit your unique requirements. Solstice also offers fully customizable Third Party Administrator services for self-funding employers to manage cost and realize unseen savings.

A promotional poster for the NABIP-TX Conference 2024. The top text reads "NABIP-TX Conference 2024". The main headline is "LAUGH, LEARN LEAD" in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the headline is a silhouette of a person speaking into a microphone, with a crowd of people in the background. At the bottom, it says "PROSPECTUS" in large white letters, followed by "Westin Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, Irving, TX" and "April 15-16, 2024" in yellow. A small NABIP logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the poster.

Register Here

Navigating The New Terrain: Employers Grapple With Health Plan Transparency and Compliance Demands

Explore the transformative effects of the CAA on health plan management for employers, from heightened disclosure requirements to opportunities for innovation and improvement.

In the ever-evolving landscape of employer-sponsored health benefits, a significant shift looms on the horizon, challenging plan sponsors to navigate a complex web of legal and regulatory requirements. At the heart of this transformation is the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA), a legislative behemoth that introduces a raft of new obligations aimed at enhancing transparency and accountability in health plans. But what does this mean for employers, and how can they adapt to these changes while minimizing risks?

[Read More Here...](#)

Pharma Companies Ask Court Not To Break Up US States' Price-Fixing Lawsuits

A group of major pharmaceutical companies want an appeals court to force Connecticut and other states to remain in a coordinated legal proceeding over generic drug pricing, arguing that allowing them to pursue their claims separately would upend years of legal work and cause delays.

Drug companies Upshur-Smith, Teva (TEVA.TA), Glenmark (GLEN.NS), and more than a dozen others in a petition, urged the Philadelphia-based 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to keep Connecticut and 45 other states a part of the antitrust litigation in Pennsylvania.

[Read More Here...](#)

Five Medicare Advantage Fixes We Can All Get Behind (Except The Health Insurance Industry, Of Course)

It's no secret I feel strongly that "Medicare Advantage for All" is not a healthy end goal for universal health care coverage in our country. But I also recognize there are many folks, across the political spectrum, who see the program as one that has some merit. And it's not going away anytime soon. To say the insurance industry has clout in Washington is an understatement.

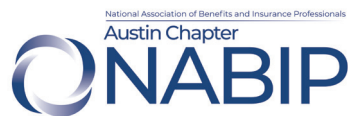
As politicians in both parties increase their scrutiny of Medicare Advantage, and the Biden administration reviews proposed reforms to the program, I think it's important to highlight common-sense, achievable changes with broad appeal that would address the many problems with MA and begin leveling the playing field with the traditional Medicare program.

[Read More Here...](#)

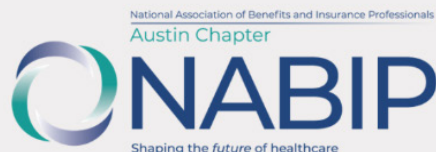


March Chapter Agendas

AUSTIN



Professional Development Day



Eclipse Your Expectations Invest in Yourself

EARN 5 CE CREDITS
KEYNOTE **MAX KARLIN** NABIP DIRECTOR, STATE AFFAIRS
FORGE NEW VENDOR PARTNERSHIPS
NETWORKING BREAKFAST & LUNCH
SPECIAL GUEST SENATOR **SARAH ECKHARDT**
EXCITING DOOR PRIZES
HAPPY HOUR AT PINHOUSE BREWING

MARRIOTT SOUTH AUSTIN
4415 S I-35 FRONTAGE RD
AUSTIN TX 78744

Registration Now Open! Visit NABIP-Austin.org for details

📅 April 04, 2024
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
[Add to Calendar](#)

📍 Marriott South Austin
4415 S I-35 Frontage Road
Austin, TX 78744

[REGISTER NOW](#)

COASTAL BEND



www.nabipcoastalbendtx.org

LONESTAR



www.lonestarahu.org

Professional Development Day

**Eclipse Your Expectations
Invest In Yourself**
April 4, 2024
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Marriott South Austin
4415 S. I-35 Frontage Road
Austin, TX 78744

\$75/\$85 Registration - Member/Guest
Starting 2/1/24 - \$85/\$100 Member/Guest

www.austinhuhu.org

March Chapter Agendas

FORT WORTH



Congrats Clifton Stubbs

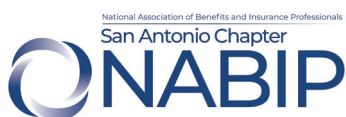
NABIP-Fort Worth 2022-2023 Donna Carnall
Recipient: Cliff!

**Education / Symposium
Come Get a Piece of the Pie
March 14, 2024**

**Derby Down
AI and HIPAA - What's the Affect?
May 9, 2024**

www.nabip-fw.org

SAN ANTONIO



**Education Workshop
May 15, 2024**

Norris Conference Center
618 NW Loop 410
Park North Shopping Center
San Antonio, TX 78216



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Meeting
Information

[Future Meetings](#)
[Previous Meetings](#)

FUTURE MEETINGS

NABIP SAN ANTONIO - EDUCATION WORKSHOP-SAVE THE DATE!

May 15, 2024

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Norris Conference Center
618 NW Loop 410 (Park North
Shopping Center)
San Antonio, TX 78216
[Venue website](#)

www.sanantonioahu.org

DALLAS



NABIP-Dallas (DAHU) Monthly Luncheons and special events will be held at VouV Dallas!

Vouv Event Space, 4445 Sigma Road,
Dallas, TX 75244
<https://vouvallas.com>



www.dahu.org

March 20, 2024 | Ethics Class plus LUNCHEON - 9:30 - 1:00

- Rusty Rice (former NABIP President) will present a 3-hour Ethics course
- "Ethics the NABIP Way" (CE # 131702)
- Lunch is included
- "The Texas Department of Insurance requires individuals with a General Lines license (life, accident, health and HMO) to complete three hours of ethics for license renewals every two years."

NABIP-Dallas (DAHU) Upcoming Dates - Details to follow

April 17, 2024 | MONTHLY LUNCHEON

May 15, 2024 | MONTHLY LUNCHEON

June 19, 2024 | MONTHLY LUNCHEON

July 17, 2024 | MONTHLY LUNCHEON

August 21, 2024 | ROCKSTAR SALES SUMMIT (Previously Medicare Summit)

EAST TEXAS



www.etahu.org

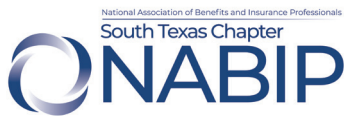
« March 2024 »

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12 Monthly Board Meeting	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19 NABIP Houston March Luncheon	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31			www.nabip-htx.org				



**If You Cannot
Do Big Things,
Do Small Things
In A Great Way**

SOUTH TEXAS



Membership Mix - Top Golf
Phar, TX - March 21, 2024

Day of Education - 5HR CE
MAY 2, 2014

TOPICS: GROUP & ETHICS

www.nabipsotx.org

NABIP-SOTX
Day of Education

5-HR CE Credit

AGENDA

Casa De Palmas

101 N. Main - McAllen, TX 78504 - 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Class 101

Gap Insurance:
Bridging the High
Cost of Medical
Claims

Presenter:
Joe Brining
of Pro Med Defender

Course: 135607
1 HR CE Credit

Class 201

Ethics

This class will be taught in
both English & Spanish

Ethics vs Morals,
You Decide
Presenter:
Ren Byrd

Ética vs Moral,
Tu decides
Presentador:
Hector Gracia

Course: 71322
1 HR CE Credit

Class 301

TBA

Class 401

TBA

Class 501

TBA

Where To Stay and Eat

We have a room block at **Casa De Palmas** (Collection by Wyndham) of \$99 per night. This is a historic hotel in the RGV.

There are great restaurants near by for those spending the night.

We suggest for fine dining, The Salt
210 N. Main - McAllen

For Casual dining, try Roosevelt's at 7,
821 N. Main - McAllen

Food Truck dining is also near by.

Hotel RSVP can be made at: 956-928-1994
Use code: SOTX

Our Shcedule

1:00 - Registration Opens

1:20 - Welcome - from President Iris Castillo

◆ 1:30 - Class 101 - Bridging the High Cost of Medical Claims
2:30 - Class 201 - Ethics in both English and Spanish

(The English class will be in a breakout room)

◆ 3:20 - Break Time With Exhibitors

4:00 - Class 301

◆ 5:00 - Class 401

5:50 - Heavy Hors D' Oeuvres Arrive

6:10 - Class 501

◆ 7:00 - Class Dismissed and Happy Hour Begins