NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 28, 2016
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COALITION’S JOINT VENTURE AIMS TO PUT SPRING IN STEP OF STATE’S EMPLOYERS

Albuquerque, N.M. – New Mexico employers concerned about putting the spring back into an employee’s step and their own business operations following joint replacement surgery should plan on attending a joint venture aimed at improving the quality and decreasing the cost of knee and hip replacements in New Mexico sponsored by the New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value.

The educational seminar will be held Friday, July 15, 2016 at the Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. Registration is now underway on line at www.healthcarevalue.org and space is limited. The cost of the morning seminar for New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value members is $30 or $225 per table. The cost for nonmembers is $60 per person or $425 per table. A Continental breakfast is included in the price.

“The education seminar, the second the Coalition has sponsored this year, is a big step to have employers learn more about what is happening in the healthcare transformation space of hip and knee replacements,” Mark Saiz, Coalition chair, said. “Currently, Lovelace, Presbyterian and University of New Mexico hospitals are participating in a Medicare initiative with over 500 hospitals across the country that results in rewards for hospitals that meet quality, cost, and value goals.”

Hospital leaders and practicing physicians will discuss how they are going about implementing a new initiative which launched April 1, 2016. They will also be available to answer questions about their individual hospital’s progress in value-based reimbursement.

“Making hospitals accountable for quality and cost for complete care episodes represents a stepping stone toward broader accountability,” Saiz said.

He said the latest data shows that in 2014 more than 400,000 hip and knee replacement procedures were performed, costing more than $7 billion just for hospitalization.

“Under the new program, hospitals are challenged to pay greater attention to managing quality and cost,” he said. “This is both an exciting and challenging time as healthcare providers work to reduce costs, increase transparency, and demonstrate greater value to patients, payers and employers. It’s the future and will greatly influence costs for New Mexico’s employers.”

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The New Mexico Coalition for Healthcare Value -- Better Care, Smarter Spending and Healthier People.