



e-News for August 6, 2010

Academy News

Deadline Approaching!

Send your nominations for IAFP Board of Directors

The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians seeks members interested in serving on its board of directors. The IAFP Leadership Development Committee (LDC), chaired by Steven Knight, MD of Harrisburg, will review all nominations and prepare a ballot for voting. The ballot will include up to five candidates for the three 2013 Board of Director positions (three-year term), and there will be up to two candidates for each of the following positions: New Physician (two-year term), 2nd Vice President (1-year term) and 1st Vice President (1-year term). If more candidates are received than the allotted number, the LDC will make decisions for the final ballot.

Voting will be conducted electronically, enabling any active member to learn about each candidate and vote with a few clicks of the mouse.

Nominations are accepted until August 20. Only active members of the IAFP/AAFP in good standing may run for a board position. Please send your letter of nomination and CV to Vince Keenan by e-mail vkeen@iafp.com. Questions about board positions may also be directed to Vince.

SAVE THE DATE – IAFP Annual Meeting

December 3-4 in St. Louis, Mo. *Details to follow soon!*

Election results and the All-Member Assembly

FP of the Year and Teachers of the Year awards banquet

CME will include the “best of” the IAFP June 25-26 PCMH Conference

Congratulations to Illinois AAFP’s latest national honoree

Lee B. Sacks, MD has been named the 2010 AAFP Robert Graham Physician Executive of the Year. Dr. Sacks was nominated by the IAFP for his leadership in clinical excellence as chief medical officer of Advocate Health Care and his ongoing dedication to the principles of family medicine. He will receive the award at the AAFP Congress of Delegates on September 28 in Denver. IAFP member Susan Nagele, MD will also receive a national honor when she accepts her AAFP Humanitarian Award. Dr. Nagele was nominated by IAFP and selected for the award in 2009, but an unexpected illness prevented her from accepting the award in Boston last year. Read more about her at <http://www.iafp.com/pdfs/presidentsAward.pdf>.

IAFP submits Comments to URAC on proposed medical home criteria

IAFP’s comments on the URAC medical home criteria were submitted on August 3. URAC is an independent, nonprofit organization, well-known as a leader in promoting health care quality through its accreditation and certification programs. Three members served on the URAC patient centered health care home education and evaluation development committee: Stan Borg, DO; Margaret Kirkegaard, MD, and Donald Lurye, MD.

Dr. Mayank Shah, IAFP PCMH committee chair, appointed a subcommittee of those three members along with Carrie Nelson, MD and Gary Wainer, DO, to review the documents and offer comments to be compiled into IAFP's officially submitted comments, which were also shared with AAFP. AAFP reported back that they were pleased with the IAFP comments and would work them into their final comments to URAC as well. IAFP has been quite successful in responding to the myriad of possibilities in primary care and medical homes. The work done by this subcommittee is another testament to the power of our volunteers.

IAFP member needed to fill opening on Illinois EMSC Advisory Board

IAFP supports the Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program and has a seat on their advisory board. The IAFP member position on this board is currently open and in need of a new family physician.

Illinois EMSC is a collaborative program between the Illinois Department of Public Health and Loyola University Medical Center, aimed at improving pediatric emergency care within Illinois. The goal of Illinois EMSC is to ensure that appropriate emergency medical care is available for ill and injured children at every point along the continuum of care.

The Advisory Board guides and provides oversight to the IL EMSC's endeavor to improve outcomes in the critically ill and injured child by enhancing pediatric emergency care capabilities and promoting pediatric illness/injury prevention initiatives within Illinois. The Board is composed of representatives from professional health care organizations, child advocate organizations, community service agencies and others vested in the care of children.

More information on EMSC and the Advisory Board can be found at <http://www.luhs.org/depts/emsc/>. If you are interested in this board position or know of a colleague who would be a good fit, please contact Vince Keenan, CAE, IAFP executive vice president, at vkeen@iafp.com.

Foundation News



Foundation's fifth annual fundraiser – fun and fireworks!

Thanks to the 160 baseball fans who cheered on the White Sox at the 5th annual Foundation Home Run for Healthy Families Night at the White Sox game on July 29th. We had wonderful weather, fantastic fans, fireworks for the four White Sox home runs and a 9-5 White Sox win!

We raised over \$2,500 for the Family Health Foundation of Illinois! Special thanks to our heavy hitter for the night – IAFP new physician board member **Ravi Shah, MD** of Chicago brought 31 fans to the game!

Federal Government Relations

IAFP member and AAFP president-elect testify before House committee on HITECH Act.

Matt Winkleman, MD of Harrisburg appeared before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health to offer testimony on the effect of the HITECH Act and Incentive funding on small practices. Winkleman and AAFP president-elect Roland Goertz, MD of Texas both offered testimony on the benefits of having an electronic health record and specific

recommendations on how small to medium rural practice should be helped to achieve meaningful use standards. Read his testimony here. <http://www.iafp.com/legislative/winkleman.pdf>.

FMAP update

The FMAP extension language has been amended to a FAA reauthorization bill. The bill cleared the first Senate hurdle, avoiding a Republican filibuster by a 61-38 vote on August 4. The Medicaid funding had already passed the House attached to a bill that was not accepted by the Senate. The Senate bill cleared the chamber on Thursday, Aug. 5th, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced she will call the House back to Washington next week to pass the new Senate bill and get it to President Obama for his signature. Illinois is expected to receive about \$750 million from the aid package. Because the state's FY 2011 budget was predicated on that funding match lasting through the entire fiscal year, this keeps the state's Medicaid budget on track and will help keep payments flowing to providers.

Illinois AFP, along with other state chapters and state physician organizations sent their Congressional delegations strong letters urging immediate action to extend the enhanced FMAP rates beyond December 31. Many state budgets, including Illinois, rely on that funding for their fiscal year which ends June 30, 2011. You can read the letter at <http://www.iafp.com/legislative/Durbin.pdf>.

AAFP presents webinar for members on Meaningful Use

To help family physicians and others sort out what is meant by "meaningful use," the AAFP is presenting a webinar on Aug. 19. The "2010 Understanding the Meaning of Meaningful Use" webinar will be 90 minutes in length and will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. CDT. The cost to attend the webinar is \$10 for members.

You can register via www.centerforhit.org/meaningfuluse dedicated to helping members understand new health information technology, or health IT, regulations. Webinar hosts will be Steven Waldren, M.D., director of the AAFP's Center for Health IT, and Jason Mitchell, M.D., the center's assistant director. **Registration is limited to 500 participants.**

GAO to survey physicians on Medicaid and CHIP – give them input!

This summer, the US Government Accountability Office (GAO), a research arm of Congress, is conducting a national survey of primary and specialty physicians regarding their participation in Medicaid and CHIP programs. The survey will be mailed to a random sample of physicians, including family physicians. Please respond if you receive this survey in the mail since the results will be included in a report to Congress. They need to hear from the family physicians that care for these patients! Questions can be directed to Robin Richardson, AAFP State Government Affairs Analyst at rrichardson@aafp.org.

State Government Relations

Governor issues Amendatory Vetoes

One of Gov. Pat Quinn's vetoes issued on July 30th addressed a bill that IAFP had opposed during the spring session. IAFP, along with ICAAP **opposed HB6065** and submitted letters to the Governor asking for his amendatory veto. In our letter, the most significant concern with HB 6065 is that it allows lay volunteers to administer insulin to diabetics during school hours. A decimal point error could result in a patient receiving an incorrect, and potentially harmful, dose. Licensed nurses are specifically trained in the administration of powerful medicines such as insulin. Lay volunteers with limited experience cannot duplicate this level of assurance. In essence, the amendatory veto delays the effective date to allow more time for all parties to resolve the issue in a comprehensive, rather than piecemeal manner. Now, the legislation returns to the House and Senate in Veto session.

CME Information

Radon Risk and Your Patients: Half day workshop in Springfield Sept. 25 3.5 AMA Category1 CME credits

Do you know that radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers? This conference is a chance to learn more about radon and how to communicate the risk to your patients. Sponsored by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, SIU School of Medicine Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU, American Lung Association in Illinois, SIUE School of Nursing and Illinois Environmental Health Association is offering a half day medical conference titled, *Radon Risk & Your Patients* at the Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU School of Medicine.

Link to more information and a registration form at

<http://www.siumed.edu/cme/pdf/Radon92410.pdf>

Questions? Contact Cindy Ladage at 217-785-9889 or cindy.ladage@illinois.gov



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Pri-Med Midwest - October 13-16, 2010

Annual 4-day conference and exhibition featuring Pre-Conference Symposia Day, *Current Clinical Issues in Primary Care* presented by Harvard Medical School & Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Practice Solutions, independent, non-Harvard Medical School accredited educational symposia, and a dynamic Exhibit Hall.

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News You Can Use

Teleconference from CMS on Meaningful Use

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will host a national provider call addressing the specifics of the Medicare and Medicaid EHR incentive programs for Eligible Professionals.

This FREE session will help you learn the details of the programs that specifically pertain to you – eligibility, payment, what you need to register, timeline, and meaningful use reporting.

Date: **August 10, 2010** Time: **1:00 -2:30 p.m. CT**

Conference Title: **Medicare & Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Specifics for Eligible Professionals Conference Call**

Hear from the experts who wrote the rules!

In order to receive the call-in information, you must register for the call. This registration is solely to reserve a phone line, NOT to allow participation. **Registration will close at 12:30 p.m. CT on August 10, 2010**, or when available space has been filled. No exceptions will be made, so please be sure to register prior to this time.

To register for the call participants need to go to:
<http://www.eventsvc.com/palmettogba/081010>

Fill in all required data and verify that your time zone is displayed correctly in the drop down box. Then click "Register". You will be taken to the "Thank you for registering" page and will receive a confirmation email shortly thereafter. **Note:** Please print and save this page, in the event that your server blocks the confirmation emails. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please check your spam/junk mail filter as it may have been directed there.

Campaign for Better Health Care hosts education forums on reform

Know someone who wants to learn more about the new health care law?

Below are *more than a dozen* HCJC-sponsored forums leading up to Sept 23, one of the law's key effective dates.

- > Aug 19 (Thurs), morning - City of Chicago, north side
- > Aug 26 (Thurs), evening - Downers Grove
- > Aug 31 (Tues), evening - Western Springs
- > Sept 2 (Thurs), evening - Bloomington/Normal
- > Sept 8 (Wed), evening - Peoria
- > Sept 9 (Thurs), evening - Champaign
- > Sept 9 (Thurs), evening - Chicago's far western suburbs
- > Sept 14 (Tues), morning - Springfield
- > Sept 15 (Wed), afternoon - Rock Island
- > Sept 16 (Thurs), evening - La Grange
- > Sept 22 (Wed), afternoon - Rock Island
- > Sept 23 (Thurs) - Major provisions of the law take effect - *Special HCJC events statewide*
- > Plus, more forums in the works

For details and to sign up, click [here](http://www.cbhconline.org/action/educational-forums/) <http://www.cbhconline.org/action/educational-forums/>. **RSVP required.** The forums will discuss how the new law impacts seniors, small businesses, providers, children, Medicaid, persons with disabilities, and consumers in general.

Repeat Items

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Federal government unveils consumer resource for health care

The Department of Health and Human Services has announced a great new resource with the launch of www.healthcare.gov. Use this easy IAFP Print-and-Post flyer that you can place in waiting and exam rooms. <http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/healthcare.pdf>

IAFP member is aspirin study investigator – seeking Chicago area patients

Researchers from Rush University Medical Center, including IAFP member Dr. Raj Shah, are partnering with colleagues from across the U.S. and Australia in the largest international trial ever sponsored by the National Institute on Aging (NIA). The Aspirin in Reducing Events in the Elderly (ASPREE) study aims to assess whether aspirin can not only prolong life, but a life free of physical disability and/ or dementia for healthy older people.

The ASPREE study, for the first time, will determine whether the potential benefits of low dose aspirin outweigh the risks specifically for people age 70 and over. The ASPREE study will enroll 6,500 healthy individuals age 70 and over in the U.S. Approximately 800 of those participants will come from the Chicago metropolitan area. All eligible participants will be randomly assigned to take either low dose aspirin or placebo daily for about five years.

Participants will receive initial measurements on specific health markers, as well as functional and cognitive ability, and changes in these will be monitored throughout the study. If you have any interested patients in your practice, they can e-mail [RADC Clinical Trials@rush.edu](mailto:RADC_Clinical_Trials@rush.edu).

AAFP seeks 50 practices for Smoking Cessation Pilot

The AAFP is recruiting 50 family medicine practices for a pilot project that will train Office Champions to implement system changes that integrate tobacco cessation activities into daily office routines. The program will educate Office Champions through an online training module, live teleconferences, and a practice manual. The Office Champions will be required to submit an implementation plan to the AAFP and track and report results.

Practices that complete the program will receive \$3,500 to cover administrative costs, plus a recognition kit with materials to be used to communicate their success, including a press release, certificates, posters, an article for patient newsletters, and electronic “Tobacco Treatment Excellence” logos. Participating offices will also be recognized in an advertisement in *American Family Physician*, in materials distributed at the AAFP Scientific Assembly, and on the AAFP web site.

The deadline to apply is August 16, 2010. Participating sites will be announced in September, and project implementation and evaluation will take place from October 2010 through May 2011.

Apply and get more information at www.askandact.org/officechampion
This project is supported by Pfizer Inc.

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION CONFERENCE “Lead Poisoning Prevention - Pregnancy Through Preschool”

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (conference sign-in will begin at 8:30 a.m.)

Cicero Community Building 2250 S. 49th Ave. Cicero, IL 60804

This conference is designed to assist primary care pediatricians, obstetricians and other professional nursing and medical personnel in understanding the risk of exposure to lead and subsequent health effects of lead poisoning.

This conference is FREE and registration is first come, first served, and may be done online at www.idph.state.il.us/training.htm. For questions regarding online registration, contact Vicky Ritz at 217-785-4475 or vicky.ritz@illinois.gov. Space is limited. Early registration is recommended.

Free parking is available adjacent to the Community Center.

AAFP Connect for Reform is now *Connect for Family Medicine*

While we hope that the health reform legislation is a good step forward in improving health care in this country, there are several [issues of concern to Family Medicine](#) that are subject to either legislative or regulatory action. As a member of AAFP's Connect for Family Medicine, you'll be informed and provided opportunities to take action.

Stay tuned to Connect for Family Medicine for the latest developments on issues important to family medicine. Check it out at <http://blogs.aafp.org/cfr/connect4reform/>

Members in the news

E-mail Ginnie Flynn at gflynn@iafp.com to share your media clips or to request a copy of any items listed below.

Board member **Chinni Pulluru, MD** of Naperville has been appointed to the Will County Board of Health.

Matt Hunsaker, MD of Dixon penned an op-ed in the July 23rd *Sauk Valley News* praising the upcoming "Last Time" event showcasing U.S. war aviation history as a tremendous celebration of history and boon to the Rock River economy. Hunsaker is an aviation medical examiner and aviation enthusiast

UICOM-Peoria program director **Tom Golemon, MD** and resident **Roxie Oliver, MD** were interviewed in a *Peoria Journal-Star* story about the ACGME-mandated reduction in on-call hours from 24 to 16 for first-year residents, still within the maximum 80-hour work week.

Kori Feldman, MD of La Grange authored an excellent patient education column for parents about choosing the right backpack and weight for their children going back to school. The column appeared in the *Oak Leaves* and *Hinsdale Doings* newspapers, as well as the *Aurora Beacon News*.

Matthew Winkleman, MD of Harrisburg was interviewed live on the phone by WSIL-TV in Carbondale on July 28 the day after he testified before a U.S. House subcommittee on Capitol Hill. Winkleman testified about the impact of the federal HITECH Act on small and rural practices in their efforts to obtain electronic health records.

The July 29th *Chicago Tribune* had a story about the University of Chicago Urban Health Initiative program that attempts to place patients who present in the U. of C. emergency room in one of 25 medical homes in the community for ongoing care. U. of C. faculty and IAFP member **Sarah-Anne Henning Schumann, MD** is quoted about how the medical school has integrated community health into the educational rotations to encourage a better understanding of the underserved and chronic conditions they face.

Roberta Van Zandt, MD and **Michael Jongerius, MD** of Peoria were featured sources in a July 30th *Peoria Journal Star* story about preventing osteopenia and osteoporosis through healthy diet, vitamins and exercise before turning to medications.

Also on July 30th, IAFP second vice president **Carrie Nelson, MD** blogs about newly appointed U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donald Berwick, MD in her "The Doctors Next Door" blog on *Chicago Now*. Dr. Nelson has long followed Dr. Berwick and offers her insights on why he is a great choice to lead the Department through the health care reform era ahead.

The July 30th *Morbidity and Mortality Report* from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control features a report on the widespread H1N1 vaccination campaign from the Village of Skokie Health Department, which was spearheaded by IAFP member **Catherine Counard, MD** in October-December 2009, when the first doses of vaccine arrived and a long list of priority patients were anxiously searching for a place to be vaccinated.

The August 6 issue of the *Rockford Register Star* included an article about the new UIC College of Pharmacy at Rockford. IAFP member **Martin Lipsky, MD** is dean of the college and provides insight on the boon the college will have to the Rockford economy. The college brings new jobs, plus the revenue from additional students who join the campus.