

chicago medicine

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY
THE MEDICAL SOCIETY
OF COOK COUNTY



Newsletter, November 2007, Vol. 110, No. 14

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

CMS forms council to work with hospital medical staffs

You will soon be hearing more about a new Council being developed and implemented by the Chicago Medical Society, focusing primarily on hospital physicians and university hospitals. The Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) is working closely with CMS on programming in support of this initiative.

The Council's primary goal is to show hospital medical staff leaders what organized medicine does and to let them experience the services and resources available to members. By serving as a resource to the leadership, the Council will build a network of individuals CMS/ISMS can work through to communicate with members and non-members alike. And indirectly, the Council will become a resource to CMS/ISMS, complementing retention/recruitment efforts, and demonstrating the benefits of membership.

The benefits/services include:

- Quarterly Meetings—These will provide networking opportunities for medical staff leaders, facilitate conversation on issues affecting them, and assist with developing educational programs structured to their needs and interests. The first meeting will be held in the next few months; guest speaker will be Rob Kane, JD, ISMS legal services. Mr. Kane

will discuss issues affecting hospital medical staff by-laws.

- Quarterly Newsletters—These will provide information specific to hospital medical staff issues in Illinois. The content will include information on medical/legal issues, legislation, and legislative/judicial elections.

- Research—CMS and ISMS will research issues and provide talking points based on the interests and needs of hospital medical staff leadership. Staff will also provide information on CMS/ISMS initiatives.

We need your input and support. To serve on the Council and/or attend the meeting, please contact Megan Whalen (312) 670-2550.



*Thank you,
Saroja Bharati, MD
President, CMS*

The CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY in conjunction with the Senior Physicians Group Presidential Ad Hoc Committee presents a 2-hour CME Program:
PNA FISH: IMPACTS AND EFFECTS IN HOSPITAL ANTIBIOTIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS
SATURDAY, DEC. 1, FROM 9-11 A.M.
NORWEGIAN AMERICAN HOSPITAL
1044 N. FRANCISCO AVE, CHICAGO
SEE PAGES 17-18 FOR REGISTRATION INFO.

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Planning summit takes on issue of membership

Photos by Scott Warner, CMS



CMS President Saroja Bharati, MD, points to the immunization reminder for physicians issued by the Chicago Department of Public Health as she leads an executive discussion on membership retention and recruitment.

TACKLING THE MEMBERSHIP CRISIS HEAD-ON, CMS President Saroja Bharati, MD, convened a planning summit on Oct. 27 to determine how CMS can reach out and retain new members, particularly women, residents, students and ethnic groups. Nearly 30 leaders participated in the Saturday morning roundtable, which included representatives from every district and committee, as well as the CMS Board of Trustees.

CMS has a greater role to play than ever, and rebuilding the Society will require the work of

Representatives from every CMS district and committee, along with the CMS Board of Trustees, gathered Oct. 27 to forge an action plan for membership.



many, said Dr. Bharati. She challenged leaders to help her in recreating the Society for a new millennium, building upon CMS' historic mission.

Among the many suggestions at the meeting:

- Increase CMS' visibility in the County and City.
- Better represent the needs of employed physicians, paying greater attention to the younger generation, the lifeblood of organized medicine.
- Survey students and residents about their professional and personal concerns.
- Offer mentorship opportunities, job assistance, guidance on negotiating contracts and on insurance to young doctors.
- Focus on the increasingly female workforce and dual doctor families; 50 percent of medical students are now women; they will have childcare issues, need health insurance, and will seek their own professional forums.
- Streamline electronic publications. As of November, the monthly *Chicago Medicine* newsletter will be sent electronically. CMS will continue to print a few paper copies for those without email who request a copy.
- Improve the Web site so users can apply online for membership, take online CME courses, and register for CMS events.
- Address the core values of the medical profession.
- Approach hospital administrators and large group practice managers to better understand the issues and needs of employed doctors.
- Target specific groups, offering discounts to medical staffs or to groups based on size.
- Promote lobbying and advocacy efforts.



"Students should be integrated into membership, they shouldn't be a separate district," suggested Hans Arora, co-chair, CMS Student District.

- Offer access to legal opinions or help on dealing with insurance companies.
- Look at what specialty societies have to offer and work at filling the gap.
- Advocate for patients and work with community coalitions.
- Host political candidates, offer online forums; allow non-physicians to join CMS as associates or "friends of the Society."
- Identify hospital liaisons; if leaders cannot personally serve as liaisons, they should identify potential candidates to assist in membership recruitment.
- Recruit medical staff section chiefs, the key players who can influence colleagues and residents.
- Redefine and expand the CMS mission statement.
- Promote affinity partners; offer health and auto insurance, legal and financial services.
- Improve and expand CME and offer assistance with coding issues.
- Establish a "swat team" of practice consultants to evaluate practices.
- Identify key leaders to represent CMS at health care and legislative forums.

The discussion returned frequently to the issue of value. While everyone attending the meeting would agree membership is well worth the cost, many felt that most of the medical community is unaware of the good that organized medicine is



Waiting their turn to comment, are, from left, Drs. Thomas M. Anderson, CMS treasurer; Earl E. Fredrick, Jr., chair, Resolutions Reference Committee; and Kathy Tynus, member, Public Health Committee.

doing on their behalf, or are simply taking it for granted.

Following a brief question-and-answer period, Dr. Bharati encouraged members to continue the conversation by sending in their ideas. She thanked everyone and called the summit, "a beginning, not an end."



From left: Drs. Joseph N. Michelotti, Raj Lal, Kenneth Busch, Edgar Borda and Mahesh P. Sardesai, were in agreement that most of the medical community is unaware of the good that organized medicine is doing on their behalf.

PRESIDENTIAL ROUNDS



CMS President Saroja Bharati, MD, met with Chicago Public Schools CEO Arne Duncan to propose a curriculum on healthy lifestyle habits for grade school students.

CMS pilot program to encourage healthy lifestyles

HELPING CHILDREN MAKE HEALTHIER food choices has long been a passion for CMS President Saroja Bharati, MD. Meeting with Chicago Public Schools CEO Arne Duncan at CPS headquarters recently, she proposed a curriculum that would teach healthy lifestyle habits to grade school students. Her program would bring CMS physicians into the schools to educate, engage and encourage kids. But students wouldn't be the only ones—doctors would reach out to teachers and parents as well. Dr. Bharati's plan also calls for collaboration with the American Heart Association and American Medical Association.

Mr. Duncan welcomed Dr. Bharati's suggestions and encouraged CMS to develop a pilot program.

Dr. Bharati: Residents key to future

CMS PRESIDENT SAROJA BHARATI, MD, AN educator in cardiac pathology, spoke recently to residents at Illinois Masonic Medical Center. But

her lecture wasn't on the science of heart disease; she came instead to encourage doctors in training to sample the benefits of organized medicine. CMS, she explained, is serving the needs and interests of residents and young doctors by forming special membership sections devoted exclusively to them. The Society is also offering young physicians additional seats on the CMS Council, including opportunities to participate on committees.

Dr. Bharati was accompanied by Immediate CMS Past President Shastri Swaminathan, MD, and Secretary William N. Werner, MD, both on staff at Illinois Masonic, and CMS Executive Director Ted Kanellakes; each spoke on the benefits of organized medicine. Following up on their advice, 25 residents signed on as members. CMS welcomes them aboard!



Dr. Bharati speaks to residents at Illinois Masonic Medical Center, encouraging them to partake of the benefits of organized medicine.

AMA Interim Meeting focuses on advocacy, legislation

THE AMA HOUSE OF DELEGATES HELD ITS Interim Meeting Nov. 10-13, 2007, in Honolulu, HI, and CMS leaders attended as part of the Illinois Delegation. The business of the meeting was focused on advocacy and legislation. A complete report will appear in the December issue of *Chicago Medicine*.



ILLINOIS MEDICAL LAWSUIT REFORM

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Prior to 2005, when medical lawsuit reforms became Illinois law, out-of-control liability premiums and jury awards had seriously injured our state's health care system. This forced many doctors to cut back services, leave Illinois, or retire early. The result? Many patients could not access the care they desperately needed.

Since the reforms were enacted, we've begun a near-miraculous recovery. We've stemmed the flow of doctors leaving the state, assuring greater access to care for patients. We've reduced skyrocketing medical liability premiums that are ultimately passed on to employers, workers and their families in higher health insurance costs. In short, we've started to mend a medical liability system that was on the brink of collapse.

Now, trial lawyers want to overturn this fair, sensible—and *necessary*—reform and take us back to the dark days of excessive jury awards, higher medical liability premiums, escalating health care costs, and reduced access to care for patients.

Don't let trial lawyers destroy the progress we've made on medical lawsuit reform. Let's continue working to close the wounds, provide patients with the care they deserve, and keep physicians in Illinois.

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LEADERSHIP

CMS announces new executive director



Theodore Kanellakes

THE CHICAGO MEDICAL Society welcomes Theodore Kanellakes as its executive director. Mr. Kanellakes, who joined CMS in 1995, was previously director of Membership Services and director of the CMS Service Bureau. Among Mr. Kanellakes' accomplishments for CMS are:

Chicago Medical Society

Rally (May 2003)

- Organized the largest Medical Liability Reform Rally in the country. (Approximately 4,000 physicians participated.)

Chicago Medical Society March (March 2004)

- Organized Chicago's first physician march through downtown Chicago, resulting in the temporary closure of approximately 20 street intersections.
- Facilitated a media campaign with coverage from Chicagoland television stations, radio stations and newspapers.

Physicians' Collective Bargaining Organization

- Served as executive vice president for one of five physician collective bargaining units in the country.
- Assisted with the development and facilitation of house staff organizations.
- Organized the country's largest resident house staff organization.
- Created and implemented a media campaign that received national coverage.
- Developed a strategic plan for implementing an improved resident benefit package, including better working conditions, higher wages, and resolutions for quality care issues.

"During his twelve years with CMS, Mr. Kanellakes has built a strong foundation for leading the organization into the future," said CMS President Saroja Bharati, MD. "Working for CMS and seeing it through its many changes over the years will enable Mr. Kanellakes to offer continuity and stability," Dr. Bharati continued. "More importantly, Mr. Kanellakes will be a driver of positive change, while upholding the guiding principles and vision of the CMS."

NEWS FOR CHICAGO PHYSICIANS

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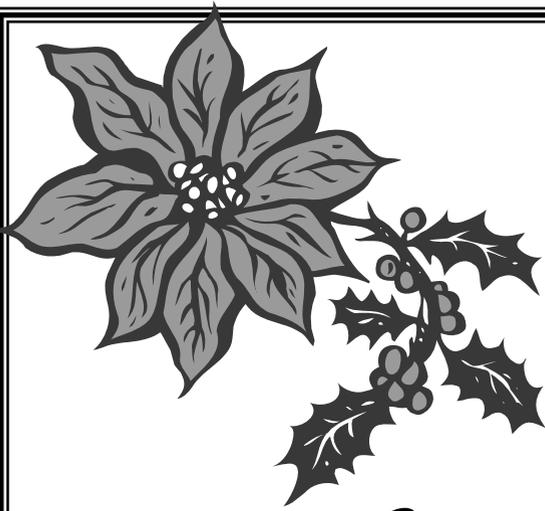
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Chicago IL 60610
Liz Sidney, Co-Editor/Editorial
Scott Warner, Co-Editor/Production

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY

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The Officers and Trustees of
the Chicago Medical Society
request the pleasure of
your company at our

Annual Holiday Reception
Wednesday, December 12, 2007

from

4 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Maggiano's Banquets
111 West Grand Ave. Chicago

Celebrate the season with your friends and Colleagues!
Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.



I (and a guest) will attend the Chicago Medical Society Holiday Reception.

Number of Persons: _____

Name: _____

Please Print Name of Each Person Attending

Address: _____

Please reply no later than December 10, 2007.

♦ Call the Chicago Medical Society at (312) 670-2550, ext. 344.

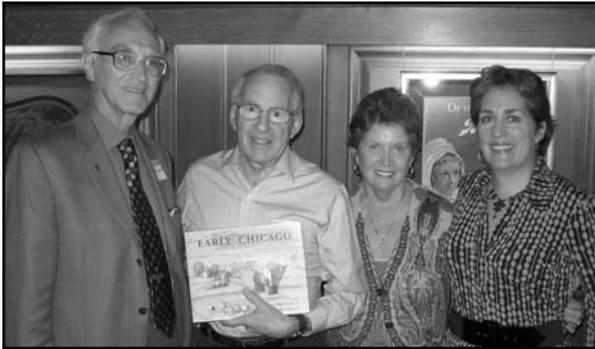
♦ Fax your response to (312) 670-3646

♦ E-mail your response to rrubio@cmsdocs.org

Mail reply to:

Chicago Medical Society, *Holiday Reception*, 515 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610

ACTIVITIES



CMS AT THE BERGHOFF

CMS Past President Ulrich Danckers, MD, *left*, presents a copy of his book "Early Chicago" to the Berghoff family (Herman and Jan, and daughter Carlyn) at a gala ChicaGourmets luncheon Oct. 27, at the old Berghoff restaurant, which has reopened as "17 West at the Berghoff." The family also signed copies of their new "Berghoff Family Cookbook."

Senior physicians forge greater role

THE SENIOR PHYSICIANS GROUP, A NEWLY appointed CMS presidential ad hoc committee,

held its inaugural meeting on Oct. 24 to set an active agenda for the coming year.

Led by CMS Past President Joseph L. Murphy, MD, committee members plan to tap each others' knowledge, skills, and wealth of professional experience to enrich the existing committee efforts of CMS.

Look for senior doctors to be playing a greater role in recruitment drives, outreach endeavors, educational programs, mentoring, and in the political process. From hosting seminars to writing articles to lobbying on organized medicine's behalf, the CMS SPG allows older physicians to help shape the destiny of their profession.

The group, which also plans to establish affiliations with ISMS, AMA and specialty societies, is open to emeritus, retired and practicing physicians 60 years of age and older.

Future meeting dates are Nov. 28, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Dec. 1, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (educational seminar); and Jan. 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For information, please contact Amanda Worley (312) 670-2550, ext. 325.

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Medicaid Reporting Law

PASSING LEGISLATION IN SPRINGFIELD IS much like riding a roller coaster. A good example of the peaks and valleys of the ride can be found in the journey the ISMS Medicaid reporting bill took to become law.

HB 1628 passed in the General Assembly on June 13 and was promptly sent to Governor Blagojevich for his consideration. On Sept. 10, the Governor applied an "amendatory veto" to the bill, which would have stripped most of the intent of the proposal, but still allow portions to become law. With ISMS prodding, the House and Senate took action in October, voting unanimously to override the amendatory veto and allow the original bill to become law.

The new reporting law instructs the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services to regularly update the General Assembly on the number of healthcare professionals serving in the Medicaid primary case management program; the number of participating physician specialists; and the number of individuals enrolled in the *All Kids* program. Local Senator, Jeffrey M. Schoenberg (D-Evanston), played a pivotal role in sponsoring and leading the veto override of this measure that will evaluate the effectiveness of these publicly funded programs.

Flu Vaccine Help

INFLUENZA VACCINE MANUFACTURERS ARE projecting an all-time production high with as many as 132 million doses of influenza vaccine available in the U.S. for use during the 2007-08 influenza season. ISMS maintains a Web page with information for physicians, including where to obtain vaccine supplies.

Visit www.isms.org/physicians/flu_vaccine.html.

Medicare

LAST MONTH, ISMS MAILED A "MEDICARE crisis" poster to our members most likely to treat senior patients. The poster offers information to alert patients to the looming Medicare cuts, and tear-off sheets for them to take home and use in making contact with federal lawmakers.

CMS Members can call (800) 782-4767 or e-mail govt@isms.org for extra copies of the poster or tear-off sheets.

Despite expressions of support from both political parties, reversal of the 2008 Medicare funding cuts is not expected to arise for debate until year's end. The U.S. House of Representatives acquiesced to Senate demands to separate Medicare issues from the SCHIP (state children's health insurance program) funding renewal. Washington scuttlebutt: is it highly unlikely Congress will deal with the Medicare cuts until an agreement on SCHIP has been inked.

The AMA is asking doctors to continue to contact Congress (and especially our U.S. Senators), urging support for a two-year positive Medicare fix. Please urge your colleagues and patients to make these calls to Washington through the AMA patient hotline, (888) 434-6200. Congress is expected to recess in mid-November, which serves as an opportune time for physicians to set up district office appointments with lawmakers.

Women Physicians Forum

ON WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24, ISMS HOSTED 70 women physicians from the Chicago region for the 1st Illinois Women Physicians Forum event. The evening featured networking and remarks from ISMS member Joanne C. Smith, MD, CEO of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Similar events will be held in 2008 and all female members of the CMS are encouraged to participate.

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CONVENIENT CHICAGO LOCATION: *More details to follow...*

Benefits of attending on March 27-29:

- **CME:** Earn up to 20 CME credits & meet your July 2008 relicensure requirements!
- **Networking:** Network with elite speakers & participants from Chicago's leading medical institutions
- **Convenient Schedule:** Thursday (March 27) from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday (March 28) from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and
Saturday (March 29) from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- **Perks:** Early Bird package fee includes daily breakfast, lunch and a dessert reception on Friday. Discounted parking, valet and shuttle service will be available.
- **Topics Include:** Hypertension; Diabetes; Family Practice; Women's Health; Men's Health; Allergy & Sinus; Internal Medicine & Pathology; Medicare Update; Emergency Preparedness; Practice Management; Medical-Legal and many other advancements in medicine.

Early Bird Fee! \$295 for Members

The Chicago Medical Society is a fully accredited CME provider.

For more information visit: www.cmsdocs.org or call 312-670-2550

Attention, students and residents! Educational loan update

THE AMA IS PUSHING FOR PERMANENT reinstatement of the 20/220 pathway, a program that enabled residents to delay repayment of their educational loans during residency.

The 20/220 pathway was eliminated Oct. 1 as part of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act. Under that program, residents qualified for economic hardship deferments on their loans--delaying payment on subsidized loans for three years without accruing interest--if their debt burden was greater than 20 percent of their income, and if their income was not greater than 220 percent of the federal poverty level.

After intense lobbying by the AMA, the U.S. Department of Education recently announced a temporary solution to extend the program until fall

2008, while allowing current participants in the economic hardship deferment to finish their remaining years of eligibility. And in early November, a bill to restore the 20/220 pathway and make it permanent--S. 2303--was introduced in the U.S. Senate.

Medical student and resident/fellow members of the AMA have been very active on this issue in recent weeks--including making phone calls to Congress, sending e-mail messages and speaking face-to-face with lawmakers. Student and resident activists have also been extremely effective in spreading the word among state and specialty societies, hospital staffs, colleagues at their institutions, and early career physicians.

Information provided courtesy of AMA

AMA and AARP call on Senate to avert Medicare physician payment cuts

A JOINT TELEVISION AD FROM THE AMA and AARP began airing in October in select areas of the country and Washington, DC, to spur congressional action to preserve Medicare patients' access to health care.

In the joint ad, the AMA and AARP ask, "If doctors are forced to downsize their practices and Medicare premiums rise even higher, how will you get the care you need?"

The AMA and AARP are calling on the Senate to take action similar to the House of Representatives, which passed legislation to eliminate \$54 billion in excess payments to private insurers offering Medicare Advantage plans. Only one in five seniors is enrolled in Medicare Advantage, but these excess payments to insurers are coming out of everybody's pockets.

"By eliminating excess payments to Medicare Advantage plans, Congress can put the savings to good use to stop the next two years of Medicare cuts to doctors and instead update payments to help cover increasing costs, while limiting premium increases for seniors," said AMA Board Chair Edward L. Langston, MD.

Other elements of the joint effort include advocacy at the national level and a series of print ads

and opinion pieces in newspapers around the country.

Information provided courtesy of AMA

CMS sponsors foreign tours, cruises

The Chicago Medical Society has joined with Go Next to offer our members a variety of exceptional travel programs, all at excellent pricing.

Travel in 2008

Prices include hotel and airfare.

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- **Danube River Cruise from \$2,499 -- April 28-May 6**
- **Treasure of China & Yangtze River Cruise: \$3,299 March 27-April 8, April 14-26, May 26-June 7**
- **Paris Highlights: \$1,999 -- March 28-April 5, April 11-19**
- **Spain: \$2,599 -- April 18-27, April 26-May 5**

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EVENTS/PROGRAMS

- Dec. 12—4:00-7:00 P.M.

CMS Annual Holiday Reception

Maggiano's Banquets

111 W. Grand Ave.

Chicago

See ad on page 7

- Dec. 14—9:30 A.M.

District 6 General Membership Meeting

Rush University Medical Center

Room 500

600 S. Paulina Ave.

Chicago

Contact: Jennifer Cox (312) 670-2550, ext. 324

- Dec. 14—10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

District 6

Discussion on Dr. Arnold Relman's Book—

"A Second Opinion: Rescuing America's Health Care"

Rush University Medical Center

Room 500

600 S. Paulina Ave.

Chicago

Contact: Jennifer Cox (312) 670-2550, ext. 324

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March 27-29, 2008!

CME: 20 credits

(SEE OUR AD ON PAGE 11.)

For information, call Annette Boksa at
(312) 670-2550, ext. 340,
or email aboksa@cmsdocs.org

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As a benefit of membership, all CMS members
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ChicaGourmets is endorsed by the Chicago Medical Society Service Bureau, Inc.

**MED
MAL**
TIP #9

Know their approach to protecting physicians.



There is a big difference in operating philosophy among medical malpractice carriers. With some, defense against claims may be half-hearted at best. Many good physicians have been hurt by frivolous lawsuits when their good work went undefended in favor of quick-fix settlements. Clearly, this does not serve you or the profession well.

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Personnel wanted

PHYSICIANS, STOP WORKING 55-80 hours a week! Mobile Doctors seeks physi-

cians to make house calls to the elderly and disabled. Seeking one part-time and one full-time physician. Practice primary care with patients who really appreciate you. No night or weekend work. A company car and certified medical assistant are provided. Take your time practicing medicine without a waiting room full of patients. Fax CV to Michele at (312) 640-4496; or call (312) 617-2096; or mail CV to Mobile Doctors, 1229 N. North Branch #210, Chicago, IL 60622.

FAMILY PRACTITIONER OR GENERAL practitioner wanted. Full-time or part-time, Spanish-speaking neighborhood, outpatient only—40 hour week. Cermak Rd. and Ashland Ave. Call (630) 452-8445.

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The Chicago Medical Society

In conjunction with the Senior Physicians Group Presidential Ad Hoc Committee
Presents a 2 hr. CME Program

PNA FISH: Impacts and Effects in Hospital Antibiotic Management Programs

Speaker:

Suneetha Narreddy, MD, Fellow, Infectious Disease, Wayne State University, Detroit MI.

Dr. Narreddy is a member of the speaker's bureau for AdvanDx, Inc

"How PNA FISH Rapid Diagnostic Platforms Positively Impact US Hospital Antibiotic Management Programs"

"Effect of Rapid Species Identification Implementation on Antibiotic Management within a Nine-Hospital System"

Moderator:

Saroja Bharati, MD, President, Chicago Medical Society

Date/Time: Saturday, December 1, 2007, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Location: Norwegian American Hospital, 1044 N. Francisco Ave, Chicago, IL
(Professional Building, fifth floor)**

Audience: All Interested Physicians

Registration Fee: \$15.00

Learning Objectives: At the conclusion of this learning activity, participants should be able to understand:

- * Species Identification and its role in antibiotic management
- * How to consider species identification in advance of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) information when choosing antibiotics
- * Contaminated blood cultures and impact on inappropriate antibiotic use
- * Financial impact on hospital systems as a result of contaminated blood cultures
- * Impact on ICU cases and early alerts for serious pathogens
- * Generic vs. new antifungals: the dilemma of drug cost management and patient care
- * Information flow from a central laboratory to a 9-hospital system
- * Antibiotic protocol in managing infectious diseases
- * The role of pharmacy in education and support for antibiotic choice
- * How rapid information is utilized in a streaming fashion by the medical floor
- * Measurement systems: how to tell if your program is working

An educational grant for this program has been provided by AdvanDx

Program Schedule:

8:30 a.m.	Registration - Complimentary Continental Breakfast
8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks, Saroja Bharati, M.D., President, Chicago Medical Society, Professor of Pathology, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL
9:00 a.m.	How PNA FISH Rapid Diagnostic Platforms Positively Impact US Hospital Antibiotic Management Programs, Suneetha Narreddy, MD, Wayne State University Medical School, Detroit Medical Center
10:00 a.m.	Effect of Rapid Species Identification Implementation on Antibiotic Management within a Nine-Hospital System, Suneetha Narreddy, M.D., Wayne State University Medical School, Detroit Medical Center

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the Chicago Medical Society. The Chicago Medical Society is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Chicago Medical Society designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2.0 category 1 credits towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

Register by completing the registration form provided on the back of this sheet.

PNA Fish 2 Hr. CME Course - Registration Form

Please Print or Type

Attendee's Name: _____

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