



e-News for October 16, 2009

IAFP News

AAFP Action Alert! Call Senators Durbin and Burriss to support S.1776 – Eliminate the SGR Formula for Medicare Physician Payment!

The three-vote process on S. 1776 (Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan) “The Medicare Physicians Fairness Act of 2009” to finally rid Medicare of the SGR formula will begin as early as Monday, Oct. 19.

The bill would reset the sustainable growth rate, or SGR, formula, which Medicare currently uses to calculate the physician fee schedule, to zero and eliminate the \$245 billion debt that has accumulated during the past six years as a result of Congressional "fixes" to ensure physician payments were not reduced.

"S. 1776 would mean that Congress can finally recognize that the annual overriding of the reduction that the badly designed (SGR) formula generates is simply postponing the needed replacement of the payment formula," says the Speak Out letter from the AAFP. "It is critically important for Congress to face this responsibility and pass S. 1776 this week."

Before S. 1776 can reach the Senate floor, it must garner the support of **at least 60 senators** on three procedural votes: a motion to end debate; a motion to waive a budget point of order because the measure is not offset in the budget; and a motion to proceed to the bill. **Each of these will require a super majority of 60 votes**, with the first vote expected on Monday.

Please Call Senator Dick Durbin's office at 202-224-2152

AND Sen. Roland Burriss' office at 202-224-2854

Tell them to support Senate Bill 1776, Medicare Physicians Fairness Act of 2009, as a critical component of federal health care reform

If you can't call, please use AAFP Speak Out system to contact Illinois Senators Dick Durbin and Roland Burriss to support S.1776, Medicare Physician Fairness Act of 2009, to reset the SGR formula to zero. Use the link below:

<http://www.capwiz.com/aafp/issues/alert/?alertid=14181831>

Illinois Highlights from the AAFP Congress of Delegates

The Illinois representatives to the AAFP Congress of Delegates Michael Temporal, MD of Belleville, Ellen Brull, MD of Glenview, Kathleen Miller, MD of Decatur and Javette Orgain, MD of Chicago, had a busy week representing IAFP interests. Items of note to Illinois members include:

- Resolution 403 "Texting While Driving: Preventing Disaster" submitted by Illinois AAFP was adopted.

RESOLVED, That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) support national efforts to ban the use of text messaging while operating motor vehicles or machinery. IAFP

suggested that AAFP consider supporting specific national efforts such as signing on to the Safe Roads 4 Teens coalition, www.saferoads4teens.org and supporting HR 1895, the STAND UP Act, to provide driver safety grants to States with graduated driver licensing laws that meet certain minimum requirements. The issue was first raised by Arvind Goyal, MD of South Barrington, Ill. as a Resolution passed at the 2008 IAFP All Member Assembly Dec. 6, 2008.

- The Illinois AFP resolution 207 was combined with others to change AAFP policy regarding violence towards physicians. The AAFP Congress did adopt the following resolutions on physician violence:
 1. AAFP reaffirm its position condemning violence towards physicians practicing medicine,
 2. AAFP engage in a public discussion regarding how violence towards physicians impacts our health care delivery system,
 3. AAFP issue a statement condemning the murder of Dr. George Tiller, and
 4. AAFP publicly condemn any acts of violence against physicians which occur as a result of their legal practice of medicine.

- Late Resolution B “Hospitalists, American Board of Family Medicine and American Board of Internal Medicine,” written by Ed Hirsch, MD of Peoria and Rick Leary, MD of Oak Park, was rewritten and adopted calling for annual reporting to the Congress of Delegates on the status of a joint pilot project on Hospitalist practice by the American Boards of Family Medicine and Internal Medicine.

- IAFP Resident board member Elizabeth Salisbury, MD of Chicago received the American Academy of Family Physicians/Bristol Myers Squibb Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education. Dr. Salisbury joins only nine other family medicine residents nationwide in this prestigious recognition.

- IAFP New Physician Board member Ravi Shah, MD of Chicago was an AAFP National Conference of Special Constituencies Delegate to the Congress. “The AAFP Congress of Delegates afforded me a truly formative look into the inner workings of our organization on a national level. While there were frustrations about AAFP’s cautiousness on policy decisions, I received a first-hand look at how the AAFP delicately balances and represents the needs of family physicians throughout the country.”

Special thanks to Delegate Michael Temporal, MD for providing regular e-mail updates from Boston to the IAFP Volunteer leadership.

A Special Report from Illinois Delegation will be sent via e-mail next week

VOTE online for candidates for 2009-10 Board of Directors

The Leadership Development Task Force has slated candidates for the IAFP board of directors for 2009-2010. Electronic voting is open through **Friday, November 6**. **All IAFP active and life members** are encouraged to vote via a secure website, available 24 hours a day. To cast your vote, go to www.ivselection.com/IAFPballot/ . There you will be asked to enter a Voter ID #. This is your AAFP member number. (If you do not know your AAFP member number, call the IAFP office at 800-826-7944 and a staff member will look it up for you.) Once entered, it will take you to the voting page with instructions and a link to open (if you choose) the candidate bios and a photograph of each candidate.

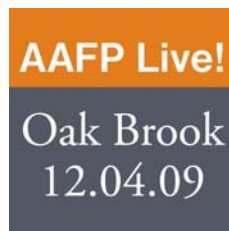
Register Now – IAFP Annual Meeting

Friday-Saturday December 4-5, 2009
Oak Brook Marriott Hotel

Register Online before Nov. 13 and save 50% on CME fees
\$40 for two days of CME (\$80 after Nov. 13)
Register Online at www.iafp.com

Annual Meeting Highlights include

- **AAFP Live!** CME program on Friday morning (separate registration required)*
- **Eight (8) hours** of IAFP top-notch CME over two days (full schedule and topics are on our web site at <http://www.iafp.com/CME/CMEinsert.pdf>)
- Unique “product theater” luncheon: **An Advance in Multimodal Analgesic Therapy**
- Wine Tasting Foundation Fundraiser on Friday, December 4
- Patient-Centered Medical Home session presented by AAFP Board member, Ken Bertka, MD of Toledo, Ohio
- All-Member Assembly and election of a new board of directors
- Awards banquet to honor FP of the Year and Family Medicine Teacher of the Year
 - o *Free for members, \$35 for non-member guests*
- The IAFP Board of Directors will meet Sunday, December 6



*More about AAFP Live

AAFP Live! is local, free CME delivering the latest science—from the leading experts—on the topics most relevant to you. This year's topic for a half-day course: **Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease**. *AAFP Live!* Registration is free, but space is limited. Register at www.aafplive.org.

UPDATE – H1N1 and Seasonal Flu Vaccines

CDC Updates from October 13

The following information is pulled from a CDC Emergency Communication Update dated Oct. 13

As of Friday, October 9, all states and the District of Columbia have placed orders for 2009 H1N1 vaccine and more orders are expected daily.

- While the national picture reveals good supply and rapid distribution, local areas may not have received as much **seasonal** vaccine as they anticipated at this point in the season and providers seeking additional vaccine now may be unable to purchase it. For more information about seasonal supply, please refer to IVATS (<http://www.preventinfluenza.org/ivats/>) over the coming weeks.

- Approximately 77 million doses of seasonal flu vaccine have been distributed, as of October 2, 2009. This is approximately 61% of the doses that are expected to be distributed for this season.

2009 H1N1 Influenza Resources

2009 H1N1 Influenza: Resources for Clinicians -

This page is designed to give clinicians access to the latest guidelines and information on the evolving novel H1N1 influenza investigation. <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/>

People at High Risk of Developing Flu-Related Complications -

Most people who get the flu (either seasonal or 2009 H1N1) will have mild illness, will not need medical care or antiviral drugs, and will recover in less than two weeks.

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/highrisk.htm>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Ad Council Launch National Campaign to Help Prevent the Spread of the H1N1 Flu Virus -

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is joining with the Ad Council to launch a series of national television public service advertisements (PSAs) designed to encourage Americans to take steps to protect themselves from the 2009 H1N1 flu virus.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/10/20091008d.html>

Cook Co. seeks volunteers for vaccine events

The Cook County Department of Public health is planning to conduct H1N1 mass vaccination of those deemed at high risk for developing serious complications if they become infected with the H1N1 virus, and urgently needs health professionals to assist with these vaccination efforts beginning in late October.

-Link to a [Cover letter](http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/ccletter.pdf) with more information at <http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/ccletter.pdf>

-Link to a [Flyer with signup details](http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/ccflyer.pdf) you can share via e-mail or print and post at your institution at <http://www.iafp.com/whatsnew/ccflyer.pdf>.

- Go to www.cookcountypublichealth.org/volunteer to facilitate those members who want to easily access our Cook County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) webpage to join. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either volunteer@ccdph.net or call 708-492-2820.

MORE RESOURCES ON H1N1

CDC Updated Interim Recommendations for the Use of Antiviral Medications in the Treatment and Prevention of Influenza for the 2009-2010 Season

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/recommendations.htm>

Questions and Answers about CDC's Revised Recommendations for the Use of Influenza Antiviral Drugs

<http://www.flu.gov/vaccine/antiviralfaq.html>

Federal Government Relations- Health Care Reform

Senate Finance Committee passes their reform bill

The Senate Finance Committee passed their bill on Tuesday, with only one (but symbolically significant) Republican vote from Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine). The Senate Finance bill will now be merged with the vastly different Senate HELP (Health, Education, Labor and Pensions) committee bill and brought to the full Senate.

AAFP Supports Bill to fund specialized training in rural communities

The AAFP is supporting a Senate bill that would give medical schools the resources to establish or expand rural physician training programs. The Rural Physician Pipeline Act of 2009 would award grants to medical schools for the establishment or support of existing programs that provide specialized training to students with an interest in serving rural communities. Link to AAFP News Now for more information at

<http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/publications/news/news-now/government-medicine/20091013ruralphysicianslegs.html>



Friendly Reminder

To complement and strengthen our position in the health care debate, it's vital that members support the AAFP FamMedPAC. The PAC supports candidates and incumbents of both parties that support family medicine's priority issues. Several Illinois members of Congress have received AAFP FamMedPAC contributions, hand delivered by IAFP constituents. Learn more and donate at <http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/policy/fammedpac.html>

CME Information

Indiana AFP Presents SAM Study Session

Saturday, November 14 from 8:30am to 4:30 pm
Marriott North Hotel – Indianapolis, Ind.

The Indiana offers two SAM Study Group Sessions covering *Hypertension* and *Care of the Vulnerable Elderly*.

The nightly rate at the hotel is \$109.

[Link to more information](http://www.iafp.com/CME/saminfo.pdf) at <http://www.iafp.com/CME/saminfo.pdf>

[Link to registration form](http://www.iafp.com/CME/samreg.pdf) at <http://www.iafp.com/CME/samreg.pdf>

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.

News you can use

Sign up by October 28 for potential E.H.R. Implementation Subsidies

Thinking about implementing an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system or optimizing your current one?

Your practice may qualify in 2010 for subsidized assistance from a Health Information Technology Regional Extension Center (HITRECs). HITRECs are part of a new national program

to offer technical assistance and support to health care providers to adopt, implement and meaningfully use electronic health records (EHRs). More information is available at <http://www.dhhs.gov/recovery/programs/hitech/factsheet.html>

HITREC sites will focus on primary care practices, most specifically individual and small group practices with ten or fewer providers; community health centers; rural health centers and other settings that predominantly serve uninsured, underinsured and medically underserved populations.

Illinois has three groups that are submitting proposals to be some of the 70 nationally funded HITREC sites. There can be more than one grant per state.

If your practice is interested and committed to receiving subsidized assistance to get an EHR or optimizing your current EHR, please send your name and National Provider Number (NPI) to Vince Keenan, vkeenan@iafp.com **by October 28**. Questions??? Call Vince at 630-427-8002. *Adding your name to the list of interested IAFP members does not bind you to participating, it only indicates your interest and commitment to EHRs.*

CLOCC offers “5-4-3-2-1 Go!” materials

CLOCC (Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children) is excited to share with you a city wide campaign to promote physical activity and healthy eating practices to your patients and their families.

The *5-4-3-2-1 Go!* message is simple 5 servings of fruits and vegetables, 4 servings of water, 3 servings of low-fat dairy, 2 hours or less of screen time, and 1 hour of physical activity daily. There are a few pick-up locations around the city to get *5-4-3-2-1Go!* posters and flyers.

- **Teamwork Englewood**, 815 W. 63rd St. in Chicago **from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m on Monday, October 19 only.**
- **CO-OP: Humboldt Park**, 2703 W. Division, 2nd floor in Chicago **from 12 - 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20 only.**
- **Pilsen Wellness Center**, 2319 S. Damen in Chicago **from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 22 only.**

Please submit your request in advance to info@clocc.net to make sure your order will be filled - be sure to specify which location you want to pick up from. Otherwise, materials are available on a first come/first served basis until they run out. Materials are also available for pick-up at the CLOCC office in Lincoln Park if advance arrangements are made. Please call 312-573-7760 for more information.

Webinar CME Option

Participate in the *Web-training in Clinical Counseling to Prevent and Treat Obesity in Children and Youth Using the 5-4-3-2-1 Go! Message* developed by the Clinical Practices Working Group (CPWG) of the Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (CLOCC).

The intended audience for this training is all primary care physicians who treat patients aged 2-18. The purpose of this CME activity is to improve health care providers' ability to provide clinical counseling to prevent and ameliorate obesity in children and youth.

To participate:

- visit <http://www.clocc.net/54321GOtraining/>
- register with new username and password
- complete training

For more information on *5-4-3-2-1 Go!*, please email info@clocc.net or call 312-573-7760.

Health Professionals FREE Webinar: Safeguarding the Health of America's Children: The Important Role of Nutrient-Rich Foods

Thursday, October 29, 2009

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Americas) Central Time (US & Canada)

The National Dairy Council has long been committed to child health and wellness and will provide a careful look at current child nutrition guidelines and opportunities, together, to promote a healthier environment for today's children. Nutrition scientists, Lynn Moore and Karen Rafferty, will also be joining the Webinar to discuss timely insights and share their latest research on the importance of nutrient-rich foods in improving child health and wellness.

Link to registration at: <http://www.eventsvc.com/NDC-Child%20Nutrition/>

STFM Seeks student nominations from med school faculty

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) invites family medicine predoctoral directors and predoctoral faculty to nominate one of your students with both an interest in family medicine and potential for an academic career to receive a scholarship to attend the upcoming Predoctoral Education Conference, January 28-31, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront in Jacksonville, FL.

Three students will be chosen for these scholarships and will each receive reimbursement of travel expenses and registration fees of up to \$500 from STFM. It is expected that the nominating family medicine department will match these funds to complete the student's reimbursement. Only one student can be selected from each department. STFM and the American Academy of Family Physicians are supporting a fourth scholarship to be awarded to a student from a family medicine "target school" (without a department of family medicine). That student will receive reimbursement of travel expenses and registration fees of up to \$1,000.

To nominate a student, submit the following via e-mail to cburns@stfm.org by October 19:

- Letter of nomination from predoctoral director or predoctoral faculty
- Statement from student addressing how he/she has contributed to meeting at least one of STFM's goals/core values (see list below). Limit statements to 250 words. Statements that go over the word count may be disqualified.
- Contact information (including e-mails) for the nominator and the student nominee
- Students with presentations that have been accepted for the meeting are eligible to apply; however, having a presentation in the meeting is not required to apply for the scholarship.

Please note that winning students' essays/statements will be displayed at the 2010 conference. A subcommittee of the STFM Education Committee will select the scholarship recipients. Both the winners and those not selected will be notified by November 10. If you have questions, contact Cindy Burns, STFM, at 800-274-2237, ext. 5417, cburns@stfm.org.

Members in the news

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

Russ Robertson, MD of Chicago is quoted extensively in the Oct. 12 Kaiser Health News article on the Senate Finance Committee health care reform bill. Robertson, interviewed as the chair of the Council on Graduate Medical Education, notes that there are not sufficient provisions to significantly increase the number of family physicians entering practice.

IAFP board member **Tamarah Duperval, MD** of Chicago was featured on NBC5-TV on October 7 about running the Chicago Marathon to raise funds for Breast Cancer research after losing two young friends to the disease. She finished in 5:14:11 – Congratulations!!

Carrie Nelson, MD of Wheaton is quoted throughout an Oct. 15 Chicago Sun-Times article about the crush of calls into doctors' offices about H1N1 vaccine, although the story incorrectly identified her as a pediatrician! Dr. Nelson also did a live WGN-TV interview at 6:15 am (on less than 2 hours notice!) about the H1N1 flu on Monday, October 12.

Information from our Partner Companies



<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 Access with ACP

You're invited to this complimentary 2-day, innovative CME program designed for primary care physicians with active patient panels. In collaboration with the ACP and Pri-Med Institute, the CME curriculum addresses four essential primary care areas: cardiovascular disease, diabetes/obesity, immunizations, and dependency disorders where you can learn assessment techniques, preventative strategies, and new treatments and therapies.

>> **Chicago, IL – Friday and Saturday, November 6-7, 2009**

http://www.pri-med.com/pmo/ViewEvent.aspx?EventCode=26chi09b&CCODE=r12&utm_source=oafp&utm_medium=partnerlink&utm_campaign=AM_IAFP_R12

(Please note: This program is designed for primary care physicians with active patient panels and whose attendance at this program will benefit the treatment of their patients. A limited number of registration opportunities will be made available for nurse practitioners and physician assistants also engaged in active patient care.)

Pri-Med Midwest Conference & Exhibition

Annual conference and exhibition composed of Pre-Conference Symposia day, 3 core program days, and over 50 clinical lectures from Harvard Medical School and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Plus, a dozen practice management sessions, industry-supported symposia, and a dynamic exhibit hall.

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. Position available in busy primary care clinic for a full-time or part-time Family Medicine physician. Frances Nelson Health Center, Satellite of Community Health Improvement Center, is

a Federally Qualified Health Center located in **Champaign, IL**. Champaign is a friendly, multicultural and diverse community and home to the University of Illinois. The city has easy access to three major metropolitan areas. Our clinic is a Family Medicine model providing care to babies, children, adults, and pregnant women. Benefits include health and life insurance, CME reimbursement, and Retirement plan for full-time physicians. Relocation assistance is also available.

Please call Andrea Goldberg, Site Director at 217 403-5401 and/or send letter of inquiry and resume to: agoldberg@chealthctr.org. We look forward to hearing from you to further discuss this opportunity.

2. Family physician for progressive, medical home practice in **Southwest Chicago**. Must be computer savvy. Must have excellent communication skills. Must have a passion for being an excellent family doctor. E-mail resume to lzielinski@visioneermd.com or fax 815-846-1072.

3. Practice full-spectrum family medicine! Full-time position for family physician at **Logan Square Health of Cook County**. Join three other family physicians and three internists in this busy health center servicing the north side of Chicago. Position is mainly outpatient focused, but includes resident/student teaching, obstetrics and inpatient care. Current interest/competency in obstetrics is required. Bilingual Spanish or Polish is highly desirable. Salary is competitive and benefits are excellent. Contact Stephen Stabile, MD at chisalvato@gmail.com if interested.

Repeat Items

Illinois Health Connect Providers – IMPORTANT NOTICE

If your practice is an Illinois Health Connect primary care provider (PCP), the following information may be helpful to you.

The Illinois Health Connect PCP network has a capacity for 5.3 million clients and approximately 1.7 million clients are enrolled. Through securing a “best fit” medical home, IHC improves continuity of care, access to preventive services and coordination of chronic disease care for the client. 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

Phase I requires patients to be seen by their own IHC PCP or a physician or clinic affiliated with their PCP. IHC PCPs seeing patients enrolled in Illinois Health Connect but not enrolled on their panel, or on an affiliated PCP's panel on the date of service, must obtain a referral from the patient's PCP in order to be reimbursed by HFS for services provided. PCPs will be able to submit referrals for their Illinois Health Connect patients to see other PCPs through the Illinois Health Connect Provider Portal via the secure MEDI system and directly with Illinois Health Connect via fax and phone. **Subspecialty care does not require a referral in Phase I.** Certain services such as inpatient care, lead screening, immunizations, STD treatment, lab and diagnostic testing are designated as direct access services and do not require a referral regardless of who provides the services.

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

IHC Referral Video (23 MB) v <http://illinoishealthconnect.com/providerinfo.aspx>

(Click the link above to watch the video, or Right Click on the link and "Save As" to download to your computer.)

Illinois Health Connect (IHC) is hosting a series of training webinars and presentations entitled, "**Illinois Health Connect: Referral System Implementation-Phase 1.**" Additional webinars and live presentations will be scheduled throughout the coming months around the state. Please check the IHC website at www.illinoishealthconnect.com under Events Calendar (presentations) or Provider Education (webinars) for an updated schedule of trainings.

These educational sessions are open to all IHC Primary Care Providers, administrative, and clinical staff. Link to a registration form at <http://www.iafp.com/calendar/IHC.pdf>

Live Presentations:

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Robert Morris University (formerly Robert Morris College) (7:30am-9am)
1507 Waukegan Road
Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Monday, October 26, 2009

Elgin Community College (7:30am-9am)
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, Illinois 60123

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Joliet Junior College (12-1:30pm)
1215 Houbolt Road
Joliet, Illinois 60431

Flu Clinic Locator can direct patients to seasonal flu shots

If you are not giving flu shots at your practice, you can still help ensure your patients get vaccinated. The American Lung Association website once again offers a "flu clinic locator" function. You can type in your zip code, and how many miles you are willing to travel to get your flu shot (5 miles, 10 miles, etc) and what dates you are interested in getting your shot. Every available clinic in the area on the dates requested will be listed.

Visit the Flu Clinic Locator to find a location convenient to you:

<http://www.flucliniclocator.org/>

PS...Have you and your staff received your flu shot?

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