



## WORKING ON YOUR BEHALF

### Are you taking advantage of the CMS Service Bureau?

THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY SERVICE Bureau, Inc. offers products and services to assist CMS members in their practices and personal lives. These high-quality and reasonably priced programs include:

- **Medical Business Specialist Certificate Program**

The Medical Business Specialist Certificate Program is a challenging series of interesting and practical courses designed to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical office personnel. The courses enable medical office staff to learn new skills, improve their understanding of medicine, and develop new strategies for bill collection and patient satisfaction.

- **Credit card processing program**

Harris Bank has developed a credit card processing program specifically for CMS members. Harris Bank's pricing program for CMS members is extremely competitive

and specifically suited for many medical practices. The bank card rate is 1.94 percent of the monthly volume. There are no monthly minimum fees, annual fees, per item fees, per authorization fees, per deposit fees or per batch fees.

- **Medical billing**

Looking for cost-effective billing support and maximum reimbursement? Take a closer look at MARCA. MARCA has been solely endorsed by the CMS Service Bureau since 1980. It offers free coding consultation and seminars for CMS Service Bureau clients.

- **Other services**

The Service Bureau also offers debt collection, group travel, office filing systems, overnight shipping and cellular services. The Service Bureau is currently developing automobile leasing, job placement, and practice management services.

*For information about the CMS Service Bureau or to learn about additional services offered, please call Jeannine Woods at (312) 670-2580, or e-mail [jwoods@cmsdocs.org](mailto:jwoods@cmsdocs.org)*

### Commissioner Wilhelm eyes new health department relationship with CMS

NEW CITY HEALTH COMMISSIONER John Wilhelm, MD, has a vision: reorienting the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) toward public health and away from public medicine. He also wants to establish a greater presence in all Chicago communities through partnerships with the public and private sectors.

In an upcoming interview for *Chicago Medicine*, Dr. Wilhelm, a CMS member, says he looks forward to meeting with CMS lead-

ership and laying the foundation for a relationship. Saying that he "doesn't think it's ever been clear what our relationship should be," he hopes both groups will begin a meaningful dialogue now. And he encourages the CMS leadership to continue supporting the Chicago Turning Point Partnership for Public Health, a coalition put together by CDPH.

Read the complete interview with Dr. Wilhelm in a future issue of *Chicago Medicine*.

## HAVING A BALL



Enjoying the day at Highland Park Golf Club are, from left: Kenneth J. Printen, MD, CMS past president; Charles Drueck III, MD, immediate past president; Edmund Donoghue, MD, president; and James Tarrant, executive director.



Posing at hole six are, from left: Steven M. Malkin, MD, CMS treasurer; Edgar Borda, MD, Northwest Branch treasurer; Bernie Holicky, Classic Insurance.

## CMS Hits Stride with Third Annual Golf Outing

CMS MEMBERS, GUESTS AND CORPORATE sponsors gathered at Highland Park Golf Club in June for a relaxing day of golf and sunshine.

Teams of players competed under a scramble format. Players on the winning team, which scored a 64, were Kanti Chandarana, MD, S. Asokan, MD, Arvind Shah, MD, and Dipak Kapadia. Each player won a \$50 gift certificate to Nevada Bob's Golf, a round of golf and a bucket of balls at the Family Golf Center in Chicago.

Prizes were also awarded in the following categories:

- *Shortest drive*--Jesse Ehrenfeld
- *Closest to the pin and longest putt*--Dipak Kapadia
- *Longest drive*--Steven Malkin, MD

Raffles prizes were also awarded to Kenneth Printen, MD, Lukas Zebala, Mrs. Kanti Chandarana, Virginia Swansen, Ed Baker, Charles Drueck, MD, and Edward Millunichick, MD.

### CORPORATE SPONSORS

The Chicago Medical Society would like to thank the following for helping make the

golf outing a success:

- ISMIE
- Seabury & Smith/PBT
- Page Telecommunications/AT&T
- Salomon Smith Barney (sponsored lunch)
- IPC Communication Services, Inc. (sponsored breakfast)

### PRIZE DONATIONS

- *Highland Park Golf Club*—Complimentary foursome of golf.
- *Golf Club of Illinois*—Complimentary foursome of golf.
- *Tamarack Golf Club*—Complimentary foursome of golf.
- *Family Golf Center*—Four rounds of golf and four buckets of balls.
- *Nevada Bob's Golf*—Golf bag.
- *Chicago Blackhawks*—Two season tickets to a home game.
- *Chicago Medical Society*—Four tickets to the Cubs vs. White Sox game at Wrigley Field.

This year's event was a success and we look forward to your participation next year.

CMS welcomes your suggestions for other activities. Please contact Tessa Rebmann at [trebmann@cmsdocs.org](mailto:trebmann@cmsdocs.org) or call (312) 670-2550, ext. 325.

## CONVERGING IN CHICAGO

# Highlights from the AMA annual meeting



Olson

MORE THAN 1,000 DELEGATES and alternate delegates from around the country converged in Chicago for the 100th anniversary of the AMA House of Delegates June 17-21.

At the local level, the Society was well represented with Sandra F. Olson, MD, winning a seat on the AMA's Council on Medical Education. Dr. Olson is a past president of both CMS and ISMS. The national leadership also considered four resolutions originating at CMS: Reimbursement for physician services; deduction of interest on student loans; malpractice information on the Internet; and health system advertising.

New U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy Thompson outlined changes at HHS

including the recent renaming of the Health Care Financing Administration to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Outgoing AMA President Randolph D. Smoak, Jr., MD, issued a challenge to the nation's physicians to dedicate some part of their career to caring for the sick in parts of the world ravaged by AIDS and other diseases. Incoming President Richard F. Corlin, MD, said he will dedicate his presidency to securing funding to research the epidemiological causes of gun violence. He wants Congress to restore funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to track gun-related homicides, suicides and injuries.

Controversy also played a role at the AMA meeting with the filing of a lawsuit by Executive Vice-President E. Ratcliffe Anderson, Jr., MD. For an overview, read the President's Perspective in the August issue of *Chicago Medicine*.

### **Hepatitis A vaccine available through the Chicago Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program**

THE CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC Health (CDPH) has hepatitis A vaccine available for children two to 18 years of age through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program. Physicians who are enrolled in the VFC program can receive hepatitis A vaccine at no charge through the program.

Children play an important role in hepatitis A transmission. Children attending day care or persons working in day-care centers may account for as much as 11 to 16 percent of cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control. Approximately half of all persons with hepatitis A have no identified source of their infection. Children are usually asymptomatic and therefore can serve as an unrecognized source of infection.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently expanded the availability of hepatitis A vaccine to include persons in states, counties and areas where the average annual hepatitis A rate was at least 10 cases/100,000 population. Chicago has an average case rate of 12.2 cases/100,000 population.

#### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES (ACIP) CASE RATE DEFINITIONS**

High	≥ 20 cases per 100,000 population
Intermediate	□ 10 cases per 100,000 population and < 20 cases per 100,000
Low	< 10 cases per 100,000 population

Recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) include routine vaccination of children two years of age and older in areas with high rates of hepatitis A disease. Children living in areas with intermediate rates of hepatitis A disease should be *considered* for routine vaccination.

*Physicians enrolled in the VFC program can order hepatitis A vaccine by contacting Stan Owens at (312) 746-5940.*

*Physicians who are not currently enrolled in the VFC program or who have questions about enrolling can call CDPH at (312) 746-6358.*

## CMS-SPONSORED PROGRAMS

### OSHA 2001 Training

OSHA Training (1.0 CME Credit Hour, Category 1)

Schedule for the remainder of the year:

- Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 3 p.m. (AMA Bldg.)
- Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 10 a.m. (AMA Bldg.)
- Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 3 p.m. (AMA Bldg.)

#### Fees

\$25 members and staff

\$80 non-members and staff

All health-care workers are required by the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration to participate in annual training on bloodborne pathogens and use of personal protective equipment. Our OSHA training is an easy and affordable update to help you and your office staff comply with federal regulations.

For registration information, contact Sam Bailey at CMS: (312) 670-2550, ext. 338, or by e-mail at [sbailey@cmsdocs.org](mailto:sbailey@cmsdocs.org).

*On-Site Training* – CMS will hold this OSHA program in the convenience of your own facility. Please contact Cecilia Merino: (312) 670-2550, ext. 339, or by e-mail at [cmerino@cmsdocs.org](mailto:cmerino@cmsdocs.org)

### NEED COMPUTER TRAINING AND CME?

Please refer to pages 4-5 in this issue to learn more about how you and your medical staff can register for computer training at a convenient date and location.

Each computer training course has been approved for 3.5 hours of CME credit, Category 1.

You may also contact the Education Department for further information at (312) 670-2550, ext. 341 or 338; or visit our Web site at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org) and link to the *CME/Education* page.

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Find us online at CMS Internet address [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

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#### NEWS FOR CHICAGO PHYSICIANS

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