



Family Physician

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New IAFP board members are installed by Leah Raye Mabry, vice speaker of AAFP.



Fredric "Rick" Leary, M.D., Oak Park, takes the oath of office for president of IAFP.



Dr. Michael Brummer of Effingham, finishes his terms with the IAFP as outgoing chair of the board.

New IAFP leaders elected

President, Fredric D. Leary, M.D.
President-Elect, Kathleen J. Miller, M.D.
Chair of the board, Ellen Brull, M.D.
Treasurer, Anette Mnabhi, D.O.
First vice president, Steven D. Knight, M.D.
Second vice president, Javette C. Orgain, M.D.

Board of directors, Class of 2006

Anette KS Mnabhi, D.O.
 Jeffrey Suzewits, D.O.
 Patrick Tranmer, M.D.

Board of directors, Class of 2007

Karole A. Lakota, M.D.
 Manoj Mathew, M.D.
 Anna Mies Richie, M.D.

Board of directors, Class of 2008

James G. Cunnar, M.D.
 Ashwani Garg, M.D.
 Michael P. Temporal, M.D.

New Physician

Lizbet Ronning, M.D.
Resident, Tina Brueschke M.D.
Student, Carrie Holland

AAFP Delegates

Kelly Carroll, M.D.
 Christine A. Petty, M.D.

AAFP Alternate Delegates

Susan Rife, D.O.
 Tim J. Vega, M.D.

Foundation leadership

Arvind K. Goyal, M.D., chair
 Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., vice chair
 Steven M. Wilk, M.D., treasurer
 Vincent D. Keenan, CAE, secretary
 Michael Brummer, M.D., director
 Robert Heerens, M.D., director
 Ronald L. Johnson, M.D., director
 Steven D. Knight, M.D., director
 Fredric D. Leary, M.D., director
 Susan Rife, D.O., director
 Stephen Stabile, M.D., director
 Tim J. Vega, M.D., director
 Allison Rittmann, M.D., resident director
 Aaron Traeger, student director
 Christine H. Emerson, executive director

2005-06 IAFP Committees and Chairs

Awards and Promotion, Michael McGarry, M.D.
CME, Sharon Smaga, M.D.
FM Educators, Quincy Scott, D.O..
Government Relations, Steven M. Wilk, M.D.
Leadership Development, Tim J. Vega, M.D.
Membership and Member Services, Robert Bales, M.D.
Public Health, Eric Henley, M.D.
Quality and Safety in Practice, Carrie Nelson, M.D.
Resident and Student Affairs, Deborah Edberg, M.D.
Rural Health, Matt Hunsaker, M.D.
Ten State Conference, Rick Leary, M.D.

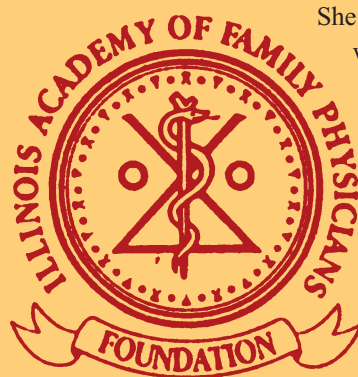
Send an e-mail to iafp@iafp.com expressing interest in joining one of the committees. Staff will get back to you!

Make your donation today!



\$10 new Foundation donor bonus offered

Christine Petty, M.D., AAFP delegate and a past president of IAFP and the Foundation, has offered to donate \$10 for every new IAFP Foundation donor through December 31, 2005, as a way to encourage more members to give to the IAFP Foundation.



She says, "Member donations have been down in recent years and I wanted to come up with some way to encourage our members to give to the IAFP Foundation. I believe in our mission of assuring access to Family Physicians and the quality care we provide, and I wanted to support that. If we don't support our own specialty, I don't know who will. I hope this encourages all of our members to give something to the Foundation."

Send your donations to: IAFP Foundation, 4756 Main St., Lisle, IL 60532; or contact cemerson@iafp.com with questions or more ideas to raise funds for the IAFP Foundation.

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The IAFP group in DC included (L-R) Ellen Brull, M.D., IAFP Chair; Javette Orgain, M.D., IAFP second vice president; Rick Leary, M.D., IAFP president; Katie Miller, M.D., IAFP president-elect; James Cunnar, M.D., IAFP board member; Martin Lipsky, M.D., dean of Rockford Medical School. Not pictured are IAFP staff members Gordana Krkic, CAE, vice president of government relations; and Vincent Keenan, CAE, executive vice president.

Illinois FPs climb Capitol Hill

"Success for the Illinois AFP leaders" is the summary of IAFP's lobbying journey to Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. The Illinois contingent met with ten Illinois representatives or their staff, both staffs of the Illinois senators, and dropped off packets at seven more Illinois representatives' offices. The group also participated in a breakfast with Senators Dick Durbin and Barack Obama.

At the breakfast for Illinois constituents, Rick Leary, M.D., IAFP president, asked the Illinois senators about the \$10 billion in federal funding cuts that Medicaid faces. Senator Durbin replied that healthcare was the biggest issue that Congress was not facing. Senator Obama praised the value of America's family physicians providing preventive services and long-term relationships with patients.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Rick Leary, M.D.



The following are excerpts from Rick Leary, M.D.'s speech to the All Member Assembly after being sworn in as IAFP's president.

Please allow me to express the tremendous sense of honor, humility and abject fear with which I accept this office—especially since it comes from this wonderful group.

Part of the fear comes from the responsibility being the president of IAFP confers. I am willing to accept the responsibilities that go with this office, but realize that I need, more than ever, your continued support and guidance. I realize too that I hold this office in trust. In trust for those that preceded me so ably—especially Dr. Brull—and in trust for those who will follow me.

As for me, I believe when you distill your life down there are five things that really matter: Faith, Friends, Family, Health and Productivity.

FAITH

“The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

I have great faith in Family Medicine. We are our patients' advocates. We are on the front line of wellness care while our colleagues are mired in the old disease-based models of care. Our “product” is a happier, healthier patient; a child that learns; an adolescent who grows into a self-respecting adult; an older person who is pain-free and serene in death. We change people's lives!

And you know we do all of that while at the same time we are the only specialty that has proven that we save money while improving outcomes. Costs of health care are rising and the epidemiology of disease is shifting from acute care to chronic care. This is our time of opportunity—not a time for fear and retrenchment! We have proven for decades that we have the abilities and the heart to achieve better outcomes at lower costs. How could I not have faith in our future?!

I also have my own faith and belief systems that are very important to me, but I try to be careful not to impose that faith on my patients. I have had patients who asked me to pray with them – and I have done so gladly. Even more frequently, I pray for my patients. I think it helps. I believe that with all the advances we have seen in medicine, personal faith is at least as powerful a force in the illness process as some of the medicines I prescribe.

So, I pray with my patients if they would like; I pray for my patients; and I pray for myself and my abilities to deliver the care they need. When I pray for myself I often use the Serenity Prayer:

Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, The Courage to change the things I can And the Wisdom to know the difference...

Serenity, Acceptance, Courage and Wisdom... powerful ideals, but achievable!

FRIENDS

“Without friends, no one would want to live, even if he had all other goods.”

Aristotle

I am blessed with a lot of friends, both inside and outside of medicine. They not only provide us with diversions when we get a chance to play, they also teach us valuable lessons about ourselves. IAFP has been a wonderful source of friends for me since I moved to Illinois, and that has made all the difference in my continued work with the Academy. At one of my first Academy meetings I noticed a few leaders with a button on that said “No Whining.” I thought, “No whining—hey! This is the kind of organization I want to be part of!” Another way to say “No Whining” – Accept the things I cannot change – that fit my belief system.

Mark Twain wrote, “Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear.”

Courage means not being afraid to make mistakes.

In business circles, it is said that for every 15 ideas, only about two have merit. But take heart in the fact that each idea is usually just a stepping-stone to a better one. Great minds working together can produce solutions! IAFP has those minds willing to work together.

FAMILY

“No matter what you've done for yourself or for humanity, if you can't look back on having given love and attention to your own family, what have you really accomplished?”

Lee Iacocca

I have been blessed with such a wonderful family it is hard to sum up how important that is in just a few thoughts. I am married to a beautiful woman from Ireland—Mary Pat. She is my love, my confidant and my best friend, in addition to a fabulous mother and a renowned urogynecologist. She is the living embodiment of the Serenity Prayer—she has to be, she has put up with me for the last 15 years!

Our oldest son, Conor, has been surprising us since he was born. Conor knew his alphabet before he was two and was reading before he was potty-trained. We put him in pre-school when he was three, where one of the teachers wrote out his first name in big capital letters and asked him if he could read what it said. He looked at her questioningly and she promptly tried to reassure him it was OK if he couldn't, but please try. So he looked again at the paper and said, “Name: Conor. Kindergarten Reading Readiness Assessment Test.”

I think he was ready!! He has so much wisdom....

Our second child, Aisling (her name means “a dream” in Irish) was also full of surprises. Daddy's little girl, she could do no wrong in my eyes. However, she wasn't really hitting her milestones. After multiple tests, consults, and worry-filled nights we were told that her developmental delay was due to a congenital muscle problem. Aisling didn't know about that stuff and she sure wasn't going to let it stop her trying to keep up with her older brother. She couldn't crawl or walk, so she invented a way of scooting around on her butt in order to follow him—all the time with a beautiful smile on her face. That took courage!

Aidan, our youngest, is so earnest and literal about everything. He makes grand pronouncements about life and he loves people. I would say that he would make a great family doctor, but he has already decided he is going to be President of the United States in 2036—the first year he is eligible. So mark your calendars and remember to vote for him—I have little doubt he will do as he promises. He is the one in school who knows every kid's name as well as their parents'. He always seems to know the right thing to say, even if it is just to get out of trouble—I envy his youthful exuberance, his clarity of thought, his serenity...

HEALTH

“Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them beautifully.”

Zig Ziglar

Being in health care for a long time, there are any number of stories I could tell about health, but two of the ones that had the greatest impact on my love of Family Medicine happened in the beginning.

In 1984 I was doing a summer externship with my uncle, Dennis Chagnon in Albany, NY where I grew up. We would start the day with hospital rounds. One Monday he took me to the ward where they had the negative pressure rooms. We stopped outside and he said he wanted to talk to me—it went something like this: “I have a patient in this room who is gay and has AIDS. Do you know what that is?” I told him that I had heard of it but it was all fairly new. He explained to me that he had pneumocystis pneumonia and needed oxygen as well as IV antibiotics. He was in the negative pressure room because some people believed that you could catch AIDS from airborne particles, kissing, or even handshakes—no one was sure, but he did not believe that was how it was transmitted. He had every intention of walking into that room, shaking this man's hand and examining him, as he had done so often in the office, without the use of the gloves, mask, or gown provided

outside the room because that is the respect he wanted to show this patient not being afraid. He hoped I would come along but would think nothing less of me if I chose not to. Well, I did go into that room and shake that patient's hand and it forever guided my views of what we owe our patients who trust us with their lives.

Courage to change the things that we can. Even if it is one gesture for one patient – IT MATTERS!

Even before I decided on medicine as a career, my father served as a role model. In the days before pagers and cell phones, his answering service would call the house looking for him. I answered one such call on a lovely Fall Sunday afternoon and I muted the football game we were watching as he went to take the call. I watched his face fall and heard his resigned voice speaking to the caller. The exact words that he spoke on the phone have long since vanished from my memory, but I do remember that when he got off the call he had lost interest in the game and I asked him what had happened. He explained that one of his patients had just died. In response to more of my questions, he explained that no, it wasn't sudden or unexpected, she was not in pain—it was just that he would miss her. Then he added that he had been a doctor for over 20 years and seen death in many circumstances but no matter how many times it happened or how expected it was, it always bothered him. He said he would never get used to it, but it came with the job!

To me, that was a profound example of someone with Wisdom to know the difference.

PRODUCTIVITY

“It's not good enough that we do our best, sometimes we have to do what's required.”

Winston Churchill

I saved productivity 'til last because it is a subject near and dear to my heart. A few years ago I got my MBA in health care administration. It changed my perspective on many things, both inside and outside of medicine. Medicine is a business and we don't have to apologize for that...but we do have to define what it is that we do and who we do it for. Then we had better be able to measure it, market it and continuously improve it. If we fail to do this, the law of disruptive innovation tells us that somebody else will and they will pass us by.

IAFP is an organization that is here to help Family Physicians all across Illinois with these challenges. I personally, as president, would like to offer you a promise I paraphrase from management guru, Peter Drucker: “I am here to listen. I want to hear: what I need to know about you and your aspirations—both for yourself and this organization of ours. Where do you see opportunities that we don't seem to be taking advantage of? Where do you see threats? What are we doing well? What are we doing badly? What improvements do we have to make?”

So, I would ask all of you to work with me to find the opportunities IAFP has not yet taken advantage of and help to move us forward. As I stated earlier, I have faith in the future of family medicine and I want you to believe in it as well. I want to spread that faith—and the excitement of the unknown before us—to others...to the medical students and residents and our colleagues who have become jaded because of the health care system within which we work. Family Medicine is not going away—it is going to get stronger. Yes, there will be change and challenge, and perhaps even pain—pain that some are saying makes medicine no longer worth doing.

I refuse to believe that! Some would have you believe that this is a time of choice between the old way and the new way. I am here to tell you that no such choice exists. We in Family Medicine live to serve and as in any service-industry, what we do will of necessity change as our patients' needs change. Besides, what we do for people is worth any pain we have to suffer in order to make the changes that will allow us to deliver the right care to every patient every time – they deserve nothing less! And because of who we are as family physicians, I know we have the serenity to accept the vagaries of patient care, the courage to change the system to make it more patient-orientated and the wisdom to make it work fiscally.

I thank you again for the honor of letting me serve you as president.



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New program looks to partner with doctor's offices

DOQ-IT is here to help

The Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care (IFQHC), the Quality Improvement Organization for Illinois, is seeking participants for the Doctor's Office Quality - Information Technology (DOQ-IT) project. The DOQ-IT project is a national initiative aimed at assisting physician offices with enhancing technology capabilities in such operational areas as workflow efficiencies and implementation of Electronic Health Records (EHRs). As the lead agency in Illinois, IFQHC will provide support to small and medium practices in implementing EHRs.

"We (IFQHC) are not a vendor of EHR products, nor do we endorse any vendor. What we do is help you and your staff identify which of the existing systems would best meet your practice's needs," explains IFQHC EHR

Advisor Jeanette Kebisek. "We work with doctors to review changes needed in office workflow to ensure an EHR system can be implemented efficiently and without duplication of work."

Electronic health records (EHR) help doctors access patient information more quickly, ensure more accurate charts and can even improve diagnoses and patient safety. After a physician office signs on to work with the DOQ-IT program, IFQHC staff will analyze the office's operations to determine what sort of EHR system best meets the needs of that particular office. IFQHC will help participants prepare for the changes to an EHR system and then help the practice select a suitable EHR vendor.

The support continues once the new system is in place, as the DOQ-IT program includes assistance in evaluating the effectiveness of the system and searching for ways use of the EHR system can be optimized in each participating physician office.

DOQ-IT is not tied to any single type of EHR system or software vendor. Participating practices will be able to choose their own system and not be pushed to adopt a specific product.

While EHR systems are still somewhat new, they are quickly gaining ground in the medical world. Kebisek believes the offices that get an early start on EHR systems are the most likely to be ready when the entire medical world manages information electronically. By working with IFQHC and the resources of DOQ-IT, offices can avoid choosing a system that turns out to be the Beta of EHR as the rest of the medical community is using the EHR equivalent of VHS.

Working with industry leaders, IFQHC will be offering consultative services and holding educational sessions for interested providers. Physician leaders and frontline office staff from practices that are interested in EHR system implementation should visit www.ifqhc.org or call 1-800-386-6431.

Improved patient care and safety one IT benefit

by Ben Brewer, M.D.

If you've ever thought to yourself "I would like to improve the quality of medicine that I practice for my patients, but I don't know exactly where to start" then the DOQ-IT project is for you. They have the expertise to help you improve patient outcomes and safety in your practice.

In my case, I would like to know how many hypertensive patients I have in my practice, who are not controlled on medication and who are overdue for follow-up. I don't have any of my answers quite yet and if you're like most doctors, I bet you don't either.

We could substitute childhood immunization rates or any other healthcare quality measure you want to talk about in the office setting and the answer would still probably be "Interesting question, but I don't know."

Have you ever gotten some report of HEDIS data or pharmacy cost data from an insurer and thought—what is this junk? I know I'm doing better than this or at least I hope I'm doing better than this. Why should some insurance company know more about my practice health quality measures than me?

I signed up for this project to have the DOQ-IT staff help me address these issues within my own practice. If insurance companies ever get around to really paying for performance, so much the better.

When the Institute of Medicine came out with the report that said medical errors were the 8th leading cause of death in the U.S, claiming 98,000 lives per year, I admit I didn't believe it. I still find it hard to swallow.

I was thinking medical errors were more like the 4083rd cause right behind accidental sport injuries not otherwise specified. The real numbers are hard to take considering no government actuary was there in the middle of the night the last time I saved one.

I embarked on this project because of my pride in my profession. I was tired of hearing people in the government, business and the legal communities talk the about substandard care given by doctors and accusing us of not doing enough about it.

In 2004, Terrance Levin, president of the Illinois State Bar Association said in a WBBM radio interview "If they did something to cut down on the occurrence of medical malpractice errors, we wouldn't have any kind of crisis. OK? And I was contacted by a reporter a couple of months ago, asking me if there were any

novel theories that people were using in malpractice cases in Illinois. My answer was no, we don't need them. We keep making the same mistakes over and over. The next study done by the Illinois State Medical Society on how to reduce medical malpractice errors will be the first."

When I heard that, I wanted to tell that guy to go pound sand. I was steamed. Then I realized that at least part of his statement was true. I personally wasn't doing anything to improve my practice performance and safety other than working hard and giving my best every day. I needed new tools and expertise to go beyond that. You do too.

If you have the desire to do better, but no systematic approach to achieve improved practice performance, then the DOQ-IT program can help you. Your patients will thank you for it.

Ben Brewer, M.D. is a Family Physician with a rural, private practice in Forrest, IL. He received a President's Award at the IAFP Annual Meeting in June. See page 5.

In addition to delivering babies and making the occasional house call, Dr. Brewer is a healthcare columnist for the Wall Street Journal. His biweekly column, "The Doctor's Office," is a first hand account of issues facing doctors today.



DOQ-IT

Doctor's Office Quality - Information Technology

EHRs can be powerful tools to improve the delivery of health care and maximize physicians' time.

Successful implementation and utilization of EHRs is not based in the product purchased but in the careful assessment and planning prior to product selection.

The DOQ-IT program is designed to help practices

- Identify EHR vendors that meet their practice needs
- Analyze Return on Investment
- Strategize training, implementation, and conversion
- Optimize operations and quality care measures after implementation

The Illinois Foundation for Quality Health Care (IFQHC) is offering no-cost assistance for primary care practices in Illinois that care for Medicare patients and are interested in implementing an EHR system in the next two years. Visit the IFQHC Web site at www.ifqhc.org and click on the DOQ-IT icon for more information and an application to participate.



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President's Awards

Ellen Brull, M.D., as one of her last official acts as IAFP's president, bestowed President's Awards on several members of IAFP during the All Member Assembly. She wanted to "share the impact these individuals are having on our specialty, our future and in shaping me as your president."



Benjamin Brewer, M.D.

Her first award went to Dr. Benjamin Brewer of Forrest, a solo family physician in a small rural community who authors a twice-monthly column in the *Wall Street Journal*

Online. His column, "From the Doctor's Office," provides a personal glimpse into the challenges and the rewards of any given day in family medicine and promotes the specialty to the public.



Steve Wilk, M.D.

Dr. Steve Wilk of Hinsdale, a mentor to Dr. Brull, was the second President's Award recipient. Dr. Brull said of Dr. Wilk, "When you think back to almost any

point in life, you are always looking up to someone ahead of you as an example. Steve is that example to me. Whether in his office taking care of patients, making hospital rounds, representing us in Springfield or on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., Steve is an unflappable leader who represents the best of family medicine." Dr. Wilk has served IAFP and the Foundation boards for more than two decades, as well as serving on countless committees and task forces. There is nothing he won't volunteer to do to further family medicine.



Ed Hirsch, M.D.

Dr. Brull's final award went to Dr. Ed Hirsch for his tireless advocacy for family medicine and leadership for IAFP. He too is a past president of both the IAFP and the

Foundation and has served on countless committees and task forces. Formerly of Sycamore, Dr. Hirsch has been a true advocate and friend to IAFP, family medicine, and the patients he served over the years. He recently left Illinois for the mountains of Tennessee and a new challenge with John Deere Health Care.

Dr. Brull asked staff to pull a list of all the medical students that spent four weeks with Ed Hirsch through the Foundation's Summer Externship program. He has hosted a student every year since 1994.

Of all the students that have finished medical school –

- All eight of them are in primary care specialties.
- Five are family physicians
- Three are family physicians in Illinois.
- One is current IAFP board member Dr. Karole Lakota, who has been an active IAFP member since she was a med student herself. Dr. Lakota's practice includes caring for high-risk pregnancies and doing C-sections.
- One is Dr. Lisa Walker, Chair of the Rural Health committee who is also here today.
- His 2003 extern is Carrie Holland, who served this year on the IAFP Foundation Board, and will be the student member of the IAFP Board this coming year.

"You could say Dr. Hirsch is like a proud papa when his former externs have gone on to family medicine careers and leadership roles in IAFP," says Dr. Brull. "It is this type of leadership that is so vital to our mission, attracting the best to family medicine and encouraging the next generation of IAFP leadership."

Dr. Brull later presented a President's Award to State Representative Julie Hamos (D-Evanston) for her assistance in sponsoring and passing HB 2345 establishing the Illinois Electronic Medical Records Task Force. She could not attend the All-Member Assembly to receive her award.

IAFP honors 2005 Teacher of the Year and Distinguished Service Award Winner

St. Elizabeth's Hospital celebrates with IAFP

Over sixty people packed into the atrium of a neighborhood Mexican restaurant on the northwest side of Chicago to honor a couple of their favorite physicians. They were family, friends, colleagues, former students and current patients. By the time the festivities ended, the room was filled with laughter, smiles and a few tears of joy.

The Academy honored two of its finest family physicians – who also happen to be colleagues and friends. James Lang, M.D., of PrimeCare, received the IAFP Distinguished Service Award for his 15 years of service to the Humbolt Park community. Michael Friedman, M.D., of St. Elizabeth's Hospital Family Medicine Residency, is the 2005 IAFP Family Medicine Teacher of the Year.



IAFP president-elect Rick Leary, M.D. (L), presented James Lang, M.D. (Center) and Michael Friedman, M.D. (R) with their awards.

IAFP (then) president-elect Dr. Fredric D. Leary, of Oak Park, presented the awards along with IAFP awards and promotions committee chair Dr. John Sage and family medicine educators committee chair Dr. Crystal Cash. Board member Patrick Tranmer, M.D., who works with Dr. Friedman at UIC, also attended.

Dr. James Lang, Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Lang, 43, was honored for a career of service to patients and to his specialty of family medicine. In only 15 years of practice, he has established incredibly strong ties to his patients and the community, whether in the clinic or in the neighborhood. According to Dr.

Michael Friedman, who originally contacted IAFP about Dr. Lang, "Half the employees of the hospital seem to be his patients, and the half who aren't have relatives who are."

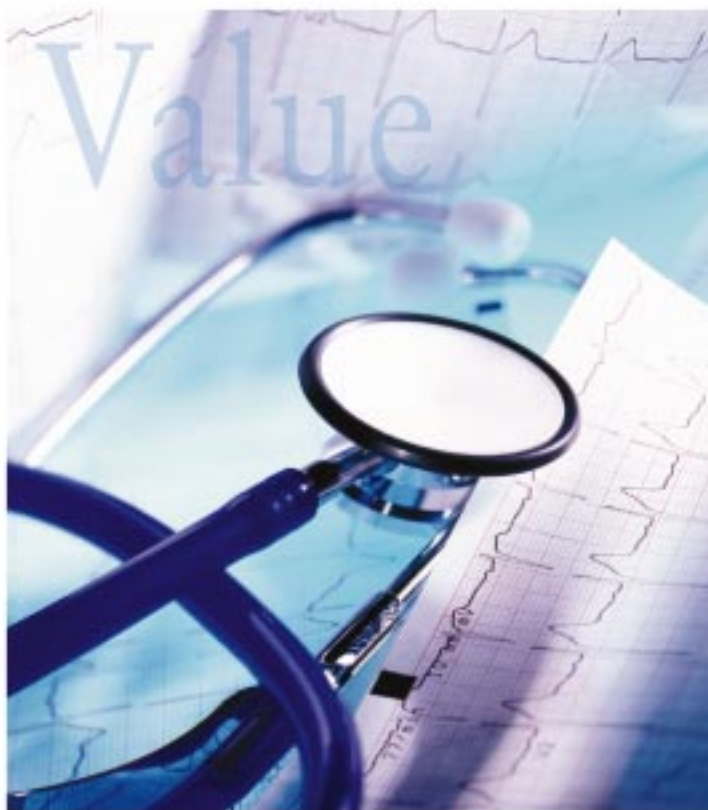
Dr. Lang spends about 60 percent of his time at the very busy Fullerton Avenue clinic, a branch of the federally qualified health center PrimeCare Community Health. He speaks fluent Spanish in treating the largely Hispanic patient base. He also spends

two days a week as an instructor for the St. Elizabeth's Hospital Family Practice Residency Program working alongside Dr. Friedman.

The Distinguished Service Award is given at the discretion of the IAFP awards and promotions committee to honor an IAFP member with outstanding service to patients over a career. "Family physicians are

continued on page 6

Doctors Know... The Value of Uncompromised Standards



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Practices That Set The Standard

NEWS BRIEFS

MEDICARE PART D won't get any easier

Through IAFP's work with the Medicaid Leadership Group, the IAFP participates in the recently launched Make Medicare Work Coalition through their Policy Group. The coalition was organized to respond to the significant challenges posed to states, Medicare consumers, and health care providers by the Medicare Modernization Act. Great Illinois-specific information can be found at www.makemedicarework.org

Other sources for information

Many quick facts, tip and fact sheets, and outreach materials about the new Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services are available at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicarereform/factsheets.asp>

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage is one the most significant changes to the Medicare program since its inception. To get the message about this important new benefit to as many beneficiaries as possible, CMS has designed a "tool kit" that partners like you can use to help your clients select a Medicare drug plan that meets their needs. You can view and/or download the tool kit at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships/tools/materials/medicaretraining/MPDCoutreachkit.asp>

If you would like to get timely updates about changes to the Medicare program, please sign-up for CMS mailing lists at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/maillinglists/>.

MEDICAID payments for pediatric care will go up in 2006

Changes to the state's Medicaid program were announced on Monday that will dramatically improve children's access to health care by increasing payments to pediatricians, family physicians, and dentists treating patients with Medicaid/KidCare insurance. Illinois Medicaid will increase rates for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) providers for 12 primary care codes that represent the vast majority of all pediatric visits. Find all the details that you need to know on the web site at <http://www.iafp.com/legislative/MedicaidPedsOverview.htm>

Toll-free number helps seniors to lower healthcare costs

Senior citizens who do not have Internet access can order their branded and generic medications at the discounted prices available online by simply dialing a nationwide, 24-hour, toll-free helpline, 1-877-595-MEDS (6337).

Created by the non-profit organization, Drugs4seniors, Inc., the helpline allows seniors to order over 200 of the most popular prescription medications for treating such common conditions as; arthritis, blood pressure, cholesterol, sexual health, diabetes, depression, pain relief, digestive disorders, allergies, sleep disorders, asthma and more. The company charges no membership fee and clients save an average of 40 percent to 60 percent off the retail price. Orders are mailed directly to their homes in 7-14 business days.

For more information call 877-595-MEDS(6337) or visit <http://www.drugs4seniors.org>

Updated directory on drug, alcohol abuse treatment programs

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is offering their National Directory of Drug & Alcohol Abuse Treatment Programs 2005 free of charge. The directory provides information on thousands of programs in all 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the four US Territories. The directory is designed to quickly provide the reader with important information on levels of care and types of facilities, such as those with programs for adolescents, persons with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders, individuals living with HIV/AIDS, and pregnant women. It also identifies both long and short-term care facilities, and those with residential beds for clients' children.

For a copy of the directory, call SAMHSA at 800-729-6686. They also offer an Internet-based Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator at <http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov>.

IAFP honors... continued from page 5

extremely dedicated physicians by their very nature," said committee chair Dr. John Sage. "But every now and then you learn about a physician who puts every ounce of themselves into serving patients and others and goes beyond anyone's expectations and just makes you say 'wow!'. That's Dr. James Lang."

"Dr. Lang's unwavering dedication to patients and to everyone in his community represents the core values of family medicine at its finest," said Dr. Leary. "He shows his enthusiasm and passion for family medicine's role in the community in everything he does. The letters we received from his patients were just overflowing with admiration and gratitude."

IAFP board member Dr. Steven Stabile first met Lang during their residency training at Cook County Hospital, then practiced with him at the Fullerton Avenue clinic and also calls Dr. Lang his family physician. He tried to sum up Dr. Lang's distinguished service in his letter. "I can tell you that being a family doctor in a poor, Latino community is not just a professional choice. Jim and his family have lived in the community where he serves since beginning his practice. Their home is a beacon and a refuge for neighborhood children and families whose homes may not be so welcoming... Jim and his wife have taken in troubled children for extended periods of time... out of their personal commitment to helping these children overcome challenges they have been given."

Patient Neida Zavala wrote her own touching letter about Dr. Lang. "He is the only person I trust with my precious (three) babies. He is just that kind of person. Trustworthy, caring, honest and brilliant. I would not only like to thank him for caring for my family, but also tell him that God has a special place for him in heaven. And he will always have a special place in our hearts."

Ms. Zavala attended the banquet and offered her insights on Dr. Lang as one of his many grateful patients, often dissolving into tears during her brief, heartfelt speech. "Being a parent is a hard job, but your doctor should help make it a little easier, and he gets that," she said. As part of the award presentation, Dr. Lang received a copy of each letter along with his Distinguished Service Award plaque.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

James Lang, M.D.
Born: October 10, 1961
Resides in Chicago with wife Julie and five children: Jamila, Jared, Jesse, Janae, Jonathan
1987 Graduate of University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine
Completed Family Medicine Residency Training at Cook County Hospital Family Practice Residency in 1990

Michael H. Friedman, M.D.
Born: July 21, 1954
Resides in Chicago with wife Marcia Katz and children Saul and Joseph
1988 Graduate of University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine
Completed Family Medicine Residency Training at Cook County Hospital Family Practice Residency in 1991

Dr. Michael Friedman 2005 Family Medicine Teacher of the Year

Every great physician can trace his or her success back to some special teacher they encountered during the hours and years of medical training. For family physicians educated in the Chicago area, many of them look at Michael Friedman, M.D. as a pivotal person on their road to practice.

St. Elizabeth's residency program graduate Jackie Cohen, M.D., now a family physician with Access Community Health Network in Bloomington, spoke at the banquet about the family medicine teacher who served as a pivotal influence in her career and still does today.

Dr. Friedman, 50, was nominated by former residents and colleagues in family medicine education who have benefited from his great teaching and guidance during their medical careers. The IAFP family medicine educators committee chose Dr. Friedman from five outstanding candidates from across Illinois.

Dr. Friedman joined St. Elizabeth's Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program in 1998. In 2000, he added the responsibility of medical director of the Roberto Clemente School Based Health Center, located just down the street from the hospital.

Prior to joining St. Elizabeth's, he practiced at University of Illinois Medical Center at Chicago. Last year he was elevated to clinical associate professor, family medicine at University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine. He also serves as a preceptor for medical students from Chicago Medical School and Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In her letter of support for Dr. Friedman, UIC director of educational development Karen J. Connell wrote, "Not only has Dr. Friedman's dedication to excellence in education been consistently recognized and admired by his colleagues; students and residents seek his counsel like no other faculty member I've encountered in my long career as a medical educator."

Dr. Friedman has earned several teaching awards from St. Elizabeth's Hospital and from UIC. He's also co-authored national level presentations and peer-reviewed articles on learning in family medicine residency and medical student reasoning. His most recent grant project focuses on cultural competency education in health care delivery. Previous grant awards established curricula in community oriented primary care (COPC) cultural competency and also established the Roberto Clemente School Based Health Center.

When asked what he hopes for the future of family physicians, Dr. Friedman says, "I hope that Americans come to recognize the simple elegance of our profession. Now more than ever, people need a physician who understands their health in the context of their family, however that is defined."



If you are looking for a growing company that still cares about the physician as an individual, allows flexible scheduling ensuring time with your family, with opportunities for growth, then your search is over.

Midwest Emergency Department Services (MEDS) is your answer. Midwest Emergency has been in business for over 22 years and can proudly state that we have never lost a contract. Midwest Emergency currently manages 11 contracts throughout Central and Southwestern Illinois and Central Missouri.

Midwest Emergency is looking for Board Certified/Residency trained Emergency Medicine Physicians to work in progressive Emergency Departments with annual volumes of 22,000 – 32,000. Full and part time positions available. Please contact Ken Wellerritter at 888-577-6337/618-624-3368, ext 203. Fax your CV to 618-624-3387 or e-mail: ken.wellerritter@er-meds.com. Also visit our web site at www.er-meds.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

CHAMPAIGN, IL—Christie Clinic is a multi-specialty group of 80 physicians that is recruiting for several FP's for traditional primary care. Call will be 1/8. The clinic is looking for highly motivated FP's who want to work hard and be rewarded for it. Starting salary is \$170K, with bonus potential. Metro population of 140,000. Extremely livable area. Home of the University of Illinois, with comfortable college town lifestyle. 2.5 hours south of Chicago. Send CV to Christopher Kashnig, Christie Clinic, 101 W. University, Champaign, IL 61820. Phone 217-366-5374. Fax 217-373-6872. e-mail address: ckashnig@christieclinic.com



MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA—Enjoy full spectrum family medicine in a new Center for Family Medicine facility. Join full-time faculty physicians dedicated to rural Family Medicine. We are recruiting for full-time Faculty Members who are ABFM certified. The chosen applicant will join board certified family physicians in a fully accredited, 15 resident, university administered, community-integrated program.

The successful applicant will be expected to participate in clinical care, resident and student teaching, and scholarship. Opportunities to work with local IHS sites, the UND Center for Rural Health and the UND National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Demonstration Project. Competitive salary and benefit package for the right candidate. Send a letter of interest with CV and 3 letters of recommendation to Elizabeth Burns, M.D., Chair, Department of Family Medicine, University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, P.O. Box 9037, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037, e-mail eburns@medicine.nodak.edu, FAX 701-777-3849 or call 701-777-3264. UND is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.



As the largest health system in Chicagoland, Advocate Health Care can offer true flexibility with locations, schedules, even practice settings. When it comes to your future, we're your Advocate.

Chairperson of Family Medicine

We are seeking a board-certified Physician to join Advocate Lutheran General Hospital as Chairperson of Family Medicine. Qualified candidates will have demonstrated abilities in providing comprehensive leadership, management and stewardship of a clinical department with a freestanding Residency Program.

Advocate Lutheran General Hospital is the most nationally recognized hospital on the greater north and northwest suburban region of Chicago. A 617-bed teaching, research and tertiary care hospital, Level 1 trauma center, and one of the largest hospitals in the Chicago area, Lutheran General serves approximately 31,000 inpatients, 51,000 emergency patients and 192,000 outpatients each year. It is also the home to Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital, one of the largest and most comprehensive providers of pediatric care in the state and includes an outstanding Family Medicine residency program with multiple medical school affiliations, offering the selected qualified candidate an opportunity for academic appointment. The medical staff includes 1,000 physicians, dental surgeons and other professionals who have distinguished themselves throughout Chicagoland as clinicians, teachers, researchers and leaders in the health care industry.

For complete information about our system and our advantages, visit our Web site or contact Bonnie Kriescher at 630-990-7430, bonnie.kriescher@advocate-health.com. Advocate Health Care is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Check it out!
The IAFP Web site,
www.iafp.com
now lists openings for family physicians
in Illinois.

Classified Advertising Rates

	1X	3X	6X
50 words or less	\$70	\$60	\$50
50 - 100 words	\$95	\$80	\$65
100 - 150 words	\$135	\$120	\$105

Ad space is available to IAFP members at a 20 percent discount.

RADAR Cards available for Family Physicians

What are RADAR cards?

The acronym is a mnemonic for a screening tool.

- R** routinely assess patients
- A** ask direct questions
- D** document your findings
- A** Assess patient safety
- R** review options and referrals

Initially developed for intimate partner violence, these revised cards include "gray boxes" with information specific to elder abuse, a growing epidemic. Their handy size and lamination lend to more frequent use in a busy health care setting.

Why are they important?

Family physicians see the impact of violence on their patients individually and on the entire family. IAFP believes every effort should be made to stem the spread of violence through greater understanding, education and awareness. Not only are lives lost or forever

ruined, but every sector of society pays: children suffer in school, absenteeism disrupts the workplace and healthcare costs become prohibitive.

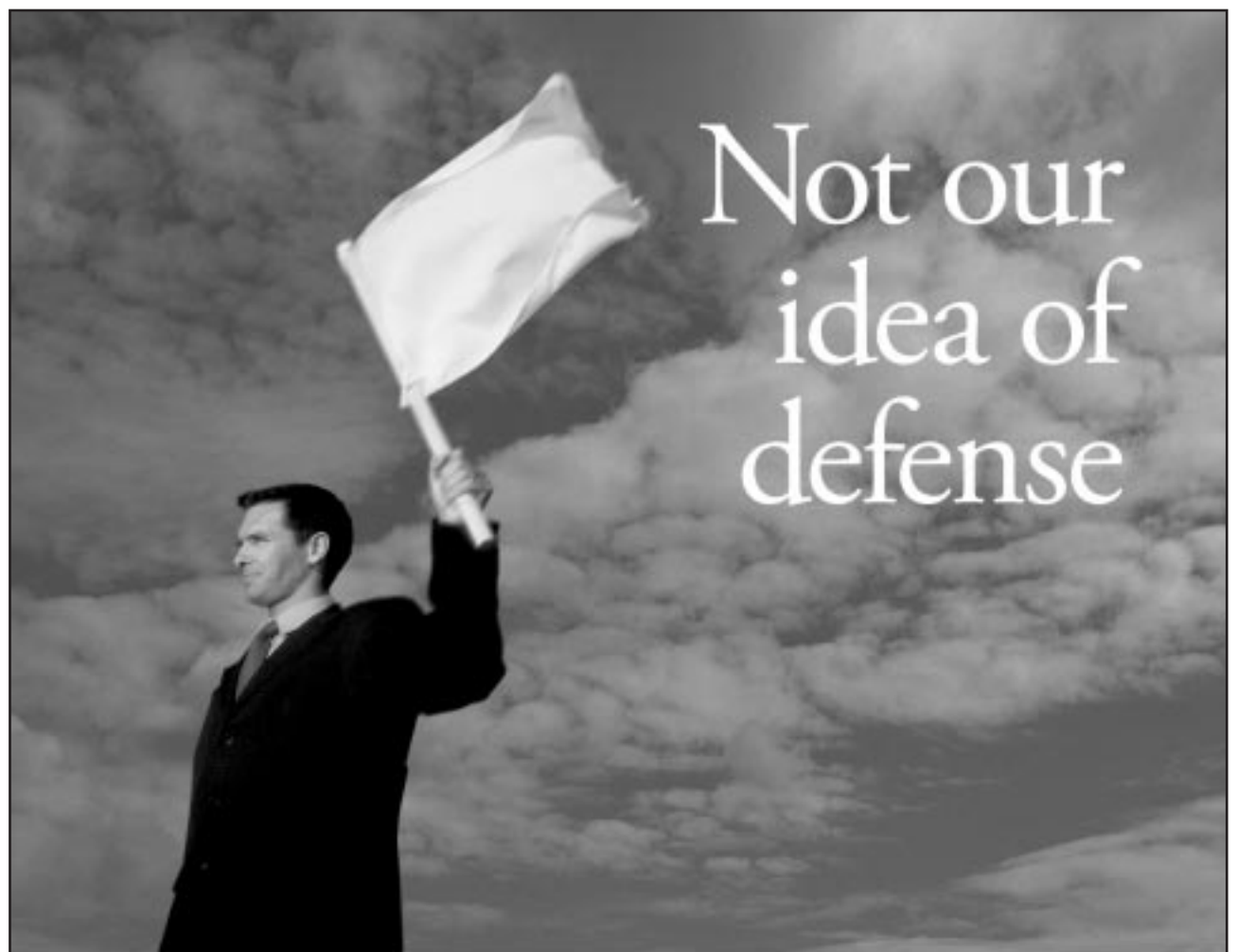
As an Academy, IAFP is a collaborative partner of "Illinois Health Cares" which brings together the healthcare community, public health officials, domestic violence programs, social service agencies, governmental agencies, and third party payors to collaboratively promote prevention and response to violence for the health care community.

"As partners in preventing violence, we can be greater than the sum of our separate efforts," says Barbara Shaw, director of the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority. "We know that the devastating impact of intimate partner violence spills over into the workplace, hospitals, and physician offices. "Illinois Health Cares" creates a proactive, supportive resource of partners willing to assist in: promoting violence prevention, creating a unified response, and identifying and treating both victims and perpetrators in the health care setting." If you would like RADAR Cards sent to you call the IAFP office at 800-826-7944 or email iafp@iafp.com

Luncheon for IAFP attendees at AAFP Scientific Assembly in San Francisco

All Illinois members attending this year's AAFP Congress of Delegates and Scientific Assembly in San Francisco are invited to a luncheon, hosted by President Rick Leary, M.D., Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 12 noon, at

the San Francisco Marriott Hotel. There is no charge to attend, but please RSVP to cemerson@iafp.com or 800-826-7944, ext. 210.



No matter what our competitors may do for expediency, at ProAssurance Group we still defend good medicine. Your future, and the very future of affordable health care, depends on it. Settlements in cases where there is no breach of the standard of care can encourage frivolous lawsuits—and require databank reporting. Costs increase across the board.

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IAFP MISSION STATEMENT

To promote excellence in the health and well-being of the people of Illinois through support and education of family physicians and the families and communities they serve.

IAFP's Fall Family Medicine Forum, November 11-13 • Holiday Inn, Naperville

Something for everyone!

Friday, Nov. 11

Friday features an afternoon CME Workshop on Bone Health followed by a President's reception.

Saturday, Nov. 12

Saturday is a busy day with an entirely separate program for students. Residency exhibits and demonstrations will be featured throughout the day as well as hand-on workshops for students with topics such as Derm-LEEP, Cyst excision, Suturing, Casting/splinting, Colposcopy, OB ultrasound, Joint injection, No scalpel vasectomy, Abnormal pap smears, shoulder dystocia, Alternative medicine and more! There is a \$15 charge for students on Saturday, which includes lunch. Also on Saturday, IAFP Committees will meet, followed by a luncheon and the All-Member Assembly and Committee of the

Whole. This is your change to share ideas and insights. IAFP's finance committee and the Foundation board will meet on Saturday afternoon.

Sunday, Nov. 13

The IAFP Board will meet from 8 a.m. to noon on Sunday.

Location

Holiday Inn Select
1801 Naper Blvd.
Naperville, IL 60563
located just south of I-88 (exit at Naperville Road...Naperville Road turns into Naper Blvd.)

Contact the IAFP office at 800-826-7944 or check the Web site at www.iafp.com for more information.

AUG.

5-6

Family Medicine Update, Peoria

SEPT.

16-17

Family Medicine Update, Rockford

Bylaws changes approved

IAFP's All Member Congress has been changed to the All Member Assembly, and will have an opportunity to meet at each business meeting of the Academy where the board of directors meets. The Assembly will no longer be limited to just once a year.

The words family practice now officially replace the use of family practice. This change falls in line with the AAFP bylaws and the spirit of the new model of family medicine.

Now you can help with...**Influenza Surveillance in Chicago**...in only a few minutes a week!

Who can participate in influenza surveillance?

Health care providers of any specialty in any type of practice are eligible to participate.

Why volunteer?

- Influenza causes approximately 36,000 deaths and over 100,000 hospitalizations every year.
- Monitoring influenza is critical for prevention and control activities, and for vaccine strain selection.

What data are collected?

- Participating health care providers report a weekly count of patients who meet the case definition for influenza-like illness.
- Patient specimens may be submitted to the Illinois Department of Public Health laboratory for viral culture... free of charge!
- Providers will receive regular updates on influenza activity in Chicago and throughout the U.S.

For more information, please contact David Plate at 312-746-6396 or Plate_David@cdph.org.

