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Midwest Clinical Conference (MCC) 2003
March 20-22 - Navy Pier, Chicago (see page 3)

cms news



January 2003 Vol. 5, No. 1

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY
The Voice of Cook County Physicians

WATERSHED EVENT

Get ready for spring rally at Daley Center



Scott Warner

THE 2002 INTERIM MEETING OF THE AMA House of Delegates (held Dec. 8-11 in New Orleans, La.) opened with rousing calls to action on the Medicare physician payment crisis and medical liability reform. AMA President Yank D. Coble, MD, urged American physicians to enter the fray and take up the fight to fully exercise their duty to their profession, their colleagues and to their patients.

And CMS will soon do just that. The Society is forging ahead with plans to hold a rally at Chicago's Daley Center this spring. We will keep you posted on the date, and on how you can participate. Don't miss out on this opportunity to show your support for legislative reform!

(Read more about the AMA interim meeting beginning on page 6.)

We've reorganized – to better serve you

CMS NOW HAS A NEW ORGANIZATIONAL structure. As reported in the September 02 issue of *CMSnews*, your Society is now composed of a 501(c)(6) parent organization temporarily called the Chicago Medical Society Association, and a 501(c)(3) private foundation, the Chicago Medical Society.

Why is this important to you?

The creation of this new 501(c)(6) tax status paves the way for greater physician advocacy. The 501(c)(6) will allow CMS to build a forum for grassroots political activity, encouraging individual participation and bringing a united front to civic leaders and legislators. The revamped organization gives CMS more flexibility, allowing it to offer the services of a professional society and an educational/scientific foundation.

Join your colleagues at the Daley Center this spring as CMS leads a physician rally to focus attention on patient access to care and the medical liability crisis. We will announce the rally date shortly.

Let's turn up the heat for smoking ban in restaurants

Please express your opinion

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT and ten minutes of your time.

Write two short letters: One to Mayor Daley and one to the Alderman where you work or live in Chicago. Suburban physicians can also write to the Mayor expressing why they might not want to drive to Chicago to eat in smoke filled restaurants. Include in your letter your concerns about the negative effects of smoking on health.

The Chicago Medical Society Council adopted a resolution to support the proposed ban on smoking in Chicago restaurants. Richard A. Geline, MD, CMS president, has attended a press conference, written testimony to the City Council Health Committee, and sent letters to all area newspapers to support strengthening the Clean Indoor Air Act.

The Mayor initially indicated he would consider such an ordinance, but is reportedly having second thoughts.

The restaurant owners have expressed their opinions. Now it's our turn to be heard.

We encourage you to write to Mayor Richard M. Daley:

E mail at <http://www.ci.chi.il.us/Feedback.html>; or write to him at: Office of the Mayor, 121 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60602.



Scott Warner

CMS hosts holiday reception

Nearly 200 CMS members and their guests attended the Society's Annual Holiday Reception on Dec. 18, at the Hilton Garden Inn on Grand Ave. Among those enjoying the social event were, from left: Janis M. Orłowski, MD, past president, CMS; Kenneth J. Printen, MD, past president, CMS; Richard A. Geline, MD, president, CMS; Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, president, CMS Student Branch; Edward Hill, MD, chairman of the board, AMA; John F. Schneider, MD, president, ISMS; and M. LeRoy Sprang, MD, past president, CMS and ISMS. Photo coverage of the event will appear in the Winter issue of *Chicago Medicine*, due next month.

Find us online at CMS Internet address **www.cmsdocs.org**

NEWS FOR CHICAGO PHYSICIANS

cmsnews



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The Voice of Cook County Physicians

515 N. Dearborn St.
Chicago IL 60610

James R. Tarrant, CAE, *Executive Director*
Liz Sidney, *Managing Editor*
Scott Warner, *Production Editor*

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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.

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)

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.

Delegates rally against Medicare cuts

January presents narrow window of opportunity

OUTRAGED THAT THE U.S. SENATE ADJOURNED for the holiday recess without fixing documented mistakes in the Medicare payment formula, AMA leaders have vowed to turn up the heat on Congress.

Speaking out at the 2002 Interim Meeting in New Orleans, Dec. 8-11, delegates announced measures to stop \$11 billion in Medicare cuts over the next three years and avoid a catastrophic access meltdown. These steps include:

- Nationwide distribution of educational handouts to Medicare patients through physician offices.
- Appeals to patients to contact their senators through the AMA Grassroots Hotline.
- A physician fly in to Washington, D.C., Jan. 8-9, 2003, offering participants the opportunity to make congressional house calls on elected officials. (Similar state and county events were held on the local level.)
- Purchase of ads in *USA Today* and *The New York Times* and drive time radio.
- Expansion of physician grassroots activity through faxes, e-mails and the toll free hotline.

If Congress does not act immediately when it convenes in January, another 4.4 percent payment cut will compound the 5.4 percent cut levied in 2002. Without intervention, the cuts are expected to total close to 18 percent by 2005.

This next round of cuts, scheduled to take effect March 1, gives Congress just a tiny window of opportunity to stop the crisis.

The AMA has set up two ways for physicians and their patients to contact lawmakers and the White House about the Medicare payment issue:

PHONE: (800) 833-6354, the AMA Grassroots hotline.

E MAIL: Go to the Grassroots Action Center Web site (<http://www.capwiz.com/ama/home/>), enter your ZIP code under elected officials and follow the prompts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit the AMA in Washington web site (<http://www.ama-assn.org/go/grassroots>).

Medicare errors explained

The Health Care Financing Administration admitted to errors made in 1998 and 1999 in developing the Medicare equation. Those mistakes included underestimating the gross domestic product and the omission of medical care costs for one million people. In addition, the physician spending pool currently includes outpatient drugs, the cost of which is growing faster than actual physician services. By fixing these two errors and taking the drugs out of the target, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services could help avert a series of sharp Medicare payment cuts.

2002 Interim Meeting— Topics in the spotlight

THE 2002 INTERIM MEETING BROUGHT together physicians representing 170 medical societies. The 1000+ delegates considered more than 80 reports and resolutions pertaining to trends in science, ethics, government, public health and medical business. Among them:

- Government's Medicare payment mistake and its threat to seniors' access to care.
- Removing the legal system as an obstacle to accessible health care.
- Alcohol industry's aggressive television marketing to young viewers.
- Recent scientific developments in smallpox and the smallpox vaccine.
- Patients contracting physicians for exclusive boutique services.
- Removing antibiotics from meat used for public school lunch programs.
- Electronic mail between patients and physicians.
- Eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health care.

CMS members who attended in New Orleans:

Drs. Dennis M. Brown, Alfred J. Clementi, Joan E. Cummings, Earl E. Fredrick, Richard A. Geline, Sandra F. Olson, Janis M. Orlowski, John F. Schneider, M. LeRoy Sprang, Neil E. Winston, Jerome J. Frankel, Raj B. Lal, James P. Ahstrom, and student Jesse Ehrenfeld.

TIPS FROM THE EEOC

Americans with Disabilities Act and your practice

PHYSICIANS STATEMENTS, DIAGNOSES, AND prognoses play a major role in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's (EEOC) evaluation of disability claims.

Here are some pointers:

- The ADA makes it unlawful for an employer to make any employment decisions on the basis of actual disability, perceived disability, record of disability, and/or relationship with an individual with a disability.
- The ADA also makes it unlawful for employers to retaliate against any employee or applicant for opposing an employment practice that they regard as discriminatory.
- The employment practices regulated by the ADA include recruitment, application, testing, hiring, termination, medical examinations, as well as other terms and conditions of employment.
- Beyond simple non discrimination, the ADA requires employers to provide a reasonable accommodation for the known physical or mental limitations of an employee or applicant with a disability, where no undue hardship is involved.

In addition to diagnosing and treating disability conditions and documenting work restrictions for disabled individuals, physicians can also prescribe assistive technology tools for their patients to use at work. A few examples of standard software and hardware available include:

Duxbury Braille: Software that translates printed text to Braille to print out to a Braille embosser printer.

Dragon Naturally Speaking: Voice recognition software that allows individuals with dexterity disabilities to perform tasks such as writing memos, completing forms, and sending e mail.

ZoomText A screen enlarger to minimize eye strain.

JAWS Software that reads text aloud.

NexTalk TTY software that allows deaf and hard of hearing individuals to communicate with others via TTY or relay.

For information regarding software that will assist in accommodating disabilities, contact Deanna Scott in the Assistive Technology Center at the EEOC Office of Information Technology at Deanna.scott@eeoc.gov.

Resources from the EEOC

The Chicago District Office General Information number is (312) 353 2713; or visit the EEOC web site at www.eeoc.gov. For a copy of *The Americans with Disabilities Act: A Primer for Small Business*, go to www.eeoc.gov/ada/adahandbook.html.

(See next month's issue of CMSnews for further details about the ADA and EEOC interactions with physicians.)

Federal laws enforced by the EEOC

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, sex, national origin, or religion.
- The Civil Rights Act of 1991 (CRA 91), which strengthens and improves federal civil rights laws and provides for remedies in cases of intentional employment discrimination.
- The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended (ADEA), which prohibits employment discrimination against persons age 40 or older.
- The Equal Pay Act of 1963 (EPA), which prohibits disparity in compensation for similar work based on gender.
- Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), which prohibits employment discrimination based on disability.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conference explores health-care safety in Chicago

THE CHICAGO PATIENT SAFETY FORUM will present a community based workshop Feb. 7, 2003, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m, at the University of Chicago Gleacher Center, 450 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive. Among the program's goals:

- Promote a culture of health care safety among community stakeholders.
- Develop community leaders in patient safety.
- Catalyze inter organizational efforts to reduce medical errors, and influence public awareness, attitudes, and behaviors with respect to patient safety.

Cost to attend is \$30 per person. For additional information, please contact Anita Malone at (312) 695 4364, or e mail cps_wkshp2002@hotmail.com

Polish-American Medical Society seeks donations for silent auction

THE POLISH AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY is seeking donations for its silent auction scheduled for Feb. 15 as part of the Annual Ball of the Polish American Medical Society.

Requested donations are for products or services such as gift certificates, jewelry, electronic items, tickets to performing arts and sporting events, and time shares to condominiums or vacation houses. Proceeds will go toward the Society's Academic Scholarship Fund for Chicago area students. The event will be held in the Grand Ball room of the Palmer House Hilton Hotel.

For further information, contact CMS member and PAMS President Anna Szpindor, MD, (708) 848 3393 or fax (708) 848 3395.

Candidates for membership

Any member having information affecting the membership of the candidates listed here should communicate at once with CMS Membership Committee Chairman Irene Panayiotou, MD, at (312) 670 2550.

Douglas Park (First Year) Gnegy, Richard, MD Margolis, Benjamin, MD	Ali, Muhammad, MD North Side (Regular) Webster, James, MD
Irving Park (First Year) Bernstein, Matthew, MD	(First Year) Wagner, Lauren, MD
North Shore (Regular) Oliff, Ira, MD (Third Year) Dayan, Steven, MD (Resident)	Southern Cook County (First Year) Panozzo, John, MD Student (U of C) Goutman, Stephen Zapata, Mya

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Office/building for sale/rent

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN AREA MEDICAL suites available. We will do custom suite build out for qualified medical practice. For information, call (847) 352 5000. Duval/Caruso Realtors.

MEDICAL OFFICES GROUND FLOOR, 5201 N. Harlem Ave., Chicago, corner of Harlem and Foster. Must see, rent reasonable, utilities included, near Resurrection Hospital and Kennedy Expressway. If interested, please call Loree Azzaretto for appt. at (773) 774 2102.

MEDICAL OFFICE SPACE TO TIME SHARE, newly constructed luxurious 5,100 sq. ft. suite in South Beach Chicago area, full amenities: Free parking, DSL, large bright exam rooms, shared with plastic surgeon, and Medi Spa. Ideal for gynecologist or women's health specialist. Call Ms. O Connor at (312) 225 5800 to arrange a tour.

OPHTHALMOLOGY OFFICES TO SHARE, fully equipped eye lanes, ground floor, 5201 N. Harlem Ave., Chicago, corner of Harlem and Foster. Must see, rent reasonable, utilities included near Resurrection Hospital and Kennedy Expressway. If interested, please call Loree Azzaretto for appt. at (773) 774 2102.

Medical practice for sale

BUSY FAMILY, INDUSTRIAL PRACTICE for sale. Located in near western suburbs. Close to LaGrange, Hinsdale and Elmhurst Hospitals. Room for two to three physicians. For further information, write to Box #2009, c/o Chicago Medicine, 515 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610.

Personnel wanted

HOME PHYSICIANS, A MEDICAL GROUP in Chicago specializing in house calls, is seeking physicians. Looking for individuals with training in primary care/surgical debridement. Full time and part time posi-

tions. Fax C.V. to Scott Schneider at (773) 486 3548; or mail to Home Physicians, 1735 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone (773) 292 4800; www.homephysicians.com

SPANISH SPEAKING INTERNAL MEDICINE or family practice physician for large group practice. Call (773) 895 9695. Terms negotiable.

PHYSICIANS NEEDED ALL SURGICAL and medical specialties, full time or part time. Suburban Chicago location, northwestern and western suburbs. Family physician, ob/gyn, internal medicine, gyn, general surgery, urology, GI, orthopedics, ophthalmology, radiology, dermatology, ENT, plastic surgery, peds, family practice with peds, anesthesiology, cardiology, and other specialties. Malpractice insurance available. Hourly or salaried positions available. Clinical and administrative duties required. Mail C.V. to Administrator, 1640 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite 110, Arlington Heights, IL 60004, or fax to (847) 398 4585.

CHICAGO PHYSICIANS NEEDED, OB GYN, full time or part time. Pregnancy terminations, tubal sterilization, infertility, and other services. Suburban Chicago location, northwest and western suburbs. Full time or part time, hourly and salaried positions available. Mail C.V. to Administrator, 1640 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite 110, Arlington Heights, IL 60004, or fax to (847) 398 4585.

PART TIME/FULL TIME PEDIATRICIAN wanted for busy suburban practice. Only 45 minutes from downtown Chicago. Please reply to Box #2061, c/o Chicago Medicine, 515 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610.

INTERNAL MEDICINE OR FAMILY PRACTICE physician wanted for large clinic. Board certified or board eligible, full or part time, southeast of Chicago. Salary and benefits negotiable. Fax resume to (219) 933 3153.

MOBILE DOCTORS SEEKS FULL TIME and part time physicians to make house calls to the elderly and disabled. No on call, night or weekend work. Transportation and a medical assistant are provided. Practice hands

on medicine. Fax CV to (312) 640 4496; or call Michelle at (312) 939 5090.

INTERNISTS AND PSYCHIATRISTS NEEDED to do disability evaluations on a part time basis. Office is located in the north loop. Call (312) 606 9200 or fax resume to (312) 606 9333.

Personnel available

INTERNIST FLUENT IN SPANISH looking for position in Chicago area. Good references. (773) 814 3425.

Business services

DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND TESTING in your office. High tech imaging offers ultrasound in your office. Echocardiography, abdominal and vascular testing available. For information, call (708) 442 9292.

PHYSICIANS ATTORNEY EXPERIENCED and affordable physicians legal services including practice purchases, sales and formations, partnership and associate contracts, collection, licensing problems, credentialing, estate planning and real estate. Initial consultation without charge. Representing practitioners since 1980. Steven H. Jesser (800) 424 0060, 790 Frontage Rd., Northfield, IL 60093, shj@sjesser.com, or www.sjesser.com.