



e-News for January 8, 2010 Happy 2010 to all!

[IAFP News](#)

Skokie Health Department takes on H1N1 Vaccinations for Illinois

IAFP member Catherine Counard, MD, MPH, is Director of Health for the Village of Skokie, and offers this recap of their H1N1 vaccination efforts (or what does it really require to have the entire population vaccinated)?

The Skokie Health Department developed plans to administer 40,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine (for a population of 67,000) after discussions with the local medical community indicated that the health care system would only be able to vaccinate about 1/3 of the Village population. This was a major undertaking for the Department, which has 18 personnel, and ultimately involved the entire Village. When we began the process we did not anticipate that a severe vaccine shortage would leave the majority of the surrounding communities without access to vaccine. That situation led the Village's decision to offer vaccinations to all Illinois residents in the initial priority groups.

Read more about how they came together and pulled it off here:

<http://www.iafp.com/PR/H1N1Skokie.pdf>

Join an IAFP committee for 2010

Add this to your list of New Year's Resolutions

Now is the time to sign up for 2010 committees, task forces and interest groups. Appointments will be made by late January so groups can begin their work by February. Find the group that peaks your interest! Link to a summary of committee descriptions and a sign up form at <http://www.iafp.com/about/CommitteeSignup2010.pdf>

IAFP is looking for 2010 NCSC delegates

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

The five constituencies are

New Physician,
International Medical Graduate,
Women,
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

Federal Government Issues New Health IT Regulations

CMS Proposes Definition of EHR 'Meaningful Use'

By AAFP News Now News Staff

The federal government is one step closer to defining the term "meaningful use" as it pertains to electronic health records, or EHRs.

On Dec. 30, CMS and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, or ONC, each issued a set of regulations that, together, lay a foundation for improving the quality, efficiency and safety of the nation's health care through the use of certified EHR technology.

The nation's hospitals, physicians and other health care professionals have a stake in the outcome of the rules process because the regulations will help implement government EHR incentive programs enacted under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Read more at

<http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/publications/news/news-now/government-medicine/20100106mean-use.html>

State Government Relations

****Don't forget: The primary election is Tuesday, February 2nd ****

Spring into Action 2010 – REGISTER NOW!

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

Link to online registration at

<http://guest.cvent.com/i.aspx?5S%2cM3%2cdd96ab6a-6980-4989-b442-441a2fc2ab15>

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, residents and students more opportunities to learn about our state government and advocate on issues that impact family medicine. You will meet with policy makers and legislators involved in creating and implementing health care policy in Illinois that affects you and your patients.

Each Spring into Action session will use the same template; 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

Gov. Quinn signs HB 3923 – Insurance reforms

IAFP president Patrick Tranmer, MD attended the bill-signing ceremony for HB3923, which brings much needed private insurance reforms. All private insurance plans must provide independent external review processes for denied claims, effective July 1. Previously only HMO patients were entitled to external reviews. The bill also requires all companies to adopt a standard application for small businesses by 2011. Link to press release from the State of Illinois at

<http://www.iafp.com/legislative/InsuranceReform.pdf>

HB 488 becomes law –prescribing Schedule II made easy

Public Act 96-0166, effectively brings Illinois into compliance with federal law. Prescribers of Schedule II medications can provide individual patients with multiple prescriptions for the same Schedule II medications to be filled sequentially. This permits patients to receive multiple prescriptions during one visit which will allow the patient, over time, to receive up to a 90-day supply of the Schedule II medication.

See examples from the Illinois Psychiatric Society on our web site at:

<http://www.iafp.com/legislative/SamplenewRx.pdf>

New Guidelines Issued for Expedited Partner Therapy with STDs

The Illinois Department of Public health posted the new guidelines and fact sheets regarding expedited partner therapy (EPT) as a result of SB212 passed by the General Assembly in 2009. They were posted Dec. 22 and available on the IDPH web site at

http://www.idph.state.il.us/health/std/ept_cg.htm. IAFP was a leading organization in the effort to pass this bill, which cleared the Illinois Senate during our 2009 Spring into Action lobby days.

2010 starts a little safer: Two new laws on distracted driving now in effect

On January 1, two new laws to protect Illinois roads took effect. Drivers are now prohibited from doing any texting, e-mail or internet use while driving. The only exceptions are for GPS devices and dash-mounted information screens used by the trucking industry. IAFP played an active role in passing HB 71 in the Spring of 2009. Another bill, HB 72 prohibits using your cell phone in both construction and school zones.

CME Information

CDC launches Health Literacy Web Based CME

CDC has launched its online health literacy training for public health professionals. CE credits in multiple disciplines are available. We designed the training to complement HRSA's course targeting health professionals in clinical settings. Our training focuses on contexts for public health communication. We welcome your feedback on the program and also appreciate your help with sharing the information about the training program with others. The training is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/healthmarketing/healthliteracy/#>

Louisiana AFP offers 24 hours of CME – at Disney!

Louisiana AFP's Winter Conference that is scheduled for February 14-17, 2010, at The Hilton, located in the *Walt Disney World*[®] Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL where **24 hours of CME** will be offered. For more details, see the Winter Conference page on the LAFP website outlining the agenda, registration information and housing:

http://www.lafp.org/content/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=302&Itemid=246

Questions or for additional information, e-mail Ragan Canella directly at rcanella@lafp.org or call 225.923.3313.

NEW! PCMH Information

**Save the Date: IAFP PCMH Conference
June 25-26 at the Marriott Oak Brook Hotel**

IAFP will bring together the various components for building the Patient-Centered Medical Home, with tracks tailored to your practice size and readiness level for transforming your practice. Look for details to come and online registration in the early Spring!

AAFP Debuts New PCMH Videos



See how family physicians are redesigning their practices to lower costs, maximize staff expertise, and improve patient care. Watch now for free at www.aafp.org/pcmh/videos.

Health IT Webinars from TransforMED and AMA

Learn how Health IT is transforming the practice of medicine -- and understand the tools needed to make it happen. All through a series of weekly webinars featuring well-known Health IT experts from TransforMED, the AAFP, and the AMA.

Meaningful use of technology to support patient-centered care

January 14, 2010 - 1:00 p.m. EST

Register for the event:

<https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=5lqybkv1c8mq>

Preparing your practice for Health IT

January 21, 2010 - 1:00 p.m. EST

Register for the event:

<https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=2urb10xacgsd>

Selecting the appropriate technology for your practice and developing implementation strategies

January 28, 2010 - 1:00 p.m. EST

Register for the event: <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=pdbwrri96hz9>

Engaging patients in using technology to manage their personal health care

February 4, 2010 - 1:00 p.m. EST

Register for the event: <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/schedule/display.do?udc=jxxxr2js5iba>

News You Can Use

Help your patients quit smoking in 2010!

Order your FREE Illinois Quit-Line brochures!

The Illinois Quitline has grant funding to mail as many Quit-line brochures as your practice needs to help your patients finally quit their tobacco use! Brochures are available in English and Spanish and you can order as many as you need at no cost to you! Use the form on our website at <http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/Quitline.pdf> to submit your order to the Illinois Quitline ASAP!

The Illinois Quitline is open for calls Monday-Friday from 7AM to 9PM

AAFP offers Medicare PQRI Wizard

Deadline is February 1 for 2009 Medicare patient visits

The PQRIwizard is a simple step-by-step online solution for participating in the CME Physician Quality Reporting Initiative, making reporting quick and easy!

-Earn a 2% Incentive Payment on all Medicare Part B services for 2009

-Save time – complete and submit your entire PQRI report online in just a few hours.

-Maximize your incentive: Wizard automatically validates your practice data and notifies you when the report is ready to submit

Visit <https://aafp.pqriwizard.com> for information

ICAAP Seeks Participants for Health Care Transition Project

The Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP) and the Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) have received a 3-year grant to improve health care transition for adolescents with childhood-onset chronic illness and/or disabilities. We are seeking family practices that are interested in building their skills in caring for these patients. Project participants will receive free individualized assistance. Trainings will include topics such as creating and maintaining a portable medical summary, teaching adolescents to become more independent in managing their health care, connecting young adults with community resources and state services, working with families, and examining patients with physical and developmental disabilities. The medical advisor for this project, Miriam A. Kalichman, MD, FAAP, Associate Medical Director with DSCC, will also be available to provide office-based clinical consultations about specific patients. Look for more information in the March issue of *Illinois Family Physician*. If you would like participate, please contact Laura DeStigter, ICAAP Project Manager, at 312/733-1026 ext 210 or at ldestigter@illinoisaap.com.

IDHFS to discontinue paper provider notices in 2010

Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) will begin to phase out the mailing of paper notices and bulletins to providers through the U.S. Mail. Provider notices and bulletins will be posted to the HFS Web site and providers will be responsible for downloading the material via the Internet. Provider specific information, such as the Long Term Care Patient Credit Report by Hospice, Chronic Renal Disease Program – Approved Patients Report, requests for updated medical licenses, Provider Information Sheets and remittance advices, will continue to be mailed to providers. **Effective February 1, 2010, HFS will no longer mail paper copies of notices and bulletins to the following providers: Local Education Agencies, Durable Medical Equipment, Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Centers, Long Term Care, Supportive Living Facilities, Hospice, Hospitals and Pharmacies.** The department will phase in additional provider types throughout calendar year 2010. Here is the link to the November 18, 2009 notice <http://hfs.illinois.gov/all/>

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.

The Sun-Times News Group looked at the state and national shortage of family physicians and the downward trend of US medical school graduates choosing primary care. The first article ran Dec. 31 in the *Joliet Herald News*, and then a similar story ran in the January 2 *Chicago Sun-Times*. Both stories featured input from IAFP member **Gary Plundo, MD** of Joliet.

In response to the story, IAFP President **Patrick Tranmer, MD** submitted a letter to the editor reinforcing our call for changes in the system to attract more family physicians. That letter was published in the January 5 *Chicago Sun-Times*.

IAFP member **Bindu Alla, MD** of Moline provides input on a Jan. 1 *Quad Cities Times* story about the concept of Elimination Communication. EC is a process by which parents read cues from infants and place them on the toilet to create potty habits in infancy.

IAFP member and home care leader **Thomas Cornwell, MD** was featured in *Glancer* magazine as one of the 10 best area residents (Wheaton/Glen Ellyn area) in medicine for his home care services.



Public Relations Task Force member **Russ Robertson, MD** appeared with Sen. Dick Durbin at a January 5th press conference at Northwestern Memorial Hospital to push for adoption of the comprehensive health care reform package currently being worked out on Capitol Hill. Robertson is chair of the department of family and community medicine at Northwestern University – Feinberg School of Medicine.

(Photo from Sen. Durbin's Website - <http://durbin.senate.gov>)

IAFP member **David Mitchell, MD** is featured in the January 7 *Belleville News-Democrat* for his work in providing house call care to about 80-100 Shiloh-Belleville-O'Fallon area residents in addition to his office-based Country Doctor, Ltd. practice.

IAFP member **Tim Fior, MD** of Lombard was featured in a GateHouse News story about daily flu-prevention tactics patients can use to stay healthy in addition to their flu vaccines. The story ran in the January 7th *Clay County Advocate* and *West Frankfort Daily American*.

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_hartesipca@midwest.net or Dr. Jed Jones at 618.599.2350.
2. 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.

3. 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.

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