

NY Chapter 3 News

Official E-Newsletter of NY Chapter 3, AAP: Spring 2010

Pediatric Council Report

The active members of the Pediatric Council are George Dunkel, AAP District II Executive Director, and Drs. Andy Racine, AAP NY Chapter 3 President, Steve Goldstein, Stuart Beeber, Richard Ancona and Evelyn Ha.

Meeting with Emblem

The Pediatric Council had a productive meeting with Emblem Health in January. The Council met with Emblem Senior Medical Director, Lorna Friedman, MD, Medical Director, Eliza Ng, MD, and several of Emblem's provider relations staff.

Dr. Racine opened the meeting with introductions and thanked Emblem for meeting with the AAP. He informed Emblem that there were several members of the Pediatric Council who were not very satisfied with Emblem; therefore, there were fewer attendees than usual. Dr. Racine thanked Emblem for their payment of the 96110 codes, and noted that the AAP and the State of New York had new requirements for Pediatricians in regard to "Bright Futures" and the new law requiring Autism screening.

The Pediatric Council's discussion with Emblem identified several areas that Emblem needs to improve including:

- Immunization Administration Fees – Emblem needs to address their policy for immunization administration fees. There is a claims corner portion of Emblem's website that may be helpful to Pediatricians.
- Well Child Visits – The Council proposed that Emblem allow a well child visit each calendar year as opposed to one per twelve months. This could alleviate many problems surrounding summer camp and sports physicals. Dr. Friedman and Dr. Ng will look into the flexibility of allowing this by checking with policy and clinical department's as well as IT
- EOB's – Emblem's EOB's are often confusing. Dr. Ancona gave an example of a 10 page EOB from Emblem that had no real substantive information on it. Dr. Friedman mentioned that they are looking into a re-design of the Emblem EOB's.