

Midwest Clinical Conference (MCC) 2003  
March 20-22 - Navy Pier, Chicago (page 5)  
MEDICAL STUDENT BRANCH NEWS (center spread)

# chicago medicine

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY  
THE MEDICAL SOCIETY  
OF COOK COUNTY

Newsletter, February 2003, Vol. 106, No. 2

## GET READY TO RALLY

# We'll march on Daley Plaza — May 13

*Is your medical staff joining?*

THE CMS SPONSORED MEDICAL LIABILITY reform rally has been set for Tuesday, May 13, in Chicago's Daley Plaza. This forum will be your opportunity to let your patients and elected officials know your concerns about access to care.

We expect 4,000 people to participate in the rally, arriving in at least 60 buses from throughout the metropolitan area. Many hospitals and individuals have already promised to join, and we forecast a groundswell of support as May 13 grows closer and word of the march spreads through the medical community.

CMS has invited the surrounding county medical societies of Lake, Kane, DuPage and Will Grundy to participate. We have the support of the Illinois State Medical Society and the American Medical Association as well. We have also been contacted by the Illinois Osteopathic Association and are working with the Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council.

We see news reports daily about the growing numbers of physicians cutting



Access to care will be the message when the Chicago Medical Society leads its Medical Liability Reform Rally on May 13 in Daley Plaza. Many hospitals and individuals have already signed on, and up to 4,000 participants are expected.

medical services and closing their doors. Physicians are working harder, being paid less, and facing increasing costs. But the public continues to believe that physicians are all wealthy and only concerned with earning more money. It's time to set the record straight!

Let your patients know you want to be there when they need your care, and that good physicians are being driven out of practice. Tell them what's happening to your practice and to the health care system at large. Remember, both *you and your patients* need to contact your representatives in Springfield and Washington. Without

*continued on page 2*

## RALLY (continued)

a loud, unified voice, we won't persuade our congressional delegation to take action.

TALK TO YOUR PARTNERS WRITE YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS ENCOURAGE YOUR MEDICAL STAFF TO PARTICIPATE LET'S GET IT DONE!

### PETER FITZGERALD

(Washington 202 224 2854)

(Chicago 312 886 3506)

website: <http://www.fitzgerald.senate.gov>

### RICHARD DURBIN

(Washington 202 224 2152)

(Chicago 312 353 4952)

[dick@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:dick@durbin.senate.gov)

Find your representative at: [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

We will keep you posted on Rally details in future issues. Questions for now? Contact James Tarrant at (312) 670 2550, ext. 322, or e mail [askcms@cmsdocs.org](mailto:askcms@cmsdocs.org).

## Liability reform gains congressional momentum

House bill offers sensible solution

A NEW GALLUP POLL SHOWS THAT 72 percent of Americans support limiting the amount patients can be economically awarded for pain and suffering. And an overwhelming 74 percent consider the issue of medical liability insurance in health care today to be a crisis or major problem. CMS, ISMS, and AMA agree. All three organizations support the bipartisan HEALTH Act

(H.R. 5). Introduced by Rep. Jim Greenwood (R Pa.), H.R. 5 safeguards patients access to care through the following reforms: 1) Allows injured patients to recover unlimited economic damages past and future medical expenses and rehabilitation costs, loss of past and future earnings, cost of domestic services, and more; 2) limits attorneys contingency fees on a sliding scale to ensure patients not trial lawyers receive the largest share possible of any money awarded by a jury; 3) caps non economic damages at \$250,000; 4) fairly allocates damages by holding defendants liable only for their proportion of responsibility.

## Congress approves Medicare payment increase

Physicians hard work, persistence pay off

PHYSICIANS AROUND THE COUNTRY HAD something to cheer about when the U.S. House and Senate, under pressure from organized medicine and grassroots physicians, passed the Omnibus Appropriations package (H. J. Res. 2), a bill that includes plans to fix the Medicare payment mistake.

Passed on Feb. 13, the legislation puts a halt to the 4.4 percent cut in Medicare payments scheduled for March 1, resulting instead in a 1.6 percent increase for 2003. Over the next ten years, physician payments are projected to increase by \$54 billion. The package also contains language authorizing HHS to correct the 1998 and 1999 projection errors.

The Medicare physician payment provision in the budget bill helps shore up Medicare's foundation, said AMA President Yank D. Coble, MD. America's seniors should not pay for the govern

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

NEWS FOR CHICAGO PHYSICIANS

**chicago**  
CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY  
THE MEDICAL SOCIETY  
OF COOK COUNTY  
**medicine**  
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CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY

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URGENT -- SUPPORT NEEDED NOW

*Save the Date -- May 13, 2003*

Chicago Medical Society

**Medical Liability Reform Rally**

**Daley Plaza - Chicago**

**Tuesday, May 13, 2003!**

Sign Up in Your Hospital Medical Staff Office

The rally has been initiated by the Chicago Medical Society. We are URGING all Chicago-area physicians to participate so we can fill the plaza with several thousand physicians, their patients, and others to support tort reform at a national level and *especially* to bring the public's attention to the *loss of access to care*. Many factors are involved, including declining reimbursement and the pending liability crisis.

**Tell your patients:**

**HELP US TO HELP YOU.**

We need you and your patients to contact congressmen and senators

*Advance registration will be essential.*

This will be the largest Medical Liability Reform Rally in the country.  
Save the date, more information will follow soon by mail and on our Web site!  
[www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

**Join the Chicago Medical Society today** online and

**Be counted, be committed.** It takes all physicians unified with a common voice to change what is driving physicians out of practice.

Chicago Medical Society contact:  
James Tarrant, Executive Director, (312)670-2550, ext. 322.

## CMS TEAMS WITH CHICAGO DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### ***Bioterrorism Preparedness Program hosts first Chicago seminars***

Scott Warner



Chris Costas, MD, presents Bioterrorism Preparedness Training for Physicians: A Focus on Smallpox, on Feb. 21 in the AMA building. The CME lecture is part of a series being presented as a service to Chicago's medical community.

THE BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM, a joint effort of the Chicago Medical Society and the Chicago Department of Public Health, hosted its first seminars in February, training over 100 Cook County physicians in smallpox recognition and response.

Lectures were given by Arthur Frank, MD, as associate professor of pediatrics and head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at UIC; Chris Costas, MD, hospital epidemiologist at Saint Francis Hospital and associate clinical instructor at UIC; and Ram Yogev, MD, professor of pediatrics at Northwestern Medical School and member of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Children's Memorial Hospital.

This is just the beginning, however, of an extensive six month program which projects to train 2,500 area physicians and health care professionals. A Speakers Bureau of local experts has been assembled to present the one hour CME course,

Bioterrorism Preparedness Training for Physicians: A Focus on Smallpox.

#### **New Bioterrorism Course Dates Added!**

- 4/16 & 5/21 at Oak Lawn Hilton
- 4/23 & 5/7 at AMA Building
- 4/24 & 5/8 at Resurrection Medical Center
- 4/30 & 5/28 at Saint Francis Hospital

Register online at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

For more info call (312) 670 2550 x333. Also, if you feel this free CME activity would be welcome at your facility, we may be able to schedule one on site. For more information, please contact Dan Pashman at (312) 329 7324 or e mail [dpashman@cmsdocs.org](mailto:dpashman@cmsdocs.org)

#### **Vaccination of public health, hospital staffs begins in February**

CHICAGO'S ABILITY IN RESPONDING TO THE challenges of bioterrorism got a shot in the arm with the arrival of 4,200 doses of smallpox vaccine from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. First to be vaccinated in early February were members of the Chicago Department of Public Health medical staff who, in turn, began vaccinating hospital smallpox response teams later in the month.

The effort to vaccinate hospital workers and public health staff represents Phase I of a three phase federal roll out of smallpox vaccine. Federal officials have said that Phase II, which may occur later this year, will be designed to include paramedics, police officers and other public safety workers. Phase III, in which vaccine would be offered to the general public, may occur at a later date.

For more information, go to [www.ci.chi.il.us](http://www.ci.chi.il.us)

# SAVE THE DATE

March 20 - 22, 2003



# Navy Pier

# The Chicago Medical Society

*presents*

## Midwest Clinical Conference 2003



**CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS:**

Preliminary conference guides have been mailed.  
Visit our website at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org) for a full preliminary  
conference guide and registration form.

**Earn up to 25 hours of CME credit in Category 1**

Registration Information: Contact the Education Department  
at 312/670-2550 (x341 or 338) or [erubio@cmsdocs.org](mailto:erubio@cmsdocs.org)  
Visit our website at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

MIDWEST CLINICAL CONFERENCE 2003: COURSE FORM

Thursday, March 20, 2003

7:30 AM – 8:30 PM

1 hour of CME

- T-0b Trends in Obesity I—Breakfast Session

8:30 AM – 12:15 PM

3.5 hours of CME

- T-01a Computers & Technology: Introduction to MS Word 2000
- T-02 Trends in Obesity II
- T-03 Sports Medicine
- T-04 Strategies for Managing Your Medical Practice I
- T-05 Improving Communications to Reduce Your Malpractice Risk
- T-06 Trigger Point and Joint Injection Workshop [off-site]
- T-07 HIPAA: Will You Be Ready on April 14?

12:15 AM – 1:15 PM

1 hour of CME

- T-08 The Cystic Fibrosis Gene: New Screening Test [Optional Lunch Buffet \$35]

1:15 AM – 5:00 PM

3.5 hours of CME

- T-01b Computers & Technology: Intermediate MS Word 2000
- T-10 Research Ethics & Technology
- T-11 2003 OSHA Update
- T-12 Strategies For Managing Your Medical Practice II
- T-13 Medical-Legal Strategies: Managing Your Risk
- T-14 Surgical Approaches to Morbid Obesity: What are the Differences/Advantages?

1:15 AM – 5:30 PM

4 hours of CME

- T-09 Conscious Sedation

Friday, March 21, 2003

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

1 hour of CME

- A-0b For Patients' Sake: Take Control—Breakfast Session

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

3.5 hours CME

- A-01 Computers & Technology: Introduction to MS Windows 2000
- A-02 Trends in Diabetes Management
- A-03 Internal Medicine Update
- A-04 Gynecology Update
- A-05 Pediatric Update
- A-06 ENT: Update in Technological and Medical Advances
- A-07 Adult Asthma
- A-08 Family Practice Update

Friday, March 21, 2003

1:45 PM – 5:45 PM

3.5 hours of CME

- B-01 Computers & Technology: Basic MS EXCEL 2000
- B-02 Plastic Surgery
- B-03 Clinical Coronary Update
- B-04 Update in Pulmonary Medicine for the Primary Care Physician
- B-05 Gastroenterology Update
- B-06 Cardiovascular Disease In Women
- B-07 Radiology Update
- B-08 Terrorism: Assessing The Threat

Saturday, March 22, 2003

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

3.5 hours of CME

- C-01 Computers & Technology: Introduction to MS Windows 2000
- C-02 Family Medicine: New Advances and Technology
- C-03 Technological Advances in Arthritis Management
- C-04 Headache Management
- C-05 Anesthesia Management
- C-06 Ophthalmology
- C-07 Oncology
- C-08 Clinical Update for the Primary Care Physician
- C-09 Alternative and Complementary Medicine

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

1 hour of CME

- G-01 Poster Presentation

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

1.5 hours of CME

- G-02 Bio-Terrorism: A Guide for Physicians

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

2 hours of CME

- D-01 Computers & Technology: Basic MS PowerPoint 2000
- D-02 Asthma, Allergy & Immunology
- D-03 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R)
- D-04 Dermatology Update
- D-05 Neurology Update
- D-06 "Trauma Jeopardy"—Emergency Room Care
- D-07 Office Spirometry & Technology
- D-08 Managing Liver Disease
- D-09 Technology and Medicine

Print full name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Note: Send In with registration form and payment.

**MIDWEST CLINICAL CONFERENCE 2003: REGISTRATION FORM**

**Chicago Medical Society's Midwest Clinical Conference – March 20-22, 2003 – Navy Pier, Chicago**

**What You Should Know**

Midwest Clinical Conference educational courses are designed for and limited to medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, medical and osteopathic students, physician assistants, and medical office staff. Medical and osteopathic students may register on site only without a fee. No-charge registrants must show proof of resident or student status. All registrations (except residents and students) include a complimentary ticket for the Henrietta Herbolzheimer, MD Public Service Award Luncheon.

Please include your payment with this form and your course selections. It cannot be processed without the proper fees. Make your check payable to the Chicago Medical Society. Mail registrations to Chicago Medical Society, Box 10307, Chicago, IL 60610. You may fax registrations paid by credit card to (312) 670-3646.

Questions? Call 312-670-2550 (x338 or x341) or e-mail: [mcc@cmsdocs.org](mailto:mcc@cmsdocs.org).

**Registrant with Disability or Dietary Restriction**

If you have a disability, please describe any auxiliary aid[s] or service[s] as identified in the American with Disabilities Act, which you need or dietary restriction, which you have. Most requests can be accommodated, if the Chicago Medical Society receives notification by 5:00 PM CDT, February 17, 2003.

Needed Auxiliary Aid[s] and/or Service[s] \_\_\_\_\_

Needed Food and/or Beverages \_\_\_\_\_

**Method of Payment**

Check or money order enclosed     MasterCard     VISA

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICABLE REGISTRATION FEES-REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!**

**Pre-registration (Up to January 31)**

	Member	Non-Member	Physician Assistant	Resident
3 Days (Thurs. – Sat.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
One-Day Fee (Thurs, Fri or Sat)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

**Regular Registration (February 1-March 19)**

	Member	Non-Member	Physician Assistant	Resident
3 Days (Thurs. – Sat.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350	<input type="checkbox"/> \$600	<input type="checkbox"/> \$375	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
One-Day Fee (Thurs, Fri or Sat)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55

Save me a seat, I plan to attend the complimentary PSA Luncheon on Friday (3/21), 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Yes  No

\_\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee [from above fee schedule]

**Additional Fees (please include with your registration fee)**

\_\_\_\_\_ + \$40 Each - Reserve \_\_\_ additional PSA luncheon tickets for non-registrants or students

\_\_\_\_\_ + Computer Lab Fee: +\$75 x \_\_\_ computer sessions\* = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Computer Lab Fee

\*Computer lab sessions consist of the following course codes (T-01a, T-01b, A-01, B-01, C-01, D-01)

\_\_\_\_\_ + \$25 Lab Fee - Trigger Point and Joint Injection Course (T-06)

\_\_\_\_\_ + \$35 - Thursday Optional Lunch Buffet (Cystic Fibrosis Gene)

\_\_\_\_\_ + \$15 - Saturday Optional Box Lunch (Poster Presentation)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ Total Amount Enclosed (total check or credit card payment)

**Registration Information – Please Print and Send In With Your Course Form and Payment**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_ Specialty \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Type of Practice:  1 Solo  2 Group # in group \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  Retired  Resident  Other \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

## TROUBLESHOOTING

# Help CMS help you protect your staff privileges

WITHOUT FAIR BYLAWS AND A FAIR PEER review process in place at a hospital, every physician there is at risk of encountering problems. Wrongful loss of staff privileges, being reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank, loss of ability to provide patient care, and damage to one's medical practice and career are just a few dangers.

The Chicago Medical Society is working to assure fairness through the Physician Advocacy Committee, which is composed of physicians, administrators, and a physician attorney with extensive experience in staff privileges problems. The committee assists physicians in resolving individual staff privilege disputes and provides seminars to educate physicians and leadership about staff privileges, peer review, and bylaws.

**Remember** We can't help you if we don't hear from you.

To address these issues, the committee needs **hospital bylaws and rules pertaining to staff privileges and the peer review process from as many Illinois hospitals as possible.** These will be used to identify the most prevalent deficiencies so steps can be taken to educate physicians and hospitals about them and to assist in remedying them.

We ask physicians to forward copies of hospital bylaws and rules to James R. Tarrant, CMS Executive Director, at 515 N. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60610. Anonymous submissions will be accepted. Leadership and physicians who are interested in learning more about or participating in the Committee's staff privileges/peer review educational program, and individual physicians or leadership who are involved in a staff privileges dispute and would like assistance or guidance, should contact Mr. Tarrant at (877) CMS DOCS or by e mail at [askcms@cmsdocs.org](mailto:askcms@cmsdocs.org).

with specific concerns, linking them with the correct CMS staff member or related organizations, such as ISMS and AMA.

- Provide information on CMS activities such as legislative advocacy, educational opportunities, and possible group relationships.
- Visit members in their own offices to assess how CMS can help with the needs of medical practitioners in Cook County.
- Help organize the physician rally on May 13 and enlist your participation in the event.

*Please contact InYoung for help with any problems or with the names of colleagues you feel could benefit from her visit. Phone: (312) 670 2550, ext. 328; e mail: [ikim@cmsdocs.org](mailto:ikim@cmsdocs.org).*

### ***Problems in your practice?*** **CMS Physician Practice Advocate is here to help**

CMS STAFFER INYOUNG KIM IS YOUR PHYSICIAN Practice Advocate and is here to help CMS members in the following ways:

- Serve as a central point of contact for members

# MSN NEWS

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*Medical School Social*

*Midwest Clinical Conference*

*About the Student Branch*

*Student Branch Elections*

### Mark Your Calendars!

- **Council Meetings:** March 11 and May 6, 7PM (Dinner from 6-7PM), Maggiano's, 516 N. Clark Street. Please contact Jen Troyer at 312-670-2550 ext. 326 for further information.
- **Midwest Clinical Conference:** March 20-22, Navy Pier, Chicago. Please check our website at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org) for further information and schedules.
- **Student Branch Elections:** Will be conducted in the next two months. Please check our website or contact Jen Troyer for further information.

## SOCIAL DRAWS STUDENTS FROM ALL CHICAGO MEDICAL SCHOOLS

More than 300 students from the seven Chicago-area medical schools came to enjoy the fourth annual CMS Medical Student Social at the Rock Bottom Brewery on October 30. Student Branch President Jesse Ehrenfeld (U of C, '04) and Council Whip Taruna Madhav (NU, '04) welcomed their peers for an evening of socializing, eating, and raffle prizes, including FDA's and stethoscopes. Also on hand were CMS President Richard A. Geline, MD, and President-Elect Neil E. Winston, MD, who spoke to the students about the importance of joining organized medicine.

The CMS Student Branch



On hand to welcome students and discuss the merits of joining organized medicine were (from left): CMS President Richard A. Geline, MD; Student Section Council Whip Taruna Madhav; Student Section Presi-

dent Jesse Ehrenfeld; and President-Elect Neil E. Winston, MD. The Student Branch is planning a variety of professional and social events for the upcoming academic year, including a series of workshops on career planning, residency application and financial

management. In addition, Student Branch members are eligible to participate in the annual Midwest Clinical Conference, March 20-22, at Navy Pier.

## MIDWEST CLINICAL CONFERENCE 2003 PLANNING UNDER WAY

Save the Date! CMS planning for the Midwest Clinical Conference (MCC) 2003 is under way. The conference will be held March 20-22 at Navy Pier and will have various lectures and exhibitions addressing the MCC theme of "Technology & Medicine: Advances for Your Clinical Practice".

The Student Branch will also host its own events on March 22. Plans are being made to bring multiple speakers to address how

to enter various residency programs. Tentatively, speakers will be present to discuss residency applications for Emergency Medicine and Orthopaedics Surgery. The speakers will be followed by an open question and answer session. Another session will feature representatives to discuss medical school financing and loan repayment.

Last year at MCC 2002, the student branch hosted Dr. Michael Greenberg who

spoke on "How to be a Happy Doctor". It was a very uplifting program regarding personal outlook and attitude, and its effect on stress management as one progresses through medical training and establishing a practice. Afterwards, the students socialized and had an opportunity to speak informally with Dr. Greenberg over lunch at Dick's Last Resort.

For more information on MCC 2003, please visit our website [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org).

We're on  
the web!  
[www.  
cmsdocs.  
org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)



**Chicago Medical Society  
Medical Student Branch**

515 N. Dearborn St.  
Chicago, IL 60610

For more information on  
the CMS Student Branch,  
please contact Jen Troyer  
at (312) 670-2550, ext.  
326, or e-mail  
jtroyer@cmsdocs.org

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[www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)

**Chicago  
Medical  
Society  
Student  
Branch**

*Representing Students  
Representing Student Issues  
Representing Your Needs*

**SPOTLIGHT ON THE STUDENT BRANCH...**

As a student at a Chicago medical school, you may become a member of the Chicago Medical Society (The Medical Society of Cook County) when you join the American Medical Association, and the Illinois State Medical Society. The CMS Student Branch consists of members from Chicago Medical School, Loyola University, Northwestern University, Rush Medical College, University of Chicago and University of Illinois. Physicians in the Chicago Medical Society are grouped by geographical location within Cook County. The student branch currently has approximately 1,100 members and elects its leadership

annually.

The student branch selects twelve councilors and twelve alternate councilors for the society-wide council meetings that occur six times a year. During these meetings, all of the branches come together in a more formal setting to conduct business, debate and adopt resolutions, and receive updates on issues that affect society members. These meetings, which are only open to society members, are also a great place to meet physicians, residents, and medical students from each specialty and part of Chicago. Each year the student branch also selects and funds approximately twenty-five students to attend the Illi-

nois State Medical Society meeting as delegates and alternate delegates.

The student branch also holds its own functions during the academic year. A number of social and professional events are planned for the upcoming year. These will include a citywide medical student social, an outing to see the Chicago Cubs, and a series of workshops on career planning, residency application, and financial management. The student branch and its members are also eligible to participate in the annual Midwest Clinical Conference, which is held in Chicago each spring.

**CALLING ALL MEDICAL STUDENTS FOR  
UPCOMING STUDENT BRANCH ELECTIONS**

The Student Branch will be holding elections in the upcoming months for the upcoming 2003-04 academic year. All positions will be open for candidates who are CMS Student Branch members. Positions to be elected include board members, 12 councilors and 12 alternate councilors. Elected students have a unique opportunity to attend society

meetings, work with physicians and residents on medical issues, and interact with other medical students throughout Chicagoland. Responsibilities vary for these positions, and will be specified in a future mailing and on the CMS website. For more information on the elections, please contact Jen Troyer at 312-670-2550 ext. 326.

**Positions to be Elected:**

- \* President
- \* Vice-President
- \* Secretary
- \* Council Whip
- \* Secretary
- \* Clinical Liaison
- \* Councilors (2 from each school)
- \* Alternate Councilors (2 from each school)

## LANDMARK DECISION

### Oak Forest Hospital physicians gain right to form union

*Ruling paves way for vote in 60 days*

ATTENDING PHYSICIANS AT COOK COUNTY'S Oak Forest Hospital overcame a crucial roadblock Feb. 7 when the Illinois Labor Relations Board granted them the right to form a union. In a 2-1 ruling, the Board upheld an August decision that Oak Forest physicians are not managers and therefore have the right to unionize.

Our prayers are answered, said CMS member Najma Mirza, MD, a radiologist at the hospital, who was quoted in the *Chicago Tribune*. This is a landmark. You cannot ignore what an achievement this is because County (Stroger Hospital) has tried for the last 20 years.

The Board has twice denied attempts by Stroger physicians to unionize on grounds that the physicians supervise residents. In the case of Oak Forest Hospital, which has a much smaller resident population, the County argued the physicians are still managerial employees because they direct patient care and attend committee meetings.

An election, scheduled for at least 60 days from the date of the ruling, will allow the physicians to vote on whether to form a union. If they do, they will join a rare group. Federal antitrust law bars self-employed physicians from bargaining collectively, but it does not apply to county-employed physicians. However, few attending physicians nationwide have unionized and none are known to have done so within the state of Illinois.

The County is waiting to see the written ruling before making a decision; the ruling must be prepared before the physicians hold an election. If Oak Forest physicians vote in favor of forming the union, the County would have 35 days to file an appeal in the Illinois Appellate Court.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

# Enjoy fine-dining programs, meet renowned culinary authors, join food tours to Europe

### *CMS links with ChicaGourmets*

THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY SERVICE Bureau, Inc., announces its official endorsement of ChicaGourmets, a fine dining organization that hosts events at Chicago's most acclaimed establishments, and also offers culinary travel programs to Europe.

What this means is that the Society is now offering CMS members the kind of excellent social benefit that many have long been asking for.

### **Here's how it works:**

Effective immediately, all CMS members are automatically considered members of ChicaGourmets and are entitled to full membership in that organization at no extra charge. (ChicaGourmets memberships are normally \$25 annually per household.) All members and their guests will also receive the ChicaGourmets discount at the special group events, which number more than 30 a year, and seat from 30 to 70 members. Member discounted prices for all events include tax, tip and wine and typically range from \$40 to \$60 per person. ChicaGourmets members currently include professors, physicians, wine experts, attorneys, food professionals—an eclectic and sociable mix.

In the six years since it was founded, ChicaGourmets has hosted luncheons and dinners at such restaurants as Le Francais, Coco Pazzo, Les Nomades, Cite, Spiaggia, Scoozi, Naha, and myriad ethnic restaurants as well.

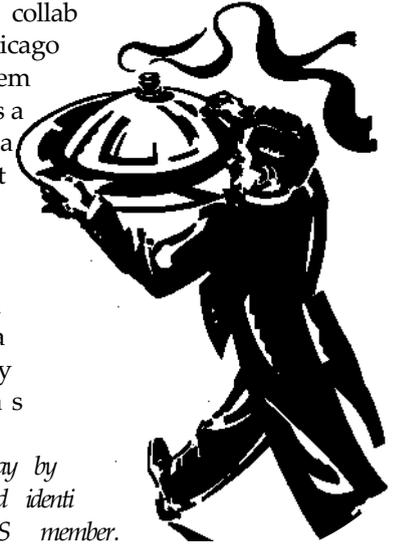
Many of these fine dining programs also feature nationally celebrated culinary figures who have provided entertaining lectures, along with slide and video presentations and book signings.

### **Accomplished speakers at programs**

A sampling of past speakers includes: Stephanie Hersh, Julia Child's personal assistant; Steve Dolinsky, award winning host and producer of the Tribune's *Good Eating* show on CLTV; Joan Nathan, author and host of the PBS series *Jewish Cooking in America*; Anne Willan, author, TV host, and proprietor of Chateau du Fey cooking school in Burgundy; Marian Burros, author and columnist, *The New York Times*; and Lynne Rossetto Kasper, author and host of National Public Radio's *The Splendid Table*.

ChicaGourmets also collaborated with the Chicago Medical Society in November 2001 to host *There's a Doctor in the Kitchen*, a special program at Kendall College Culinary School featuring a cooking demonstration by Chicago physician and chef/author John LaPuma, MD, followed by a tasting of Dr. LaPuma's recipes.

To reserve, please prepay by sending in your check, and identify yourself as a CMS member. (Memberships will be verified.) For details and prices, view the ChicaGourmets website: <http://www.chicagourgourmets.com/> For further information, contact: Don Newcomb, president, ChicaGourmets, (708) 383 7543; e mail [donaldnewcomb@attbi.com](mailto:donaldnewcomb@attbi.com).



### **A sampling of ChicaGourmets events**

#### ● **Sushi Night**

MONDAY, APRIL 7, RECEPTION AND DINNER AT MAKI SUSHI, PARK RIDGE

#### ● **An insiders look at the Food Network**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, LUNCHEON PROGRAM AT ARIA RESTAURANT IN THE FAIRMONT HOTEL  
Join us as Rochelle Brown, Food Network producer and author talks about producing Emeril's show and how the Food Network was founded.

#### ● **From New Orleans, with Love**

SATURDAY, MAY 17, LUNCHEON PROGRAM (LOCATION TBA)  
His family started the legendary, award winning *Commander's Palace* in New Orleans, and restaurateur and author Dickie Brennan will share his cajun/creole tales of *The Big Easy*.

#### ● **Savoring Scandinavia**

SATURDAY, MAY 24, LUNCHEON PROGRAM AT CARLUCCI'S IN ROSEMONT  
Andreas Viestad, one of Scandinavia's most esteemed food writers (and host of a new series this fall on PBS) is flying in from Norway to give us a culinary overview and tasting of his ancestral foods.

#### ● **Culinary Tour to Spain**, SEPT. 13-19

## ON THE FRONT



### Membership focus

CMS Branch presidents and officers met in the CMS building on Feb. 18 to discuss the May 13 rally (see front page) and their role in leading membership recruitment. The meeting was led by CMS President elect Neil E. Winston, MD, (standing).



### “Malpractice” at Irving Park

The Irving Park Branch hosted a panel to discuss the Malpractice Crisis at its Dec. 11 meeting at the Stonegate Conference Centre in Hoffman Estates. (From left): Sister Donna Marie Wolowicki, pres. and CEO, Resurrection Hospital, Chicago and Holy Family Hospital, Des Plaines; Edward Goldberg, pres., CEO, St. Alexius Hospital, Hoffman Estates; Nancy Hellyer, pres., CEO, Alexian Brothers Medical Center, Elk Grove Village; Kenneth Robbins, pres. and CEO, American Hospital Association; Daniel Schnuda, MD, pres., Irving Park Branch; John Bashanti, senior vp and COO, ProAssurance Group; and Alan Allphin, vp of underwriting, ISMIE.

### Welcome to the MCC March 20-22: A word from the Chair



Dr. Bharati

THIS YEAR'S 59TH ANNUAL Midwest Clinical Conference at Navy Pier focuses on medical advances at the technological level and their usefulness for the practicing physician. The program includes a total of 53 courses with category I CME credit for 25 hours, thereby providing you the opportunity to choose the topics of your interest. For information on the conference, please turn to pages 5 through 7 in this issue. We look forward to seeing you at the MCC!

**Saroja Bharati, MD**

*Chair, Midwest Clinical Conference Committee*

### Take pride on Doctor's Day, March 30: Tell your patients about liability reform

IN 1958 CONGRESS ADOPTED A RESOLUTION making March 30 of every year Doctor's Day across the nation. Doctor's Day was first celebrated in 1933 in honor of Georgia physician Crawford W. Long, MD, who, on March 30, 1842, first used ether anesthesia. This Doctor's Day is the ideal time to encourage your patients to work with you in building a strong doctor patient relationship.

Doctor's Day is also an opportunity to inform them of the need to support medical liability reform. Patients need to hear your concerns and know what they can tell their elected officials in Congress. Patients can also be invited to attend the May 13 Medical Liability Reform Rally at the Daley Plaza.

## Join a committee, Serve your profession

Take a stand on legislation and policy matters affecting you and your practice. Share insight and ideas with your colleagues and people who make the decisions affecting your everyday life.

Each year the Chicago Medical Society Committee on Committees appoints members to CMS committees and recommends interested physicians to Illinois State Medical Society councils and committees. As in the past, we urge you to participate and invite you to volunteer right now for any committee you wish.

Every member is unique and each has a contribution to make. CMS and ISMS offer committee assignments for every interest-from professional liability insurance to public health to physician stress. Over 20 committees to choose from. CMS forms one of the largest county medical societies in the United States. We have the numbers and the potential, but we need your active support to achieve success.

### *Here's the procedure...*

- Complete and return the form by **April 1, 2003**
- The Committee on Committees (COC) will meet to make appointments/recommendations at this time, the COC will also recommend nominees to ISMS Councils and Committees.
- Recommendations to ISMS Councils and Committees will be forwarded to ISMS.

Indicate your top three preferred committees individually for CMS and ISMS committees by inserting the numbers 1, 2, and 3 in the appropriate space.

#### **CMS Committees**

- 102 Emergency Medical Care
- 105 Credentials
- 112 Health Care Delivery
- 113 By-Laws/Policy Review
- 114 Continuing Medical Education
- 116 Election
- 118 Ethical Relations
- 120 International Medical Graduates (IMG)
- 123 Long Range Planning
- 124 Membership
- 128 Physicians Review (Peer Review)
- 129 Physician Stress Study
- 131 Resolutions Reference
- 132 Subcommittee on Fee Mediation
- 133 Subcommittee on Medical Practice
- 134 Subcommittee on Joint Sponsorship
- 136 Professional Liability Insurance
- 140 Physician Advocacy
- 142 Managed Care
- 143 Third Party Payment
- 144 Physician Art
- 145 Public Health
- 146 Technology Committee

#### **ISMS Councils and Committees**

- 302 Economics
- 303 Education and Health Work force
- 305 Governmental Affairs
- 306 Medical Legal Council
- 307 Membership and Advocacy
- 320 Medical Service
- 325 Communications
- 329 Peer Review Appeals Committee
- 332 Committee on CME Accreditation
- 333 Committee on Drugs and Therapeutics
- 361 Committee on CME Activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please fax this form no later than **April 1, 2003** to  
**Cathy Faedtko at (312) 670-3646** or mail to:

Committees  
Chicago Medical Society  
515 N. Dearborn St.  
Chicago, IL 60610

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR CMS, BRANCH AND SPECIALTY SOCIETY MEETINGS

**Thursday, March 6**  
North Side Branch

**Wednesday, March 12**  
Wood Street Branch

**Wednesday, March 19**  
Chicago Gynecological Society  
Irving Park Branch

**Wednesday, April 9**  
Chicago Gynecological Society

**Wednesday, April 16**  
Chicago Dermatological Society

**Friday, April 25**  
Aux Plaines Branch

**Thursday, May 1**  
North Side Branch

**Wednesday, May 21**  
Chicago Dermatological Society

Chicago Gynecological Society  
**Wednesday, June 19**  
Chicago Gynecological Society

*The above meeting dates, current at press time, are subject to change. Please refer to your mailed meeting notice for full details (i.e., cost, date, time, topic, location, etc.) and to confirm dates; or visit our web site at [www.cmsdocs.org](http://www.cmsdocs.org)*

### **Illinois Poison Center a resource for physicians and their patients**

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK, March 16-22, is the ideal time to let your staff and patients know they can reach the Illinois Poison Center (IPC) 24 hours a day via a toll free phone number: **(800) 222 1222**.

The Center offers free, confidential advice on poison prevention and treatment to all Illinois health care professionals and Illinois residents. It is staffed by nurses, pharmacists, physicians and poison information specialists.

*To receive a free information packet, call (800) 222 1222 or visit [www.mchc.org/ipc](http://www.mchc.org/ipc).*