

# ECS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The latest in ECS News, Technology, & Company Updates



# APRIL 2021



#### In This Issue



#### What's Covered?

#### **Webinar Dates:**

- -What's New in the Spring Update (Clinical): Tuesday, April 13th (1:00pm- 2:00pm CST)
- -What's New in the Spring Update (Financial): Wednesday, April 14th (1:00pm- 2:00pm CST)

# ECS Updates/ Industry News:

- -COVID Vaccine Announcement
- -Electronic Sign
- Enhancements
- -New Training Videos
- -Medi-Span GPI Changes
- -ECS Tip of the Month

Patient Experience Week (PXWeek): April 27th - May 1st, 2021

Featured Facility: Submit your facility!

**Deficiency-Free Surveys:** *Share your Success!* 

"Like" us on Facebook



#### A Farewell and a Welcome Back

It is always a sad/happy day when an employee of many years moves on with their career in life. Jeri Esser has been with American Data for 16 years and willingly served in many positions, most recently in the financial support department. Often clients would

write a review of her work with them...always in the positive. For the past couple of years, Jeri has been working on the side to get a degree in IT and with this accomplishment, she is making the transition to a new IT supervisory position close to her home. We are sad she is leaving our family at American Data, but happy for her in her new sought after career.

Like all businesses, the service must go on and we welcome back Rachel Schraufnagel to fill Jeri's position. Rachel was with American Data from 2008 to 2014 in the financial support department and has a strong background and experience in General Ledger (GL), Accounts Payable (AP), and of course, our own AR system. Although over the past three months we have already been



enhancing all of our financial modules (AR, GL, & AP), the GL and AP will be even further enhanced this spring with the help of our returning employee. Our upcoming marketing efforts will highlight American Data has the only STRONG clinical AND financial solution for long-term care (LTC). Thus, the common saying LTC software vendors are either strong on one side OR the other, will no longer be true. Welcome back, Rachel.

For more information on the enhancements to come or how to get your facility set up with American Data's AR system, reach out to financial@american-data.com to get started.

**CONTACT US** 

# Upcoming Webinars



# What's New in the Spring Update- Clinical

**Session Date:** Tuesday, April 13th (1:00pm-2:00pm CST)

**SIGN UP TODAY** 



#### What's New in the Spring Update- Financial

Session Date: Wednesday, April 14th (1:00pm- 2:00pm CST)

**SIGN UP TODAY** 

## ECS Updates and Industry News





**COVID VACCINE** 

ANNOUNCEMENT

#### **COVID-19 Vaccination Announcement**

Effective **March 15, 2021**, the Medicare reimbursement rate for the COVID-19 vaccine administration has increased. Please refer to the <u>CMS website</u> for specific rate amounts and further details. Prepare to update your facility's rates in ECS **prior** to billing for the month of March. For further assistance, contact <u>financial@american-data.com</u>.

In addition to the rate change, there has been the approval of a new COVID vaccine by Johnson and Johnson. If your facility will be affected by the approval of any new manufacturers, please reach out to us at <a href="mailto:clinical@american-data.com">clinical@american-data.com</a> so we can update your Immunization topic. These setups will be billable and are estimated to take 15 mins to add each additional manufacturer.

**CONTACT US** 



# **New This Month: Training Videos Added**

There have been an array of new training videos posted to our Client Sign On to the Past Webinars, Clinical, and Financial categories! Our training videos give in-depth, visual examples of their topics so you can easily follow along. Corresponding handouts are available for download under each video to keep for a reference. Log onto the Client Sign On and watch today!

- <u>Demonstration of the New Nursing</u>
   <u>Module</u>
- **Dietary Department**
- ECS Mobile
- <u>Diagnosis Entry, Editing, and</u> <u>Reports</u>
- Pharmacy Consultant
- Tasks For Days
- Chart a Fall or Incident Report
- Chart a Medicare Note
- Using the Nursing To-Do List
- Chart an Admissions Assessment

**EXPLORE VIDEOS** 



# **Electronic Sign Enhancements**

The Electronic sign will be getting a new look in the next ECS version 10.1.5.0 update! This will influence how allergies, side effects, buttons, and other elements appear in the Electronic Sign. For a full list of enhancements and a sneak peek at the new look, download the document below for reference.



# **Medi-Span Announces GPI Changes**

According to a technical bulletin sent from Medi-Span, several drugs are being re-categorized with a new Generic Product Identifier (GPI) to provide a positive impact to the drug formulary. GPIs are utilized to assist in matching a medication if sent via a Script pharmacy interface, as well as when completing drug contraindications. If your facility does not utilize a Script pharmacy interface, drug contraindications, or have any orders containing a medication in the list provided, then no changes are needed. However, if you do look through the table and find any of those medications on your resident records, these will need to be updated so they include the new GPI. Although there are 195 medications on the list, it appears many are not commonly used. So we are anticipating minimal changes needed, if any.

The GPIs are being updated as of the file pushed out on April 7, 2021. Our clients can begin to re-write any affected orders on April 12, 2021. Orders will need to be discontinued and entered from scratch to pick up the correct GPI.

Please reference the <u>Medi-Span Spring 2021 GPI Changes</u> spreadsheet or click the "Get Document" button below for the list of medications being changed. In this spreadsheet, we list the old GPI, new GPI, and drug name. Keep in mind, this will only affect medications written **prior to April 7, 2021**. If any medications on the list are written after this date, they will automatically have the updated GPI attached.

For any additional questions regarding this change, please contact our clinical department at <a href="mailto:clinical@american-data.com">clinical@american-data.com</a>.

**GET DOCUMENT** 

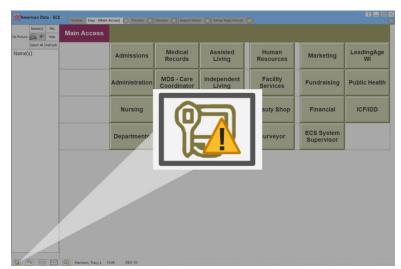
# **ECS Tip of the Month**



Each month staff at American Data share lesser-known features of ECS to help the charting and billing process go smoothly.

## **Closing ECS and Refreshing Connectivity**

To keep things running in tip top shape, close ECS on your device when you leave for the day, and make sure med carts and nursing stations close at least once per day as well.



Depending on your power settings, your devices may disconnect from servers and networks to conserve energy when they go to 'sleep.' Closing ECS and reopening it, will refresh these connections and keep things running smoothly.

**LEARN MORE** 

Have an area of ECS you would like to learn more about? Let us know and we will cover it in future Newsletters.

**CONTACT US** 

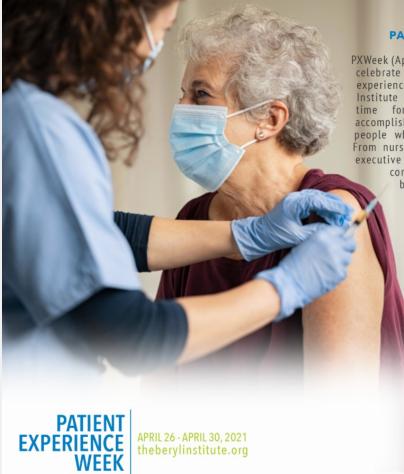
#### You & Your Residents



#### Be featured in the Newsletter!

YOUR Facility could be in next month's
Newsletter as American Data's Featured Facility!
Submit a group photo of members of your staff
via Facebook Messenger or email us at
cares@american-data.com with your facility's
name, location, and a short blurb to be the
feature photo at the top of the next Monthly
Newsletter.

Your facilities are the reason American Data thrives, and we want to recognize that.



#### PATIENT EXPERIENCE WEEK

PXWeek (April 26th-April 30th) is an annual event to celebrate healthcare staff impacting patient experience everyday. Inspired by members of the Institute community, PX Week provides a focused time for organizations to celebrate thier accomplishments, re-energize efforts and honor the people who impact patient experience everyday. From nurses and physicians, to support staff and executive professionals, to patients, families and communities served, the Institute hopes to

bring together healthcare organizations across the globe to observe PX Week.

#### **PARTICIPATION**

By supporting Patient Experience Week, you are showing your employees that you appreciate their hard work and encourage their continued efforts on behalf of patients. This week is a great way to enhance patient and staff relations, increase hospital morale and improve communication.

#### **RESOURCES**

The Beryl Institute is pleased to provide materials and free resources to help you make Patient Experience Week a success in your facility. Click Here to view a list of resources and ways to acknowledge PXWeek on the Beryl Institute website.

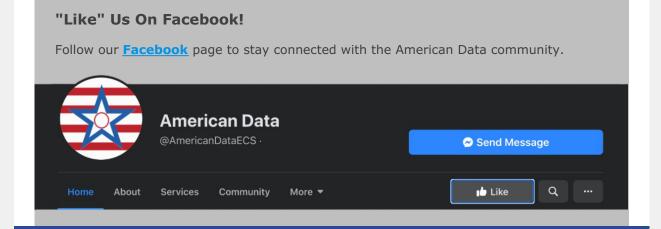
## **Deficiency-Free Survey Awards**



#### Did your facility receive a Survey? Let us know!

Please let us know of your facility's Deficiency-Free Survey and/or Most Improved Survey so we can share your successes! Send an email to <a href="mailto:cares@american-data.com">cares@american-data.com</a>.

**SHARE YOUR SUCCESS** 



# American Data After-Hours Support

#### **Regular Business Hours:**

Monday- Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm Saturday & Sunday: Closed

For immediate assistance after regular business hours, call 1-608-438-7505.

# Stay Connected to American Data!







Follow our social media accounts to get the latest information on software updates, reminders, and company news!

American Data | http://www.american-data.com | 1-800-464-9942