



## e-News for January 22, 2010

### [IAFP News](#)

#### **Join an IAFP committee or interest group for 2010**

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>

#### **AAFP Commission representation**

Illinois was represented by four leaders at the AAFP winter cluster in a chilly Kansas City over the January 15 weekend. **Michael Temporal, M.D.** is on the Commission on Membership and Member Services. **Stan Borg, D.O.** was appointed to an extended one-year term on the Commission on Quality and Practice until 2012. **Carrie Nelson, M.D.** serves on the Commission on the Health of the Public and Science. **Javette Orgain, MD** continues her service as she was reappointed to the AAFP Commission on Governmental Affairs.

#### **IAFP Award nominations now open – deadline is June 30**

Nominations are now open for the IAFP's three awards: the Family Physician of the Year and two Family Medicine Teachers of the Year (full or part-time faculty and volunteer faculty). Just complete the appropriate nominations form and **include a letter of support** outlining your reasons for nominating that member. **All nominees must be IAFP members in good standing to be considered.**

**Family Physician of the Year:** <http://www.iafp.com/PR/FPOYWANTED.pdf>

**Family Medicine Teachers of the Year:** <http://www.iafp.com/PR/TOYNomination.pdf>



### SPONSOR A STUDENT!

The Family Health Foundation, which administers the Summer Externship Program, is in critical condition. The Externship program will continue this year; but will be greatly scaled back – offering positions to far fewer students based on the limited resources within the Foundation budget. The State of Illinois grant that has funded the program in past years is not available in 2010.

We need your support! Please consider sponsoring a student for this worthwhile program. If you can sponsor a student through your personal, clinic, or hospital resources, we could offer externships to more students in 2010. The cost to sponsor a student is \$1400 which covers their stipend and administrative costs.

*The Family Health Foundation is a charitable public foundation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and is thereby able to receive grants and **tax-deductible** gifts and contributions.*

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## Federal Government Relations

### Federal Reform – What CAN you do? Here's your 1, 2, 3 ...

- 1) **FIX the SGR!** Congress has extended the 2009 Medicare physician fee schedule for 60 days to give lawmakers an opportunity to fix the SGR in a final health care reform bill. The AAFP has issued a **Speak Out Action Alert** <http://capitol.aafp.org/aafp/issues/alert/?alertid=14544051> asking members to contact their representatives in the House and Senate to tell them that family physicians should no longer have to operate with a payment system based on the flawed sustainable growth rate, or SGR, formula. Unless Congress acts, the SGR will require a 21.2 percent cut in Medicare payment rates as of March 1. <http://capitol.aafp.org/aafp/issues/alert/?alertid=14544051>

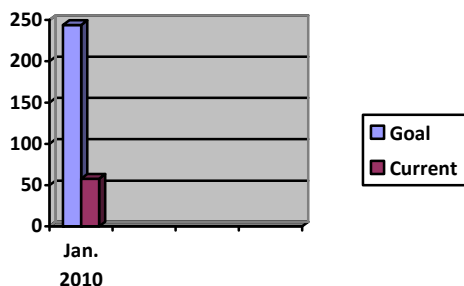
2) **Equalize Medicaid and Medicare payment rates!** Both the House and Senate health care reform bills would expand Medicaid coverage to more low-income individuals. Only the House bill, however, includes a \$57 billion provision that would adjust Medicaid payments for primary care to at least 100 percent of Medicare rates.

3) **Protect the increase in Medicare payments to primary care!** AAFP leaders have repeatedly advocated for payment reform and changes in the Medicare physician payment system, the result of which was an increase in payments to primary care physicians in the latest Medicare fee schedule.

For more information on #2 and #3, visit the **Health Care Reform** section of AAFP's website at <http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/policy/federal/reform09.html> or the **Connect for Reform** Action Center at <http://blogs.aafp.org/cfr/connect4reform/?BAC-C4R> (members only, must register for access).



Illinois FamMedPAC champion Ellen Brull, MD of Glenview is challenging IAFP members to step up so that 10 percent of Illinois active members contribute to the PAC. IAFP needs 244 total contributors to reach that 10 percent goal, and we are nearly one-fourth of the way there! Illinois is the fourth ranking chapter in total money contributed, which is wonderful since we are the 6<sup>th</sup> largest chapter in active members. Thank you to the 58 donors (which can and does include residents, students and staff!) who have contributed during the current cycle. To add your contribution to our total, please visit <http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/policy/fammedpac.html> to make a secure online donation.



Total 09-10 Donors:	58
Total 09-10 Donations:	<b>\$15,771.00 (4<sup>th</sup> among AFP chapters)</b>
Average Donation:	\$272
% of Chapter Donating:	2.37%

## State Government Relations

**\*\*Don't forget: The primary election is Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> \*\***

There are contested primaries in many local elections, as well as the Illinois constitutional offices and for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Please be sure to vote for the candidates that support your priorities and your specialty. State Board of Elections website – candidate guide and voting information is at <http://www.elections.state.il.us/>

IAFP member **Barbara Bellar, MD** is unopposed in the Republican primary for 35<sup>th</sup> district state representative (seat is currently held by Democrat Kevin Joyce).

### **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 each spring. 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 state health care policy 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
- Questions? Contact Gordana Krkic at [gkrkic@iafp.com](mailto:gkrkic@iafp.com) or call 630-427-8007.



## 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. Earn over 10 CME Credits!

Whether you are on your way to NCQA recognition, or not even sure what PCMH stands for, this conference will meet your needs. Attendees can take the PCMH 101 or 201 track and also choose from a wide range of breakout sessions.

This conference is targeted to primary care physicians and their leadership team responsible for implementing the medical home. Bring your office manager, practice partners, whoever is vital to your transformation team!

**Look for details to come. Online registration opens March 1st!**

## **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](http://www.aafp.org/pcmh/videos).

### **Health IT Webinars from TransforMED, AAFP and AMA**

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

#### **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>

## **CME Information**

### **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](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](mailto:rcanella@lafp.org) or call 225.923.3313.

### **Dreaming about Spring? Experience it early by visiting sunny Arizona!**

The Arizona Academy of Family Physicians is holding their Annual Clinical Education (ACE) Conference March 5-7, 2010. Quality CME provided by the creator of POEMs (Patient-Oriented Evidence that Matters). This program of completely evidence-based practical education will give you the tools you need to stay current in the ever changing world of treatment guidelines and patient care. Early Bird registration rates have been extended to **February 1, 2010** at [www.azaafp.org](http://www.azaafp.org). Have your AAFP ID number ready to receive the same registration rate as AzAFP members.

### **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/#>

## **News You Can Use**

### **IDHFS to include payment for telehealth services to offices**

HFS will expand coverage of telehealth services to include physicians' offices beginning Jan. 29, 2010. This will allow consultations by subspecialists via telecommunications.

This expansion is designed to improve participant access to specialists, while supporting the quality of care they receive. Previously, telehealth services were limited to medical evaluations between hospitals only. Under the telehealth expansion, physicians, advanced practice nurses, podiatrists, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) and Encounter Rate Clinics (ERCs) will be allowed to render telemedicine services. See this link for details.

<http://www.hfs.illinois.gov/assets/011210n2.pdf>

## **Message from a Partner Organization**

### **IAFP Can Help You Get The Lowest Sanofi Fluzone Prices For The 2010-11 Flu Season!**

The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians has partnered with Atlantic Health Partners to offer your practice the lowest prices for Sanofi and Merck vaccines, including Sanofi's Fluzone. With all the issues that surround flu delivery, it is important to note that Atlantic participating practices received ALL of their 2009 pre-booked Fluzone which totaled close to 1 million doses.

In addition to providing you with the lowest Fluzone prices, Atlantic provides your practice with the most favorable pricing and purchasing terms for a wide scope of pediatric, adolescent, adult and travel vaccines purchased directly from these manufacturers. Atlantic's program extends to discounts on medical and surgical supplies ordered through Sanofi, and there is no cost to join!

Atlantic currently works nationwide with 21 state AAFP chapters and has been nationally recognized by the AAFP. Over 2,500 family physicians are already enrolled in the Atlantic Program, reporting strong satisfaction with the program, most notably for the savings and customer support.

Please contact Jeff Winokur or Cindy Berenson at 800.741.2044 or email [info@atlantichhealthpartners.com](mailto:info@atlantichhealthpartners.com) to find out how Atlantic can benefit your practice.

## **Repeat Items**

### ***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 PQRI Wizard 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. 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](mailto: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/>

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### **Members in the news**

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

IAFP Member **Dr. Mario Piverger** (Blue Island) has family in Haiti and is working on efforts to gather durable medical equipment for Haiti, while also planning to make a trip down there to help. He had been there a few weeks ago establishing a medical mission project there Details are in the *Southtown Star* article excerpts below (including links to a website and an e-mail address to contact him).

*[Dr. Mario] Piverger is working to secure medical supplies to send to the country while he waits for the right time to fly down and tend to the thousands injured.*

*"I'm sitting here with access to a well-furbished medical center, and I don't have to think about Band-Aids and syringes and IVs," Piverger said. "A major hospital in Port-au-Prince just fell on itself. When that happens, you can't salvage anything durable."*

*A family physician at Blue Island's MetroSouth Medical Center, Piverger was born in Chicago but lived in Haiti for eight years before returning to the area. His parents were both born in Haiti, and his childhood home there was within walking distance of the presidential palace. Three weeks ago, the doctor returned from a weeklong trip to Haiti, part of his work establishing the Haitian Project within a nonprofit umbrella group named Compassionate Response. The organization was to fly down in May to help Haitians there with their medical needs.*

*"The reality of the situation has taken hold and they fully realize they are stuck in the country and they can't support the needs of the population, said Piverger, who lives in Chicago's Pill Hill neighborhood. His focus is collecting durable medical equipment such as ultrasounds and electrocardiogram machines. It's this medical machinery that's been destroyed, he said, and is needed to help treat the population in the long term.*

**UPDATE:** Dr. Piverger is leaving for Haiti with a medical mission on Friday, January 22. He will be transporting the first shipment of medical supplies. IAFP spoke with him via e-mail on his way to the airport. He is planning to provide immediate care and prepare patients for an orthopedic surgeon who will follow him there. We hope to receive updates from him while he is in Haiti. He has a Web site to help collect supplies <http://compassionateresponseusa.org/haiti.html>. To e-mail Dr. Piverger directly: [ymariop@yahoo.com](mailto:ymariop@yahoo.com).

IAFP member **Elizabeth Dowell, MD** of Chicago is also heading to Haiti very soon, according to a January 18<sup>th</sup> CBS2 news story from their 10pm broadcast

Congratulations to **Margaret Wade, MD** who made history as the first woman physician appointed as the chief of the medical staff at Adventist Hinsdale and Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospitals. Her two-year term as president began January 1. Wade, who started at Adventist Hinsdale in 1991, was featured in the January 21 issues of the TribLocal Hinsdale and Downers Grove editions.

**Barbara Bellar, MD** of Chicago was a featured source in a January 16 *Southtown Star* story about the differences between winter blues, seasonal affective disorder and depression.

**Catherine Counard, MD** of Skokie is the lead author of an article published last week by the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, describing the investigation of two HBV outbreaks in assisted living facilities that were likely caused by nurses spreading the virus from person to person during finger stick blood glucose monitoring.

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## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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