



e-News for July 23, 2010

Academy News

Send your nominations for IAFP Board of Directors Contested elections begin in 2010

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.

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 vkeenan@iafp.com. Questions about board positions may also be directed to Vince.

Calling all Southern Illinoisans!

IAFP's Egyptian Chapter Member Group Annual Golf Outing & Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, July 28

GOLF OUTING- Franklin County Country Club

11058 Country Club Rd. West Frankfort, IL

Tee time - 1:30 PM shotgun start; Registration - 1:00 PM

Golf Sponsorship: Southern Illinois Surgical Appliances

Hole Sponsorship: McKesson Physician Practice Solutions

DINNER MEETING (non-CME)

New Location SAO Asian Bistro 2800 17th, Street Marion, IL 62959

6:30 PM - Cocktails and Appetizers

7:00 PM - Dinner & Guest Lecture

"Age Considerations When Treating Overactive Bladder"

Presented by David Knowles, M.D.

Urologist, Advanced Urologic Surgeons, Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Dinner Sponsorship: Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

To register, please e-mail Kate Valentine at kvalentine@iafp.com or at 630-427-8000. Please indicate if you will be playing golf and if any guests will be joining you for dinner.

Federal Government Relations

FMAP update

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>. IAFP received positive feedback from both Senators and several House offices supporting our position.

Meaningful Use final rules announced – reflecting some compromises

(Excerpted from AAFP Government Relations Report, July 16)

On July 13, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced final rules to help improve Americans' health, increase safety and reduce health care costs through expanded use of electronic health records (EHR). In order to be eligible for as much as \$44,000 under Medicare or \$63,750 under Medicaid, the *Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act* requires physicians to adopt certified EHR technology and use it to achieve specific "meaningful use" objectives.

Two companion final rules were announced. One, issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), defines the minimum requirements that providers must meet through their use of certified EHR technology in order to qualify for the payments. The other, issued by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), identifies the standards and certification criteria for the certification of EHR technology, so physicians may be assured that the systems they adopt are capable of performing the required functions.

The final CMS rule includes modifications that pare down the 25 requirements for the use of EHR to a core group of requirements that must be met, plus an additional menu of procedures from which providers may choose. This two-track approach ensures that the most basic elements of meaningful EHR use will be met by all providers qualifying for incentive payments, while at the same time allowing latitude in other areas to reflect providers' needs and their individual path to full EHR use.

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.**

State Government Relations

State owes millions to non-profits

Illinois Partners for Human Service, a coalition of not for profit service agencies, has released an updated list from the Illinois Comptroller's Office detailing the state's unpaid balances owed to tax-exempt social service providers. The list was obtained via a Freedom of Information Act request by the Heartland Alliance for Human Rights. As of July 12, \$490,314,860.75 is owed to tax-exempt, non-profit organizations. Some of those awaiting payment include health care facilities powered by family physicians, such as PCC Wellness, Aunt Martha's Youth Services Health Network, Erie Family Health, Southern Illinois Health Foundation, and others.

View the full list at <http://www.illinoispartners.org/node/128>

State moves to durable Medicaid cards, seeks input

HFS in coordination with provider groups participating in the Primary Care Case Management and Disease Management Steering Committee is hosting working group meetings this summer for provider staff and office managers to discuss the transition to a permanent medical card. The meetings will focus on new requirements for eligibility verification, the development of provider and client education materials and training associated with the transition to the new medical card in Illinois.

Oak Park Meeting: Thursday July 29th from 1:00pm – 2:30pm
West Suburban Medical Center FMR (staff from community health centers and physician offices are invited). Please RSVP to vkeen@iafp.com
For more information, please contact
Robyn L. Nardone, Senior Healthcare Policy Advisor
IL Department of Healthcare & Family Services
312-793-5274 (Direct)

CME Information

Adult Smoking Cessation for the primary care provider

FREE CME Webinar (Earn 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit)

July 28th at Noon or 7pm RSVP by July 27th

Presented by Tamarah Duperval-Brownlee, MD - IAFP board member and assistant professor of family medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine.

Learn more and register at <http://www.iafp.com/CME/flyer.pdf> (must register by July 27)

Complex Cases in Primary Care Presented by TCL Institute

Saturday, July 31, 2010 from 8:00AM – 4:30PM

Hilton Rosemont/Chicago O'Hare

5550 North River Road Rosemont, IL 60018

This interactive, full-day, complimentary conference is an opportunity to earn 7.25 hours of CME credit in 1 day and features a series of complex case studies of patients with multiple comorbidities. Expert speakers will introduce the initial case presentations and guide participants through appropriate strategies for improving clinician-patient communication, diagnosis, and treatment related to a variety of disease states, including:

- Diabetes
- Alzheimer's disease
- Elderly depression
- Osteoporosis
- Diabetic neuropathic pain
- Fibromyalgia
- Gastroesophageal reflux disease
- Acute coronary syndrome
- Gout
- Overactive bladder
- Migraine
- Parkinson's disease
- Chronic pain

Please call (800) 260-4378 for more information, or visit www.TotalMedEd.com/CC to register.

Target Audience: This meeting is designed for a primary care audience including physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants.

Accreditation and Designation: The Duke University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. This activity has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 6.25 Prescribed credits by the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

Nurse practitioners and physician assistants can claim up to 7.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*.



This activity has been implemented in collaboration with

Update on Eczema, Asthma, and Atopic Conditions

Saturday, August 7, 2010

Northwestern Memorial Hospital - Feinberg Pavilion Conference Center

251 East Huron 3rd Floor Chicago, Illinois

A Jointly Sponsored Conference with the **Sixth National Eczema Association (NEA) Patient Conference**

The morning educational meeting is designed to cover comprehensively several aspects of atopic skin dermatitis, and other allergic conditions in adults and children. There have been new discoveries during the past decade that have shaped the optimal management in children and adults in atopic dermatitis.

Registration Fees

Physicians	\$80.00
Residents & Fellows	\$45.00
Allied Healthcare Professionals	\$60.00

The Saturday CME educational conference "Update on Eczema, Asthma and Atopic" has been approved for **7.75** AMA PRA Category 1 Credits(s), via the Office at the CME at Northwestern University. This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and National Eczema Association. CME credits/hours can be converted into CNE/CE credits for nurses if it is applicable to the area of certification (specialty).

To Register: Click or paste the following link

<http://www.northwesternevents.com/profile/form/index.cfm?PKformID=0x591015c5>

Radon Risk and Your Patients: Half day workshop in Springfield Sept. 25 3.5 AMA Category 1 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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<http://www.pri-med.com>

Partnering with the IAFP, Pri-Med offers world-class CME programs in your area. Taught by leading experts, you can earn Continuing Medical Education credits at little or no cost. All activities listed are approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s). Application for AAFP Prescribed credit has been submitted.

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

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NHSC expansion – now accepting applications through July 29

If you have ever considered working in an underserved community, now is the time to do so. The National Health Service Corps (NHSC) is recruiting 4,000 new members—double previous application cycles—for its loan repayment program. Primary care medical, dental, and behavioral and mental health clinicians working full-time at an approved National Health Service Corps site can receive \$50,000 toward repayment of their health professions student loans for 2 years of service and can apply for additional support for extended service – as much as \$145,000 for five years.

Submit your application by July 29. Visit the NHSC

Website <http://www.nhsc.hrsa.gov/loanrepayment/> to learn more about the program.

IHC webinar on Healthcare and Family Services billing updates

The July 2010 Monthly Provider Education session will provide information on the topic "HFS Billing Overview and Updates" via GoToWebinar on **Wednesday, July 28 from 12 noon-1 pm**

(central time). If you wish to participate, you must submit your registration form by Tuesday, July 27. Link to a registration form at <http://www.iafp.com/calendar/IHCBilling.pdf>

ICAAP Seminar – *The Business Side of Vaccines: Immunization Information You Can Use*

July 30th – 9:30am – 2:00pm

Sinai Children's Hospital 1500 S. California Avenue, Chicago, IL 60608

This event is designed for pediatricians, family physicians, nurse practitioners, office managers and practice billing/coding staff as well as other allied health care professionals caring for children. This **FREE** ICAAP seminar will feature local expert faculty presenting topics that highlight ideal business practices related to vaccine financing and reimbursement.

By attending the 2010 ICAAP *Business Side of Vaccines: Immunization Information You Can Use* seminar, participants will:

- Examine a full range of issues related to coding for the administration of vaccines & interpret various vaccine-related clinical examples presented to the audience and code patient encounters appropriately
- Review the five coding pearls: using time as the key factor; reporting services when patient is not physically present; consultation codes for pre-op exams, pediatric procedures; and special services
- Discuss vaccine recalls, mandatory reporting of communicable diseases, VAERS and vaccine documentation
- Review recent changes to the 2010 immunization schedule, discuss vaccine safety and approaches to talking to parents about vaccines

To register online for this seminar click the [registration link](#) or download and [fax the registration flyer](#) at <http://www.iafp.com/calendar/icaap.pdf> to 312/733-1791. For more information or to register, contact Salaeha Shariff at sshariff@illinoisap.com or 312/733-1026 ext. 207.

Repeat Items

Pre-existing conditions insurance on the way

On July 1, one of the most important provisions of health care reform took effect with the creation of the Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan. In mid-to-late-August, anyone who has been denied coverage because of pre-existing condition will be able to apply for coverage through Illinois' program. Learn more at <http://insurance.illinois.gov/hirc/default.asp#highriskpools>

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.

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.

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.

Russ Robertson, MD of Chicago is featured in a July 8th Fox32 Chicago special report on CommunityHealth clinic and the need to produce more primary care physicians to meet the demand for services everywhere once people gain insurance under federal reforms.

Emily Godfrey, MD of Chicago is featured in a July 18th *New York Times Magazine* feature story about a movement to bring abortion services and training into mainstream women's health care and residency training for OB-GYNs and family physicians. Godfrey's personal story and her work in the Chicago community are chronicled in the extensive article.

Brian McCollough, MD of Alsip is quoted in several editions of the *TribLocal* on July 10 and the *Northwest Indiana Times* on July 16. His practice, MetroSouth Medical Center is hosting a "Tune Up Time for Dads" essay contest, allowing kids to encourage their dads to get a physical or see their doctor.

Illinois Health Connect, the medical home program for Illinois Medicaid and All Kids clients is featured in the July 22 edition of *AAFP News Now*. IAFP member **Margaret Kirkegaard, MD** is medical director for the program and served as the primary source for the article, which examined the cost savings of the program, as well as the patient and provider satisfaction survey results.

Carrie Nelson, MD of Wheaton provides an educational and entertaining look at how music positively affects the brain in her latest blog posting "Gettin' High on Music" on the "Doctors Next Door." Check it out at <http://www.chicagonow.com/blogs/doctors-next-door/2010/07/post-3.html>.