



Risk Management Filter

OPTIMA HEALTHCARE INSURANCE SERVICES

December 2025

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OPTIMA EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Webinar:

["MICRA Amendments - What is Coming Your Way..."](#)

December 11, 2025 @ 10:00 – 11:00 am (Pacific Time)

[Optima 2025 Education Calendar](#)

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ADMINISTRATION

Embracing the Inevitable: Succession Planning for Rural Healthcare Organizations (Rural Health Information Hub, September 11, 2024)

Leadership turnover is inevitable at any organization, but the effects may be more pronounced in rural areas. [Read more...](#)

COMMUNICATION

Turns out Conversations in Healthcare Already had the Answers (Becker's Health, November 3, 2025)

The most underestimated innovation in healthcare? Listening - deeply, at scale, and with respect for every piece of feedback. [Read more...](#)

CYBERSECURITY

More Healthcare Platforms, More Data, and More Cybersecurity Risk (Guidehouse, October 3, 2025)

With more platforms, data, and digital tools in play, the risk landscape has grown increasingly complex, demanding increased vigilance and stronger defenses. Industry leaders discuss risks that healthcare leaders must keep top of mind. [Read more...](#)

Where Hospital Cyber Defenses Fall Short (Becker's Health, October 17, 2025)

Cyberattacks on hospitals are becoming more frequent, more sophisticated and more disruptive, and clinical leaders need to play a more active role in addressing them. [Read more...](#)

HIPAA

HIPAA Social Media Guidelines (the HIPAA Journal)

With over a billion people on social networks and professional blogs, HIPAA violations are on the rise and are raising major concerns among medical practices. This updated article includes information addressing HIPAA and social media FAQs, how to avoid HIPAA violations, examples of HIPAA violations on social media, and a HIPAA compliance checklist. [Read more...](#)

What is Considered PHI Under HIPAA (the HIPAA Journal, Updated 2025)

Protected health information (PHI) is defined as different things by different sources. This updated article aims to provide you with the full and correct definition of PHI, HIPAA rules as found in the [Code of Federal Regulations](#) and includes a HIPAA compliance checklist (for download) [Read more...](#)

Social Media: A HIPAA Danger Zone, published by the University of Rochester Medical Center, includes common violations and “real world” examples of HIPAA violations on social media. [Read more...](#)

MEDICATION SAFETY

CMS Launches Pilot to Lower Medicaid Drug Costs: 8 Things to Know (Becker’s Hospital Review November 6, 2025)

CMS is launching a pilot program, [the GENEROUS \(GENERATING cost Reductions for U.S. Medicaid Model\)](#) in January 2026 aimed at lowering prescription drug costs in Medicaid by aligning prices with those paid in other developed countries. [Read more...](#)

PATIENT SAFETY

Patient Safety and Nurse Turnover Rates (The Sullivan Group)

The ongoing shortage of nursing professionals is a growing global crisis that significantly impacts patient safety, particularly in emergency departments (ED’s) (and other high-risk areas), as there are not many nurses still working who have more than a few years of experience. [Read more...](#)

PEDIATRICS

A New First-Line Option for Pediatric ITP-Incremental Progress or Paradigm Shift? (Journal of the American Medical Association, October 22, 2025)

Immune thrombocytopenia is a classic childhood disease all pediatricians should be aware of. [Read more...](#)

PERINATAL SERVICES

NEW! Now Enrolling: 2026 Obstetric Sepsis Implementation Sprint (California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative)

Obstetric sepsis is now the second-leading cause of maternal mortality. California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) and Stanford School of Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN) are pleased to offer a quality improvement opportunity for obstetric sepsis care, comprising three working sessions and a final review meeting over four months in early 2026. For enrollment information [Click here...](#)

She Drove a Hundred Miles to Give Birth. New California Laws are Bringing Maternity Care Closer to Home (CalMatters News, November 12, 2025)

Three years after closing its maternity ward, a new state law will help a rural Northern California hospital bring birth services back to the community. [Read more...](#)

TECHNOLOGY**Securing the Brain Behind the System: Why AI Governance Is the Next Frontier in Patient Safety (Patient Safety and Quality Insider, November 18, 2025)**

As AI becomes central to diagnostics, workflows, and patient engagement, securing the models themselves must become a pillar of patient safety and quality assurance. [Read more...](#)

Top of the Class: How Clinical-Grade AI Is Making Medication Management Smarter (Dr First, August 18, 2025)

Not all AI is created equal. Clinical-grade AI is designed specifically for healthcare, trained on real-world prescription data, and validated by doctors and pharmacists. It acts as a co-pilot, optimizing the medication management journey from prescribing to adherence.

[Read more...](#)

TELEHEALTH**Nine Health Systems Show Telehealth Replaces, Not Adds, Medicare Visits (American Telemedicine Association, November 24, 2025).**

Real world Medicare data reveals telehealth's substitutive role in patient care, inviting federal review.

[Read more...](#)

Telehealth FAQ Calendar Year 2026 (CMS.gov, Updated November 14, 2025)

CMS has released updated telehealth guidance following the end of the 43-day government shutdown.

[Read more...](#)

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE**Workplace Violence Bill Passes Oregon House & Senate, Heads to Governor (Oregon Nurses Association, June 26, 2025)**

The Oregon Legislative Assembly passed groundbreaking workplace violence legislation aimed at keeping frontline healthcare workers safe in hospitals, and home health and hospice settings across Oregon. [Senate Bill 537 B \(SB 537\)](#). [Read more...](#)

Toward a Safer World by 2040 (The Journal of the American Medical Association, November 3, 2025.)

The JAMA Summit on Firearm Violence convened 60 thought leaders from a wide array of disciplines to chart an innovations roadmap that will lead to substantial reductions in firearm harms by 2040.

[Read more...](#)

Risk Management Filter is a publication of Optima Healthcare Insurance Services, Inc.'s risk management department. The information is intended to provide general guidelines for risk management. It is not intended and should not be construed as legal or medical advice. Links are provided solely as a convenience and for informational purposes. Optima Risk Management bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of external sites or for that of subsequent links. Contact external sites for questions or concerns regarding content.

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<p><u>Doctors in Distress: Physician Defendant Support and Education</u> Webinar- January 16 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Gita Pensa, Doctors in Litigation</p>	<p><u>The Perfect Storm: Mental Health Patients Meet the Emergency Room</u> Webinar – February 20 @10 am – 11am (Pacific Time) Monica Cooke, Quality Plus Solutions</p>	<p><u>Communication and Resolution Programs: A Quality and Patient Safety Imperative</u> Webinar – March 20 @10 am – 11am (Pacific Time) Thomas Gallagher, UW Medicine</p>
Lessons Learned	BSL- EPL Managing Pregnancy- Related Leaves	CHI Risk Manager's Virtual Huddle- March 6 th @ 10 am
APRIL	MAY	JUNE
<p><u>AI in Healthcare: Opportunities, Risks and the Road to Trust</u> Webinar – April 24 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Raj Ratwani, MedStar Health</p>	<p><u>Reignite the Patient Experience- Fully Staffed</u> Webinar - May 15 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Brian Lee, Custom Learning Systems</p>	<p><u>Creating a Culture of Safety in the Operating Room</u> Webinar – June 12 @10 am – 11am (Pacific Time) David Feldman, Candello</p>
	BSL- EPL Managing DEI Initiatives Within the Law	CHI Risk Manager's Virtual Huddle- June 19 th @ 10 am
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
<p><u>Leverage a Maverick Mentality to Successfully Defend Elder Abuse Claims</u> Webinar – July 10 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Cari Toneck</p>	<p><u>ISMP Targeted Medication Safety Best Practices</u> Webinar- August 21 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Rita Jew, ISMP</p>	<p><u>Defending Obstetric Cases: Managing Medical and Legal Risks for the Best Outcomes</u> Webinar – September 18 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Brant Poling, Christine Ringler, and Olga Kats-Chalfant</p>
Lessons Learned- EPL	BSL-EPL Managing Generational Differences Among Staff	CHI Risk Manager's Virtual Huddle- Sept 25 th @ 10 am
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
<p><u>Generations in the Workplace</u> Webinar- October 30 @ 10 am – 11 am (Pacific Time) Jean Twenge, San Diego State University</p>	<p><u>Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention: Protecting Patients, Your Team, and the Organization</u> Webinar – November 20 @ 10 – 11 am (Pacific Time) Josh Hyatt, Praesidium</p>	<p>MICRA Amendments – What is Coming Your Way... Webinar – December 11 @ 10 – 11 am (Pacific Time) Kenny Pedroza, Cole Pedroza LLP</p>
Lessons Learned- HPL	BSL- EPL Managing Complaints of Bullying Behavior	CHI Risk Managers' Virtual Huddle- December 4 th @ 10 am

BSL is Bite Size Learning = Quarterly 30 minute EPL risk mitigation lessons learned recordings presented by Shaw Law Group

* Please refer to the education calendar posted on our website <https://rm.optimahealthcare.com> for the most up-to-date information.