



e-News for December 14, 2009

[IAFP Annual Meeting Recap](#)

Illinois family physicians gathered in Oak Brook December 4-5 for the IAFP 2009 Annual Meeting, which featured two days of high-quality CME, the election of new officers and board members and an all member assembly that adopted two resolutions. The full meeting recap page on the IAFP web site is: <http://www.iafp.com/Recap.htm>

PCMH Presentation

AAFP board member Kenneth Bertka, MD of Toledo, Ohio spoke to the membership with a CME program on the patient centered medical home model. His take-home message for family physicians – don't apply for NCQA certification until the relevant parties are ready to pay physicians for achieving that designation. In the meantime, physician practices can and should implement tools that will allow the practice to maximize efficiency and workflow. Bertka also stressed that the PCMH model and payment must apply to all patients, not just Medicare patients, or those with chronic illnesses. We must provide the medical home to all patients in order to realize the benefits across the board - for patients and practices. View all the AAFP PCMH resources on the Web at <http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/membership/initiatives/pcmh.html>.

Results of first ever IAFP e-voting election

Electronic voting was open from September 28 through November 6, enabling all IAFP active and life members to vote for the board of directors. A total of 154 ballots were cast and the slate of candidates passed. In 2008, 42 members voted in the election held on site in St. Louis.

Newly elected to the 2009-2010 IAFP board of directors

Delegate to AAFP and First Vice President – **Michael Temporal, MD** of Belleville

Alternate Delegate to AAFP- **Javette C. Orgain, MD** of Chicago

President-Elect – **David J. Hagan, MD** of Gibson City

Second Vice President – **Carrie Nelson, MD** of Wheaton

Board directors, class of 2012

Michael Fessenden, MD of Chicago

Soujana “Chinni” Pulluru, MD of Naperville

Alvia Siddiqi, MD of Rolling Meadows

New physician board member, class of 2011 - **Asim Jaffer, MD** of Peoria

Patrick A. Tranmer, MD was installed as president on Saturday, December 5th by AAFP board member Kenneth Bertka, MD. Dr. Tranmer is Head of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago.

In his inaugural address to the IAFP All Member Assembly, Dr. Tranmer called on the membership to step up family medicine's leadership role in reforming the health care system. “We need to get going now to implement the changes that will be led by family physicians, right here in Illinois. When federal health care reform passes, the real work on implementation will shift to the states, and we must be ready,” he said. “IAFP will be working closely with any state

agencies involved in translating federal healthcare reform into state health care services and programs.”

Tranmer continued the Academy’s call for access to high-quality primary care. “To move forward as a society we need to take care of all of us, not just some of us...not just those with good fortune. The best possible health outcomes occur for the most people in society when family physicians and other primary care physicians are there to provide the foundation for a health care system.”

All-Member Assembly

-Attendees received this report of the IAFP activities surrounding health care reform and other advocacy at the state and federal level in 2009

<http://www.iafp.com/IAFP%20Highlights%20handout%20for%20AM--%20FINAL.pdf>.

The All-Member Assembly voted to approve the two member resolutions presented.

1. Subject: AAFP Partnership with Coca Cola

Submitted by: Arvind K. Goyal, M.D., MPH

Rashmi Chugh, M.D., Wheaton

Deborah Edberg, M.D., Chicago

Thomas Gavagan, M.D., Glenview

Donald Lurye, M.D., Elmhurst

John Sage, M.D., Mt. Prospect

Kathryn Stewart, M.D., Oak Park

RESOLVED, that the IAFP call upon the AAFP Board to immediately terminate its contract with Coca-Cola as part of the Consumer Alliance and notify the AAFP via an urgent communication from the IAFP president to the AAFP president along with a copy of this resolution as adopted by the IAFP All Member Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that IAFP immediately share with the IAFP membership and other AAFP state chapters, a copy of this resolution as adopted calling upon the AAFP Board to immediately terminate its contract with the Coca Cola Company

Link to the full resolution at http://www.iafp.com/AAFP_Coke_Resolution.pdf

2. LATE resolution to IAFP All Member Assembly

Subject: Environmental Scan of Patient Centered Medical Home in Illinois

Submitted by: Margaret Kirkegaard, M.D. and Kelly Carroll, M.D.

RESOLVED, that the time is right for IAFP to conduct an environmental scan of PCMH prevalence in the private health insurance market in Illinois, and be it further;

RESOLVED, that IAFP work to promote greater acceptance not only with insurers but with other primary care groups and groups representing professionals who are also part of the medical home with ultimate implementation of the PCMH model in all private plans in the next five years.

Link to the full resolution at <http://www.iafp.com/pcmhResolution.pdf>

3. Bylaws Approval:

The Assembly voted to approve three changes to the IAFP bylaws. You can view those bylaws changes on page 7 of the September/October issue of *Illinois Family Physician* at

<http://www.iafp.com/newsletter/FP/SeptOct09.pdf>

Fam Med PAC report

Ellen Brull, MD of Glenview, who is the designated Illinois FamMedPAC Champion, gave a presentation on the AAFP's political action committee. Illinois currently ranks 8th among state chapters in total money donated to the PAC with over \$12,000 in the 2009-10 election cycle. Fifty-two IAFP members and staff contributed, which equals 2.13% of the membership. In 2009, FamMedPAC donations were delivered by IAFP members to Representatives Jan Schakowsky, Deborah Halvorson and John Shimkus. A contribution was also given to Sarah Feigenholtz in her unsuccessful run for the 5th Congressional seat which was ultimately won by Mike Quigley.

Awards Banquet

Family physicians gathered the evening of Saturday Dec. 5th to honor the 2009 IAFP Awards recipients.

Family Physician of the Year. **Risha Raven, MD** of Polo (link to the press release <http://www.iafp.com/PR/POY2009.pdf> and photo at <http://www.iafp.com/PR/Raven%20award.jpg>)

Family Medicine Teacher of the Year. **Kelvin Wynn, MD** of the University of Illinois at Peoria, Methodist Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program (press release <http://www.iafp.com/PR/TOY2009.pdf> and photo <http://www.iafp.com/PR/Wynn%20award.jpg>)

Presidents Awards (3)

-**Rashmi Chugh, MD** - chair of the IAFP public health committee

-**Mayra Alvarez** - legislative aide to U. S. Sen. Dick Durbin

-**Jerry Kruse, MD** – SIU Dept. of Family and Community Medicine

Link to the press release and photos <http://www.iafp.com/PR/PArelease.pdf> and <http://www.iafp.com/PR/PresAward.jpg>

Board of Directors meeting results

The new IAFP Board met on Sunday, December 6 in Oak Brook. Among the highlights:

-**Deborah Edberg, M.D.**, was elected Treasurer by the IAFP Board. Dr. Edberg will serve a one-year term.

-The Board approved a proposal for IAFP to hold a two-day conference on the Patient Centered Medical Home in June 2010. Details to follow once the meeting date is finalized.

-IAFP will join the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative (PCPCC). AAFP is a charter member of this coalition which is dedicated to improving the health of our nation through high quality, accessible, primary care. Any member can join as an individual, learn more at www.pcpcc.net.

-IAFP's new committee structure will enable the academy to take a leading role in implementing health care reform changes at the state level and in practice.

-The board agreed that the Membership and Member Services committee should investigate partnering with Children's Community Physicians Association as a vaccine buying cooperative for IAFP members.

Foundation Fundraiser improves over 2008 totals

Friday, December 4th ended with a charming wine tasting event hosted by Foundation board members Carolyn Lopez, MD; Steven Knight, MD and David Hagan, MD. Attendees sampled and learned about several different kinds of wine with the guidance of a wine sommelier. The variety of silent auction gift baskets donated by members and companies generated additional revenue to the Foundation. The event was graciously sponsored by Automated Health Systems and raised **\$3,400** for the Family Health Foundation of Illinois, up from \$2,000 at 2008's annual meeting.

However, at the Foundation board meeting, some difficult decisions were made. Because of a downturn in member donations, grant funding and other casualties of the recent economy, the Foundation's financial situation is dire. Therefore the Foundation has scaled back on activities

and programs for 2010, and also cut back the number of members serving on its board to reflect these changes.

Still time to make your end of the year donation: The Family Health Foundation of Illinois is in critical condition and needs YOUR donation in order to resurrect our programs encouraging students and residents on their path to family medicine to continue. The Summer Externship Program, Tar Wars and student and resident events are funded by the Foundation. If every member would donate just one night's dinner out (around \$50) we could generate over \$100,000 for the Foundation. Donate now using the downloadable form at <http://www.iafp.com/foundation/donorform.htm> and submit your donation by Dec. 30.

Join an IAFP committee for 2010
Add this to your list of New Year's Resolutions

Below is the full list of 2010 committees, task forces and interest groups. Appointments will be made by late January so groups can begin their work by February. Link to a summary of committee descriptions and a sign up form at <http://www.iafp.com/about/CommitteeSignup2010.pdf>

AAFP Resolutions Margaret Kirkegaard, MD, chair	Carolyn Lopez, MD, chair
Bylaws Tina Brueschke, M.D., chair	Leadership Development Steven Knight, M.D., chair
CME Christine Mueller, MD, chair	Membership and Member Services Chinni Pulluru, M.D., chair
<i>New!</i> EHR and Connectivity Dennon Davis, M.D., chair	<i>New!</i> PCMH Mayank Shah, M.D., chair
Finance Deborah Edberg, M.D., chair	<i>New!</i> Private Sector Advocacy Matthew Johnson, M.D., chair
Family Medicine Educators Judi Gravdal, M.D., chair	Public Health Rashmi Chugh, MD, chair
Government Relations	Public Relations Kristin Drynan, MD, chair

IAFP is looking for 2010 NCSC delegates

Each state is eligible to send one representative for each of the four constituencies of the AAFP National Conference of Special Constituencies, April 29-May 1 in Kansas City.

The four constituencies are
New Physician,
International Medical Graduate,
Women and Minority and
GLBT.

If you would like to be one of the delegates, contact Jennifer O'Leary at joleary@iafp.com with your information and which constituency you would represent, to add your name to the list for consideration. Travel funding is available.

Here is the link with more information about the conference,

<http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/cme/aafpcourses/conferences/leader/ncsc.html>

Federal Government Relations- Health Care Reform

Action Alert: Medicare 2010 Fee Schedule should stand

In August the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services announced the 2010 Physician Fee Schedule, which includes a provision to balance practice expense payment rates for all providers. The rates were developed from independently verified data gathered from all major medical and health care professional groups. IAFP sent a letter to CMS on August 12 supporting the schedule (view IAFP letter at <http://www.iafp.com/legislative/cms.pdf>).

The new CMS rule will bring a 5-8 percent increase for primary care services, phased in over four years.

Now cardiologists are putting up a serious fight to encourage Congress to overturn this rule. They claim these new payment rules will unjustly cut their reimbursements, and they're misleading Congress by exaggerating what they stand to lose. Their claims of a 30 percent payment cut *include the 21.2% SGR cut that all physicians face on January 1, 2010, and we know that Congress will not allow this 21% cut to go into effect.* Help us keep a level playing field and ensure fair payment for providers and quality care for all patients. Use AAFP Speak Out to contact your Representative and tell him or her to stand up for quality care for all and stand behind the Physician Practice Information Survey 2010 implementation. (link to the Speak Out action center at <http://lyris.aafp.org/t/2320419/29398065/823747/0/>).

Senate Debate on Health Care Reform package continues

The Senate amendment process at this point is a highly partisan political endeavor. The AAFP will continue to be guided by their letter to the Senate (http://www.aafp.org/online/etc/medialib/aafp_org/documents/policy/fed/endorse-letters/aca120209.Par.0001.File.tmp/LetterToSenate120209.pdf) as their most current statement on that bill until there are new decisions of the Board of Directors.

State Government Relations

Spring into Action 2010 - Save the Dates!

March 10, 11 or April 13, 14, or 15

IAFP offers five different dates to participate in the legislative process in March or April. These "mini" lobby days are designed to give family physicians more opportunities to learn about our state government and advocate on issues that impact family medicine. You will meet face to face with those policy makers and legislators involved in creating and implementing health care policy in Illinois that affects you and your patients. Registration information will be available in January.

Each Spring into Action session will use the same template so that any date you pick will enable you to:

- Advocate on behalf of family medicine and its strengths
- Increase your visibility with legislators and policymakers
- Exchange information about public policy and its effects on your practice and patients

CTFK Releases State by State Tobacco Settlement Funding Report Illinois still stuck at the bottom

The states are collecting record amounts of revenue from the 1998 tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes, but have cut funding for programs to reduce tobacco use by more than 15 percent in the past year, according to a report released December 9th by a coalition of public health

organizations.

The report, titled "A Broken Promise to Our Children: The 1998 State Tobacco Settlement 11 Years Later," was released by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, American Heart Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Lung Association and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. These organizations have issued annual reports assessing whether the states have kept their promise to use funds from the state tobacco settlements – estimated to total \$246 billion over the first 25 years – to fight tobacco use. The states also collect billions more each year from tobacco taxes.

Illinois ranked #42 by spending only \$9.7 million towards tobacco prevention and control, only 6.2% of the CDC's minimum recommendation of \$157 million. State funding for tobacco prevention has stayed level at \$8.5 million, but the state is receiving a slightly larger federal grant of \$1.2 million for tobacco prevention this year.

Other key findings for Illinois include:

- Illinois this year will collect \$857 million from the 1998 tobacco settlement and tobacco taxes, but will spend just 1.1 percent of it on tobacco prevention programs.
- The tobacco companies spend \$452.4 million a year to market their products in Illinois. This is 47 times what the state spends on tobacco prevention.

Full report: <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements/>

Chart ranking the states: <http://tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements/FY2010/rankings.pdf>.

Find the Illinois specific press release at

http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements/FY2010/embargoed_releases/

CME Information

IAFP ONLINE FREE CME

With the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP) CME Website, <http://www.IAFP.com/education> (registration required), you will be able to track which CME courses you have completed and obtain your CME certificates - simply with the click of a button at the end of each completed online course.

Check out any of the IAFP FREE online CME programs and you could earn up to nine credits by completing all of the case studies.



YOUR HEALTHCARE PLUS FREE CME

Visit <http://www.yhplus.com>

Each topic contains valuable resources, including disease management tips, clinical education, QI worksheets and reference materials, as well as audio files for people on the go. All CME modules on this website, except QI, have been approved for AMA Cat 1 credit, AAFP prescribed credit, nursing contact hours, and asthma and depression have been approved for ABFM MC-FP Part IV credit.

Access our fresh collection of online activities to reinforce and expand your knowledge between meetings. http://www.primed.com/PMO/AllActivities.aspx?CCODE=r12&utm_source=iafp&utm_medium=partnerlink&utm_campaign=AM_IAFP_r12

News You Can Use

UPDATE – H1N1 Flu Vaccines

Both the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) have expanded the availability of the H1N1 vaccine beyond the original priority groups.

As of **December 7**, CDPH has lifted the restriction so that any persons in Chicago may now receive the H1N1 vaccine including clinics being held this weekend. Chicago facilities with inadequate vaccine should continue to limit vaccination to CDC priority groups, but should also e-mail h1n1vaccine@cdph.org to verify their original vaccine order and request additional vaccine, if necessary. Retail pharmacies in Chicago were expected to begin receiving H1N1 vaccines December 10.

IDPH Director Dr. Damon Arnold announced that as of **December 15**, IDPH will also lift the restriction statewide, but will allow local health departments to continue to restrict to priority groups, if they determine that local needs are best served in that fashion. In addition to local health departments and private physicians, Illinoisans will be able to go to many retail pharmacies for H1N1 flu vaccinations starting no later than December 21, 2009.

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.

Congratulations to **Bechara Choucair, MD** who is the new Chicago Commissioner of Health. Dr. Choucair began his new job on Monday December 7. He is Vice Chair for Community Medicine Program Director - Global Health Education and Community Services Assistant Professor of Family and Community Medicine at Northwestern University – Feinberg School of Medicine and practices at the Heartland Outreach center caring for those facing homelessness.

Tuwanda Williamson, MD, also on faculty at Northwestern, received the AAFP Foundation's Pfizer Teacher Development Award, which honors outstanding community-based family physicians who are also part-time teachers and was honored at the medical school on Friday, December 4. She practices at the PCC Salud Family Health Center in Chicago.

Roberta Van Zant, MD of Peoria was featured in a story about the benefits of anti-inflammatory diets which ran in 62 newspapers across the state on December 4th and 5th.

CLASSIFIED ADS

IAFP members may post a classified ad in E-news free of charge for up to 4 issues.

Classified ad rates for non-IAFP members are \$100 per month (2 issues per month).

Contact Ginnie Flynn at gflynn@iafp.com to place your ad or you can download and print a form at <http://www.iafp.com/pdfs/EnewsAd.pdf>

1. Southern Illinois Primary Care Associates, P.C. (SIPCA) operates a multi-specialty group in Southeastern Illinois, with three clinic locations. During its' 17+ years of practice, SIPCA has expanded to 13 members of the medical staff to include 8 Physicians and 5 Physician Extenders. These providers comprise the following specialties: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics. SIPCA is currently recruiting for a Board Certified/Board Eligible Family Medicine physician to join our group of talented providers to provide a full spectrum of primary care to patients in our service area. Opportunity allows physician to practice in a modern-state of the art facility with lab and x-ray on site. Practice provides an EHR with onsite IT support. Initial contract includes salary guaranty with full benefit package. Physician is eligible for incentive bonus and shareholder vesting schedule in year three of employment. SIPCA is a progressive physician owned and directed group with aggressive goals for the future. Interested Physicians should contact Cathy L. Harte at 618.842.4470 or c_hartecipca@midwest.net or Dr. Jed Jones at 618.599.2350.
2. Sherman Family Healthcare Centers is seeking full and part-time Family Physicians for urgent care work in **Elgin** area. These four urgent care facilities are owned and operated by Sherman Hospital and has a combined annual volume of over 60,000 patients a year. With Sherman opening a new state of the art hospital in December, we fully expect our centers to grow and prosper. This is an excellent opportunity for Family Physicians who want to join an established and successful organization were all physicians are partners and owners and share in the success of the group. We offer excellent compensation, ownership, profit sharing as well as health, disability and retirement programs. Contact Doug Harala at 800-842-2619 or by e-mail at haralad@medamerica.com.
4. NAPERVILLE - Family Physician group looking for full-time family physician in the Naperville area. Competitive compensation and benefits. Contact Ms Pearson 630-527-6400 ext 135 for information or fax CV to 630-527-6411.
5. The Department of Family and Community Medicine at the **University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford** is seeking family physician faculty to take part in its innovative Primary Care Clinic program. This involves clinical care and faculty supervision of medical students in an office designed specifically for longitudinal primary care teaching. The Department offers an on-site MPH certificate program and faculty development opportunities. The College is a WHO Collaborating Center for Medical Education. Candidates should be board certified or board eligible. OB skills preferred by not required. Prior experience in substance abuse medicine or correctional medicine a plus. Rank is commensurate with qualifications.

For fullest consideration, please send a cover letter and resume to: Carrie Sharkey-Asner, MD, Search Committee Chair, Department of Family and Community Medicine; 1601 Parkview Ave, Rockford, IL 61107 or by email to CSA@uic.edu. Call 815-395-5810 for further information. The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Repeat Items

Illinois Health Connect Providers – IMPORTANT NOTICE

To continue to enhance continuity of care, IHC is now implementing Phase I of the Illinois Health Connect Referral System, implemented by Region, on the dates provided below:

- **Northwest Counties - Implementation began Monday, October 5, 2009**
- **Collar Counties – December 1, 2009**
- Cook County – February 1, 2010
- Central Counties – April 1, 2010
- Southern Counties – April 1, 2010

NEW! Watch a seven minute video about the IHC Phase I Referral policies and procedures for entering and verifying referrals.

<http://illinoishealthconnect.com/providerinfo.aspx>

Illinois Health Connect (IHC) is hosting training webinars and presentations entitled, “*Illinois Health Connect: Referral System Implementation-Phase 1.*” Please check the IHC website at www.illinoishealthconnect.com under Events Calendar (presentations) or Provider Education (webinars) for an updated schedule of trainings.

Chicago’s CommunityHealth center seeks more volunteers

With more than 1.5 million uninsured people in the Chicago area, CommunityHealth (located at 2611 West Chicago Ave.) has seen a 40% increase in the number of people seeking care. The center is in desperate need of volunteer providers, including primary care physicians. If you have a few hours a month or a few hours a week that you can spare, you can make a real impact on the lives of those who face complex medical needs and barriers to health care services.

Founded in 1993, Community Health is the largest volunteer-based facility in Illinois. The center is in compliance with the Illinois Good Samaritan Act, meaning that all volunteer physicians are exempt from medical liability of any kind.

The clinic is open Monday through Saturday, including four evenings. Services are free, and both Spanish and Polish interpreters are available. Learn more at www.communityhealth.org. If you’d like to volunteer, contact Kelly Tondini, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 773-395-9901 ext. 23 or ktondini@communityhealth.org.

Sign up today for “Bright Smiles from Birth”

The Bright Smiles from Birth program is expanding to the Rockford and Champaign areas and will continue to grow in Cook, DuPage and Lake County. Bright Smiles from Birth is an educational and technical assistance program focused on improving the oral health of infants and young children. Participating practices will receive a 60-minute in-office program that will train providers and office staff to incorporate oral health screenings into their well-child exams. The program will also assist providers in taking appropriate steps once high-risk patients are identified, which may include patient education, referral to dental homes, and application of fluoride varnish. There is no cost for the program and each practice will be provided with a resource kit containing professional and patient education materials. Eligible practices that complete the training are eligible for reimbursement through Medicaid for fluoride varnish application. **To schedule a presentation or for more information contact:** Paula Zajac at pzajac@illinoisap.com or 312/733-1026 ext. 212.

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