



ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

Help wanted: bring CMS voice to grassroots

WANT TO BRING ADVOCACY AND ideas to your hospital? To meet with your elected representatives in an informal setting? To learn what your Society is doing on your behalf? *You can help us bring the CMS message to your facility by serving as a hospital liaison.* In this role, you'll work with our staff to help set up and coordinate CMS-sponsored activities at your hospital. Our advocacy/outreach events include:

- **Legislative breakfasts with political reps**

Past events have included House Speaker Barbara Flynn-Currie, U.S. Rep. Danny Davis (7th Dist.) Cook County Commissioner Forrest Claypool, Sen. John Cullerton (6th Dist.), Rep. Sara Feigenholtz (12th Dist.), Rep. Cynthia Soto (4th Dist.), and Rep. Jeff Schoenberg (9th Dist.).

- **Quarterly staff meeting hospital visits**

Our president and staff are available to speak on current issues and challenges and what CMS is doing to address them.

- **Doctors' lounges visits & presentations**

Previous visits have included staff from the CMS Insurance Agency who explained the benefits of insurance through our organization.



Geriatric gains at Illinois Masonic

CMS President Shastri Swaminathan, MD, (second from right) assists in the ribbon cutting as Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center opens its new 21-bed acute care geriatric unit on June 16. Also manning the scissors are Birinder Marwah, MD, (far right) unit medical director, and Jenna Yerro-Molo, ACGU nurse manager.

Our staff is currently making plans for the 2006-2007 year. If you would like more information about planning events at your facility, call Hilary Westover (312) 329-7324 or Casey Becker (312) 329-7329; email hwestover@cmsdocs.org or cbecker@cmsdocs.org.

July "physicians' month" on Capitol Hill

*Senators urge Medicare physician
payment increase*

IN A LETTER TO SENATE LEADERSHIP, 80 senators urged their leaders to ensure Congress takes action before its October adjournment to, at a minimum, provide a positive

SERVING MEMBERS

Photos Casey Becker, CMS



The CMS Board Retreat brainstormed on ways to increase membership, as well as a two-day Midwest Clinical Conference. The board also strategized ways to involve more students and residents in organized medicine.

CMS retreat focuses on outreach

Charting a new course

TRUSTEES AND GUESTS RECENTLY PARTICIPATED in a CMS Board Retreat where they reviewed the Society's dual mission: to provide both education and advocacy for Chicago-area physicians.

In pledging to revamp these services, leaders added several new directives to your Society's goal of reaching out to physicians. In addition to continuing efforts to take the Society to the physicians through hospital visits and legislative breakfasts, CMS leadership also announced:

- Prior to the November elections, CMS will hold a candidates' forum where speakers can give their perspectives on health care issues. Local and county candidates will be asked to speak individually rather than in debate format. The audience, to include doctors, medical students, and interested members of the public, could number up to 500. In addition to public health and legislative topics, the candidates' forum will host courses on practice management and other topics of multi-specialty interest.
- CMS is also planning a two-day Midwest Clinical Conference (MCC) for early spring 2007. Along with clinical programs, MCC will host new courses targeting hospitalists and also present the latest on emerging



Shastri Swaminathan, MD, CMS president, left, leads a discussion on the Society's goals, with Saroja Bharati, MD, president-elect, and Hareth M. Raddawi, MD, vice-president, District 7.

public health topics and technology. The program will feature forums for special interest groups that have not had a platform in organized medicine. Both the candidates' forum and the MCC will be open for pharmaceutical as well as non-pharmaceutical sponsorship.

● Membership recruitment efforts this fall will target students and residents through forums and social events. Current members should assist by encouraging hospital/medical school program directors to join. This is pivotal because students and young physicians are likely to join organizations in which their professors and mentors are members.

CMS trustees will meet again this fall to focus on making the Society an even more relevant force for physicians.

Meet Ellen Wuennenberg: gaining grants for CMS



Wuennenberg

CMS IS PLEASED TO INTRODUCE project coordinator Ellen Wuennenberg. Ms. Wuennenberg is responsible for coordinating the emergency and public health preparedness grant from the Chicago Department of Public Health, including the *Avian Influenza and the Potential for a Pandemic* program. She is also working on

the Chicago Regional Patient Simulator Center project and is conducting research to obtain grants supporting existing and new CMS programs.

Prior to joining CMS, Ms. Wuennenberg was a project assistant for the Wisconsin Department of Administration, working on research and analysis

of project management-related issues; she also prepared budget and schedule status performance measures for state committees. Additionally, Ms. Wuennenberg has experience working for numerous nonprofit organizations in Wisconsin, including the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association. She has three years' experience in catering and coordinating special events.

Ms. Wuennenberg has a master's degree in public affairs with a concentration in public management and social policy from the Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin—Madison. She earned her bachelor's degree in sociology from UW. Ms. Wuennenberg is originally from Westby, Wisconsin, where she was a competitive gymnast and coach.

Don't Miss Out on the Fun!!!

Over \$3,000 in Prizes!!!!

Chicago Medical Society

In Conjunction with the

DuPage County Medical Society

Hosts its...

8th annual

GOLF

Outing

Ruffled Feathers Golf Club

1 Pete Dye Drive

Lemont, IL 60439

Wednesday September 13, 2006

Non-members Welcome

Registration Fees:

\$100 for Members

\$125 Non-Member

*A portion of the proceeds to be donated to the
creation of a Regional Patient Safety Simulator*

Noon: Registration & Lunch

1:00 p.m.: Golf, Shot Gun Start, Scramble Format

After Golf: Cocktails and Awards

Call CMS to register today!!!

Phone: 312-329-7332

Or

Register Online: www.cmsdocs.org



CMS CHAMPIONS ANTI-SMOKING LAWS

Secondhand smoke report should be a wake-up call

THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL RECENTLY issued a report that concludes there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke. The report, "The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke," finds that nonsmokers exposed to secondhand smoke at home or work increase their risk of developing heart disease by 25 to 30 percent and lung cancer by 20 to 30 percent.

Over the years, CMS has adopted policy supporting the elimination of all smoking in public places and workplaces at the state and local levels.

More recently your Society provided testimo-

ny to the City Council in favor of strengthening Chicago's Clean Indoor Air Ordinance. CMS is a member of the coalition that championed Chicago's new smoking ban and the more stringent ban in suburban Cook County. We continue to encourage doctors to take the lead on public health issues like smoking, by encouraging community leaders to support health care legislation.

More than 20 Illinois cities have some type of smoking ban. Most have been approved since a 2005 state law gave communities the authority to pass tougher anti-smoking laws.

PHYSICIANS' MONTH ON CAPITOL HILL *(continued from first page)*

update in Medicare physician payments for 2007.

The letter specifically cited the voices of AMA members who completed this year's AMA Member Connect Survey. Forty-five percent of the physicians who took the survey said that next year's Medicare cut will force them to either decrease or stop seeing new Medicare patients. Many physicians also indicated they will be forced to defer the purchase of information technology, discontinue rural outreach services and decrease the number of new TRICARE patients they treat. (TRICARE is the health insurance program for military personnel and their families. Its payment rates are tied to Medicare's.) Sens. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., and Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., were instrumental in encouraging their Senate colleagues to sign the letter and commit to taking action on this issue.

The AMA is encouraging all physicians and medical students to contact their U.S. senators and

representatives about this issue. Tell them:

- To take action before the October adjournment to stop the mandated five percent cut and increase Medicare physician payments by 2.8 percent, as recommended by the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.
- To replace Medicare's flawed payment formula with one that reflects increases in physician costs.
- If Congress doesn't act, the current system will reduce patients' access to care.

During the summer, lawmakers are focusing on other key issues affecting American medicine, such as "pay-for-reporting" and "pay-for-performance" initiatives, varied approaches for reforming the medical liability system and payment cuts for imaging services that were required under the Deficit Reduction Act. As of press time, the Senate Judiciary Committee was planning to hold a hearing on health insurance market concentration..

NEWS FOR CHICAGO PHYSICIANS

chicago
CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY
THE MEDICAL SOCIETY
OF COOK COUNTY
medicine



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515 N. Dearborn St.
Chicago IL 60610

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PROMISING PROGRAMS

Changes recommended for treating jailed drug addicts



Scott Warner, CMS

Nora D. Volkow, MD (right), director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, calls drug addiction a “brain disease” that requires carefully monitored, personalized treatment, including access to methadone. She was in Chicago to discuss a new NIDA report recommending changes to the way the criminal justice system deals with drug addicts. Shown with Dr. Volkow are Cheryl Cline, a former drug offender who told how she turned her life around, and Mayor Richard M. Daley, who also addressed the press conference at the 1st District Police Headquarters on July 24.

EXPERTS FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE on Drug Abuse (NIDA) came to Chicago to release a report highlighting promising substance abuse

programs now underway in the Cook County criminal justice system.

One NIDA-sponsored project trains judges about the neuroscience of addiction and treatment so they can be better prepared to place addicted defendants in adequate treatment environments. The report includes studies showing the effects of drug abuse on the brain and the high probability of relapse without comprehensive treatment. The researchers offer 13 principles of treatment that can reduce crime, save money, and save lives.

Nora D. Volkow, MD, director of the NIDA, was joined by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, Timothy C. Evans, chief judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Melody M. Heaps, president of TASC, Inc., (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities), a not-for-profit organization that provides treatment management services and programs, Terry Mason, MD, commissioner of public health, Aldermen Ed Smith and Isaac Carothers, and several former drug abusers.

An estimated 70 percent of people in state prisons and local jails have used drugs regularly, compared to approximately nine percent in the general population, yet only one-fifth ever receive treatment, said Dr. Volkow. She called social acceptance of drug abuse the key to treatment along with the merging of public safety and public health.

(ADVERTISEMENT)

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There is no added cost to your liability premium.

For more information, please contact:

Phil Seroczynski (312) 329-7346 or Dana Lucas (312) 329-7337

YOU ARE INVITED

Is grass-fed beef the new health food?

Photo: Andrew Eccles



*Special event featuring
award-winning broad-
caster and documentary
host **BILL KURTIS**, Sat.,
Sept. 16, from 10 a.m.-
noon, at Roosevelt Uni-
versity, 430 S. Michigan
Ave., Room 320.*

THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY, ALONG with ChicaGourmets and the Culinary Historians of Chicago, are sponsoring a talk on Chicago's notorious meat packing history and the grass-fed beef that broadcaster Bill Kurtis is raising on his 10,000-acre Kansas ranch. A conservationist, Mr. Kurtis will explain why he chose to raise grass-fed rather than grain-fed cattle and what the health benefits are.

SPECIAL EVENT RATE FOR CMS MEMBERS: \$5.00

To RSVP, or for more information, contact:

Scott Warner (312) 329-7336; swarner@cmsdocs.org.

Chicago Medicine classified advertising form

Classified Rates (Per Insertion)	25 Words or less	26-40 words	41-60 words	61-80 words	81-100 words
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CMS members (20% discount) . . .	\$16.80	\$28.00	\$38.40	\$48.80	\$58.40

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3. All ads must be submitted in writing, preferably using this form.
4. Cancellation notice must be received no later than the first day of the prior month.
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6. Return this completed form to: Chris Sienko, *Chicago Medicine*, 515 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610; or fax it to (312) 670-3646. If you have any questions, call Chris Sienko at (312) 329-7334.

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LUXURY MEDICAL OR PROFESSIONAL offices for rent or for sale. Please call Pat at (630) 308-2285.

FOR SALE—OB-GYN PRACTICE IN Lincoln Park, Chicago. Established for 34 years. Tremendous opportunity. Call (773) 348-6486.

SUBLEASE MEDICAL OFFICE, PROFES-sional buildings, opposite to hospital. Hoffman Estates, IL, 60195. E-mail address: med168@yahoo.com.

ENJOY NORTHERN ILLINOIS WITH ITS low cost of living, near Wisconsin skiing and 90 minutes away from downtown Chicago. For sale: internal medicine practice with geriatric medicine subspecialty. Patients with Medicare and private insurance coverage. Fully equipped office with lease for next three years; 1500 sq. ft. Respond to spjmd5@gmail.com or P.O. Box 10126, Loves Park, IL 61131.

Personnel wanted

HOME PHYSICIANS, A MEDICAL GROUP located in Chicago/northwest Indiana and specializing in house calls, seeks physicians. Individuals trained in primary care/surgical debridement. Phone (773) 292-4800 or (219) 864-9900; fax (773) 486-3548; www.homephysicians.com.

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LOOKING FOR DOCTORS. SEND RESUME to 7000 W. North Ave., Chicago, IL 60707, attn: Pat; or call Pat at (630) 308-2285 for interview.

GENERAL PRACTICE OR FAMILY PRACTICE for outpatient clinic—Chicago-area. Part-time or full-time. Spanish-speaking neighborhood. No night calls. No hospital practice. Call (630) 452-8445.

PART-TIME/FULL-TIME PEDIATRICIAN for pediatric practice located 45 minutes from downtown Chicago. Reply to attn: Box #2284, *Chicago Medicine*, 515 N. Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60610.

WE ARE SEEKING A FAMILY PRACTITIONER for an established multi-specialty group on the north side of Chicago. Compensation includes a base salary and bonus to exceed \$100,000. Contact mvickery@mcleodusa.net; phone (773) 508-9800, ext. 235; fax (773) 508-1796.

WE ARE SEEKING A GENERAL ORTHOPEDIC surgeon to join an established multi-specialty group on the north side of Chicago. Ambulatory surgical facility includes all treatment modalities and diagnostic capabilities, including physical therapy & rehabilitation, MRI, x-ray and fluoroscopy. Salary \$500—\$700,000. Mail resume to attn: Box #2299, c/o *Chicago Medicine*, 515 N. Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60610.

PHYSICIANS NEEDED—VARIOUS SPECIALTIES—ob-gyn for pregnancy termination, family practice, urology, plastic surgery for abdominoplasty, and anesthesiology. Full- or part-time positions available. Downtown Chicago and suburban Chicago locations, northwestern and western suburbs. Residents in Illinois programs welcome. No night calls. Malpractice insurance may be available. Hourly or salaried positions available. Mail CV to Administrator, 1640 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite 110, Arlington Heights, IL 60004; or fax to (847) 398-4585; or e-mail: Tammy.s@covad.net.

Medical equipment for sale

SAVE \$\$\$, NEW AND PRE-OWNED EXAM tables, office and waiting room furniture, EKGs, sterilizers. Call for list and info: (800) 553-8367; or (815) 678-4657.

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Other items for sale

"THE OLD LADY ON HARRISON STREET" (history of Cook County Hospital). "Tales of a County Intern" (short stories about patients). Available at reduced prices. John Raffensperger, MD. E-mail Raffluck@aol.com.

**Look for the Chicago Medical Society
on-line at www.cmsdocs.org**