MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Allow me to introduce myself

As your new president, I look forward to representing you on key challenges facing our profession: patient care; advocacy issues, and legislative concerns. And as an academician and practicing physician, I want you to know that I’m solidly in the trenches with you, my colleagues.

My first priority this year, which you’ll be hearing more about, is to encourage academicians to join organized medicine. As you no doubt know, organized medicine is on a collision course with the academic community. And to avoid organized medicine’s sure destruction, I will be targeting my colleagues at area teaching institutions, promoting reasons to join. As a first step, I’ve appointed an ad hoc committee devoted solely to physicians in academic medicine.

Another priority is encouraging patient safety, an initiative we’ve already begun through the CMS Regional Patient Safety Simulation Center. The job before us now is to coordinate our services with those of other simulation centers to avoid duplication of our efforts.

A topic close to my heart is reducing health disparities. Since my resident days on the AMA’s Minority Affairs Consortium, I’ve watched as the movement to eliminate health disparities gained momentum within the AMA and other organizations. And although we’ve made much progress, I believe there is still work for us to do.

I also plan to increase student and resident involvement in CMS. We will be doing this by increasing our online communications, by tracking our young members throughout their training, by offering childcare services, and by going through the academicians, those gatekeepers who have tremendous influence over students and residents.

I’m committed to continuing groups formed under Dr. Bharati,

“I’m solidly in the trenches with you, my colleagues,” CMS President William A. McDade, MD, said during his inaugural address on June 1.

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such as the Women Physicians Forum, the Council on Hospital Medical Staff Leadership, the Young Physicians Section, the Senior Physicians Group, and the Committee to Review the Chicago Regional Patient Safety Simulation Center.

Our staff is now scheduling legislative breakfasts, roundtables and joint collaborations between Districts and the Council on Hospital Medical Staff Leadership. At these events, we’ll hear experts who can focus on your legislative needs or discuss the latest clinical issues.

Throughout the year, I want also to reinforce among physicians a sense of what CMS is and what it does for them. One of my first acts as president was to meet with the CMS staff, many of whom have been loyally serving us for more than 20 years, and give them the big picture of our organization and the challenges we face during my year.

In closing, I ask that you help make this a transformative year for your Society. Our success depends on you. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions, and I look forward to hearing from you at sickledoc@aol.com.

William A. McDade, MD, PhD
President, Chicago Medical Society

CMS ANNUAL DINNER

President will focus on bringing medical community together

CMS President Dr. William McDade with his wife, Jennifer, the newly installed president of the restarted CMS Alliance. Mrs. McDade will lead the physician spouse group to better serve the family of medicine.

Steadfast service to organized medicine

Since joining CMS in 1981 as a student, Dr. McDade has risen steadily through the ranks of organized medicine. He first served as CMS alternate councilor at the urging Dr. Ron Davis, the immediate past AMA president. By the time Dr. McDade left Chicago for his residency, he had served in every position available to a member of the CMS Student Branch. He had also chaired the Governing Council of the AMA-MSS and served on the ISMS Governmental Affairs Council. When he returned to Chicago years later, Dr. McDade rejoined CMS/ISMS and in the ensuing years, chaired committees while
Imagine being seriously injured in an accident. You receive prompt, professional medical treatment that saves your life. Then, just as you're on the brink of recovery, that treatment is taken away.

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.

For more info, visit www.realitymedicine.com.
eventually becoming a CMS trustee and officer. He also joined the AMA Young Physicians Section, the AMA Minority Affairs Consortium, and the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

“As I transitioned from student to resident, I was sold on the concept that if organized medicine didn’t exist, we would have to invent it,” Dr. McDade told his Annual Dinner audience.

While learning to appreciate how large organizations function and conduct business, Dr. McDade also gained respect for organized medicine’s ability to promote public health measures, such as banning smoking on commercial airline flights, an issue first championed by the young Dr. Davis that was eventually enacted into law.

“I was there to witness the idea of a single student materialize into legislation and ultimately a societal benefit for everyone for the years to come,” Dr. McDade remembered.

He sees organized medicine, combined with the legislative process, as a strong tool for progress.

“There is one voice that speaks for others, our patients, that is motivated by the best interests of society, and that is organized medicine.”

Committed to embracing constituencies

Boosting membership among academic physician members is foremost on Dr. McDade’s agenda, followed by retaining students and young physicians. (He will fully address the topic of academic medicine in his first president’s perspective in the summer issue Chicago Medicine magazine.)

Dr. McDade strongly believes that academic doctors should be as concerned about reimbursement and medical liability reform as their colleagues in private practice. Neurosurgeons at Chicago’s teaching institutions feel the burden as physicians in Downstate communities can no longer afford to see patients, Dr. McDade explained. Meanwhile, while low reimbursement has created a two-tiered citizenship at university medical centers, increasing clinical loads at the expense of teaching and research. As a first step toward involving the academic community, CMS formed a Council on Hospital Medical Staff Leadership to discuss issues that its members face. After a successful start in January, the Council is scheduled to meet again in July.

Society reinvigorated, reenergized

Dr. McDade concluded his speech with a tribute to outgoing President Saroja Bharati, MD, for rebuilding the Society’s foundation through a strong emphasis on membership, outreach and technology.

(continued on page 6)
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Background

Dr. McDade earned both his doctoral and medical degrees at The University of Chicago. He completed his residency at The Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. His research interests are focused on sickle cell disease and medical education. He is currently principal investigator for multiple grants that support medical education from high school through medical school.

Dr. McDade is also a past president of the Cook County Physicians Association, the Chicago Society of Anesthesiologists, and the Prairie State Medical Society of the National Medical Association.

Photo coverage of the Annual Dinner will appear in the summer issue of Chicago Medicine.

CMS celebrates renewed Alliance

Dr. McDade shared the stage with his wife, Jennifer McDade, who was installed as president of the newly restarted CMS Alliance, the Society’s organization for physician spouses. Mrs. McDade promised to serve with “wisdom and grace” as the first Alliance president since the 1990s. She also invited spouses to join her in rebuilding a vibrant source of support for the family of medicine.

The Chicago Alliance will serve as a chapter of the ISMS Alliance, chaired by Benilda Hizon, with both groups providing a unified force for healthy, safe communities. Alliance members volunteer in the community, advocate on behalf of the medical profession, and raise funds for medical students.

Mrs. McDade holds masters’ degrees in English and special education; she teaches at Highland Park High School. A partner in her husband’s research interest in sickle-cell disease and medical education, Ms. McDade runs a not-for-profit sickle-cell foundation called “Jackie’s House,” named for her late sister who died of sickle-cell disease.

You’ll be hearing a lot more about the McDades’ work in community education and legislative advocacy on behalf of physicians.
Dr. McDade suggests a two-pronged approach to closing gaps in diagnosis and treatment.

First, medical schools must graduate more underrepresented minority students. Studies show that as physicians, minorities share close bonds with disadvantaged minority patients, caring for them more often than non-minority doctors do. Increasing their number requires setting specific standards and ongoing efforts to recruit and retain not only students but faculty, staff and other members of the academic community, he stated. Underrepresented minority students constitute a small finite pool of students, but because of anti-affirmative action activities in the 1990s, the number of these students has actually decreased, despite organized efforts to increase the pool, Dr. McDade explained.

He emphasized that diversity is good for everyone; it improves medical education, increases access to care for minority patients, advances research in medical and public health, and makes good business sense.

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Schools can also help students to develop a better understanding of the impact of culture on medical care. Intercultural understanding, or cultural competency, can be achieved through study of health beliefs, values, lifestyles and family roles, he said. Clinical instruction should foster understanding of demographic influences in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases, Dr. McDade stated. He led participants through the rationale, context, and definition of cultural competence, as defined by the AAMC. His discussion included key aspects of cultural competency and the impact of stereotyping on medical decision-making, health disparities and factors influencing health, and developing cross-cultural clinical skills.

Dr. McDade showed how these elements have successfully translated into practice at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine Office of Multicultural Affairs, in the Medical Center, and in curricular innovation.

Non-academic personnel, even medical society presidents, can play an important role.

Dr. McDade suggests they:

- Support pipeline initiatives through community partnerships with medical schools.
- Encourage pre-college and premedical students to pursue careers in medicine.
- Use their organizations to support and recognize individuals who are helping to reduce health disparities in their community.
- Support research by local faculty who wish to study health disparities.
- In speeches and written communications, encourage the elimination of health disparities and support minority medical student enrollment.
- Support scholarship programs that encourage disadvantaged minority students to consider a medical career.

Massachusetts a model for medical societies

Efforts by the Massachusetts Medical Society to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities were also showcased during the AMA’s President’s Forum. Complementing Dr. McDade’s lecture, Alice Coombs, MD, assistant secretary-treasurer and trustee of the MMS, reviewed a timeline starting in 1996, when the MMS first sponsored CME programs on ethnic and cultural diversity for physicians and residents. In 2007, Gov. Deval Patrick proposed an Office of Health Equity, which is now included in a budget proposal.
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ONLINE “WEBINARS”

New learning tool available to ISMS and CMS members

The Illinois State Medical Society is offering free online health issue “webinars” for member physicians and their office staff. Take advantage of this new member benefit and register for an upcoming session.

What is a webinar? A webinar is a mix of conference call and Internet-based presentation. Participants phone a conference call number and log on to a web site to view real-time presentations. You listen to speakers while following the presentation online. The webinar experience is like being at a conference, but from the comfort of your home or office. Webinars also allow for audience participation by using the phone to ask questions.

ISMS has already hosted three webinars this year that have been very well-received by physicians and office staff. These sessions, scheduled for the first Thursday of every other month, are free of charge to ISMS members. Non-members must pay a $100 registration fee. Three more opportunities remain to participate in these learning opportunities and past webinars are viewable online at www.isms.org/physicians/special/webinar2008.html.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

MANAGING PHYSICIAN STRESS
Aug. 7
Noon–1:00 P.M.
Faculty: Martin Doot, MD

Dr. Doot is a family physician with expertise in addiction medicine and a recognized expert on physician health and wellness issues. Learn about how taking care of yourself first can help you take better care of your patients.

COMPLIANCE ISSUES
Oct. 2
Noon–1:00 P.M.
Faculty: TBA

Learn what’s new in the area of compliance and how to comply with payor regulations and payment policies.

CURRENT LEGAL ISSUES
Dec. 4
Noon–1:00 P.M.
Faculty: Robert Kane

Mr. Kane is the ISMS Assistant Vice-President for Legal Services and frequently writes and speaks on various issues in health and administrative law. Mr. Kane authored the book Administrative Rulemaking in Illinois: A Handbook for Rulemakers and Practitioners and co-authored The Law of Medical Practice in Illinois. Get an update on recent changes to Illinois law that directly affect physicians.

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EACH YEAR THE CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY provides a training workshop known as “Parliamentary Procedures Workshop (Non-CME),” based on the Sturgis Rules of Order. This workshop offers tools and techniques to help sharpen the officers’ leadership ability, meeting skills and pertinent protocol. The Parliamentary Procedures course is intended to help officers become active in their societies. Hence, this course is designed for CMS District & Council officers, board members, executives, officers of specialty societies, and hospital leadership.

At the end of this workshop, participants should be able to:
1. Discuss the basic principles and rules of parliamentary law.
2. Prepare a basic agenda.
3. List the steps in handling a motion.
4. Define a main motion, a subsidiary (secondary), a privileged and a restorative motion.
5. Differentiate between a primary, a secondary, and a substitute.
7. Identify five essential points to successfully preside over a meeting.
8. Utilize the ranking motions.

This year’s Parliamentary Procedures Workshop will be held on Wed., Aug. 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the CMS building.

Please be informed that a non-refundable fee of $15 is needed with your RSVP—lunch is included with this fee. If you would like to register, please fill out the RSVP notice on the next page and e-mail it to aboksa@cmsdocs.org; or fax it to (312) 670-3646. You may also register online at www.cmsdocs.org. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Annette Boksa, Education Coordinator, at (312) 670-2550, ext. 340.
Chicago Medical Society
Presents
2008
Parliamentary Procedures Workshop

Audience: CMS District & Council Officers, Board Members, Executives, Officers of Specialty Societies and Hospital Leadership

Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2008
Location: CMS Building, 515 N. Dearborn Street, 4th Floor (corner of Grand & Dearborn)
Fee: $15 (includes lunch)
Other: Non-CME activity

Schedule:
• Part I: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
• Lunch (provided by CMS): 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
• Part II: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Seating is limited to first fifty participants! CMS will be providing lunch so please RSVP by 8/15.

Registration:

Name: __________________________________ Phone: ___________________ E-Mail: _________________________

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Please fax your response to (312) 670-3646 or visit www.cmsdocs.org to register.
Questions? Please call Annette Boksa at (312) 329-7340 or aboksa@cmsdocs.org
Wednesday, Aug. 6
Executive Committee Meeting
Chicago Medical Society (4th Floor)
8:00 a.m. -- 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 6
Board of Trustees Meeting
Chicago Medical Society (4th Floor)
9:00 a.m. -- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 6
OSHA Training Workshop
Lutheran General Hospital
10:00 a.m. -- 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 20
Parliamentary Procedures Workshop
Chicago Medical Society (4th Floor)
10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
CMS Medical Student District Meeting
Chicago Medical Society (4th Floor)
10:00 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
Council of Medical Staff Leadership Meeting
Maggiano’s
9:00 a.m. -- 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23
ISMS Student District Meeting
Illinois State Medical Society (Board Room)
12:00 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 29
OSHA Training Workshop
Rush North Shore Medical Center
2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.

For additional information, please call (312) 670-2550, or send an e-mail to askcms@cmsdocs.org.

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