



**Press Release – to Health and Local Desks**  
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[iafp@iafp.com](mailto:iafp@iafp.com)  
[www.iafp.com](http://www.iafp.com)

Contact: Ginnie Flynn, Illinois Academy of Family Physicians  
630/427-8004; Cell: 630/263-4613; E-mail [gflynn@iafp.com](mailto:gflynn@iafp.com)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ILLINOIS FAMILY PHYSICIANS HONORED AT IAFP ANNUAL MEETING**

LISLE, Ill. - The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians honored some of its finest family physicians at their annual meeting this evening in St. Louis. A long-serving Springfield physician is the IAFP Family Physician of the Year. Two Chicago family physicians with academic ties to the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine received Family Medicine Teacher of the Year honors.

**2010 IAFP Family Medicine Teachers of the Year**

The Family Medicine Teacher of the Year Awards recognize family physician faculty who play a pivotal role in recruiting and developing the best in family medicine. The recipients can teach in the medical school, residency or community-based setting. IAFP honors an employed faculty family physician and also one physician who contribute to family medicine teaching as a volunteer preceptor in addition to their duties as a practicing family physician.

**Faculty – Abbas Hyderi, MD, MPH - University of Illinois at Chicago**

Dr. Hyderi is currently the Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME) at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine and has principal oversight of the first and second year medical school curriculum. Since 2005, he has been an Assistant Professor of Clinical Family Medicine at UIC. He practices full scope family medicine including obstetrics and inpatient care. He has been recognized at both the medical school and residency program with numerous teaching and mentoring accolades including the prestigious UIC Council for Excellence in Teaching and Learning's Teaching Recognition Program Award. Dr. Hyderi is on the Board of Directors for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. He was nominated by UIC Family Medicine Residency program director Mark Potter, MD. "I believe that Dr. Hyderi is a highly committed, effective teacher and clinician who is also the consummate role model and mentor," said Potter.

Dr. Hyderi graduated with honors from Harvard University with a BA in Biological Anthropology followed by the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine. He subsequently completed a combined residency in Family Medicine and Preventive Medicine at Oregon Health and Science University while obtaining a Master's in Public Health degree in Health Administration and Policy at Portland State University. He is board-certified in Family Medicine, Preventive Medicine, as well as HIV Medicine through the American Academy of HIV Medicine.

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**Volunteer – Christopher Guerrero, MD - Chicago**

Dr. Guerrero is a volunteer preceptor for Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and UIC Department of Family Medicine. His volunteer duties include teaching at a nursing school in the Philippines. His solo practice is located at the St. Elizabeth Professional Plaza, where he has dedicated the past 28 years to the community since he opened the doors in 1982. He also leads medical missions to his homeland community of Nueva Vizcaya in the Philippines. Dr. Guerrero was nominated by David Ramsey, MD of Johns Hopkins Medical Center, who first met Guerrero as a UIC medical student in 2000.

Dr. Guerrero graduated from the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center in 1976 and began residency training in the Philippines. He then finished his residency training in the United States, including a general practice residency at Ravenswood Hospital in Chicago, followed by anesthesiology residency training at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago and Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood.

His teaching duties include teaching students about medical interviewing, coordination of care and basic components of running an office practice. “This is the best way I can share my talents and knowledge and experiences,” says Guerrero. “Having dealt with countless people of various races, shapes and sizes, I know I can relate well to anyone.”

Guerrero is unable to attend the awards banquet as he is a guest speaker that day at the grand reunion of his alma mater in the Philippines where he will be honored with their Outstanding Alumni in Community Service Award.

**2010 IAFP Family Physician of the Year – Michael Brewer, MD, Springfield Clinic**

The Family Physician of the Year was chosen from candidates nominated directly by patients and colleagues. The award is presented annually to an outstanding family physician that illustrates the values and vision of the family doctor. He or she is a role model for the community and sets the standard for health care delivery. The IAFP Public Relations Task Force and Board of Directors selected the recipient from an amazing pool of family physician nominees.

Michael Brewer, MD has dedicated all 30 years of practice caring for the people of the Springfield community. He joined Springfield Clinic in 1991 and also serves as the medical director for A+ DUI counseling services and Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services, serving those with disabilities. Brewer served on the IAFP board of directors from 1992-1995.

He has long served as a leader in many community initiatives to help the uninsured, including the Coordinated Access to Community Health (CATCH) planning committee, and volunteering at the Health First Free Care Clinic, which was instrumental in forming the local FQHC, Capitol Community Health Center. He is a board member of the Sangamon County Medical Society and vice president of International Assist Medical Missions. He was nominated by a former SIU medical student, who learned from him 25 years ago, then practiced with him and now leads an entire community with him – IAFP board member Janet Albers, MD.

“Dr. Brewer is greatly loved by his huge panel of patients,” says Albers. “He continues to work regularly with students within his clinical practice to inspire in them a love of family medicine. He is also a community servant, not only in our local Springfield community, but in the global community, serving on numerous international medical missions.”

A patient letter stated: *“Mike has a real talent for educating patients about their health problems and a real openness for partnering with them in their care. To my mind, he is the ideal family physician. We’ve been so pleased that he has become the family physician for our extended family.”*

The award was presented by IAFP president David J. Hagan, MD of Gibson City, who became president on December 4<sup>th</sup>, and 2008 IAFP Family Physician of the Year Williams Hays, MD who went to medical school with Dr. Brewer at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

“I am honored to receive this award and also very grateful to the friends, colleagues and patients who helped make it possible,” says Brewer.

“At this point in my career, I have had the opportunity to be a long-term part of people’s families. It’s interesting watching parents become grandparents and children become parents.”

“I think family medicine will continue to be a needed and honorable profession and I hope many of our compassionate and bright young people will consider it for a career,” says Brewer.

### **Three honored with IAFP President’s Awards**

The IAFP President’s Award is given at the discretion of the outgoing president to honor an individual or organization that has been instrumental in furthering the mission of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. Patrick A. Tranmer, MD, who served as IAFP president the past year, selected three outstanding individuals for his President’s Awards this year.

#### **Donald Lurye, MD, MMM, CPE - Elmhurst Clinic**

Dr. Lurye was selected for his success in shepherding Illinois’ first NCQA-recognized medical home at Elmhurst Clinic. In addition, he has given tremendous time and effort to IAFP in educating members on the patient centered medical home model and the NCQA process. Elmhurst Clinic is also a pilot site for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois medical home initiative. He served as a featured speaker and panelist at the IAFP PCMH conference in June. Throughout the year, he has provided input in shaping IAFP’s comments on proposed NCQA and URAC criteria for medical home status, as well as recent NCQA proposals for recognizing Accountable Care Organizations (ACO). In his leadership career, Dr. Lurye has focused on strategy, care integration, physician group governance, process improvement, EMR use and the leveraging of technology to reorganize and improve care.

#### **Yves-Mario Piverger, MD- Metro South – Blue Island**

When a massive earthquake devastated Haiti in January, Dr. Piverger organized medical supply donations and made his way to the disaster zone. Piverger lived in Haiti as a child and his uncle and aunts and cousins still in Port-au-Prince. Not only did he provide outstanding front line emergency care under the most trying circumstances, he also took time to chronicle his experience for readers back home through the *Southtown Star* newspapers. He told of working in tents, triaging broken bodies, and treating infected injuries. Perhaps most striking as he recounted his harrowing first day – which included delivering his first baby in a stockroom before dawn.

#### **Michael T. McRaith - Director, Illinois Dept. of Insurance**

Director McRaith was selected for his tremendous efforts in reforming and improving health insurance in Illinois. He has become a national leader in advancing health care policy for consumers, and a frequent guest speaker on health care reform implementation at the state level. He was a featured speaker at the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) State Legislative Conference in November 2009. Illinois is ahead of federal reform by designing and implementing the simplified standard application for individuals and small groups. He launched the state’s pre-existing conditions plan this summer to provide an option for adults currently excluded from the private market. Recently the IAFP began a partnership with DOI where IAFP volunteer leaders review private insurance company denials and rescissions to provide guidance on the medical necessity in the appealed cases.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: If you would like to request a digital photo or set up an interview, please contact Ginnie Flynn at [gflynn@iafp.com](mailto:gflynn@iafp.com). For more information on the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians, please see our web site [www.iafp.com](http://www.iafp.com).