

ISSUES

AMA leader makes emergency house call on CMS



Michael Maves, MD, AMA executive vice-president, at podium, addresses the CMS Council at the Nov. 11 meeting, cautioning against the proposed Medicare cut and advising physicians to keep pressure on their legislators. Shown with Dr. Maves are, from left: Edmund R. Donoghue, MD, CMS past president (who assisted Council Chairman Harold C. Labinsky, MD, in the absence of Council Vice-Chairman Shastri Swaminathan, MD, who was away); Neil E. Winston, MD, CMS president, and James R. Tarrant, CMS executive director.

WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS just days away and time running short for a solution to the looming Medicare cut, AMA Executive Vice-President Michael Maves, MD, MBA, made a rare personal plea to CMS physicians at the Nov. 11 Council meeting.

"Contact your congressional leaders immediately to prevent the 4.5 percent Medicare payment cut from taking effect Jan. 1," he urged.

Dr. Maves warned that if the AMA-brokered solution, which would stop two years of cuts with payment increases of at least 1.5 percent in 2004 and 2005 didn't pass, physicians would face a tough time trying to reverse the cut next year.

CMS members are already struggling to provide services in the face of rising costs and declining revenues. Abraham Fallah, MD, a south suburban gastroenterologist, estimates he loses up to \$25 for every office Medicare case. Using the example of a 10-minute Level III visit, which Medicare pays him \$55.04, Dr. Fallah told CMS he spends \$20 for the nurse (who must spend a total of 20 minutes on the patient), \$15 for two receptionists, \$15 for the billing service, \$5 for the time staff spend on the phone, plus another \$15-20 for rent, electricity, malpractice, transcription, accounting, etc. Acknowledging the harmful impact of still further cuts, he said: "Any reduction in payment to physicians will be absolutely devastating and any cutbacks would significantly and adversely affect medical care."

CMS gets go-ahead to establish agency/brokerage

CMS GOT ITS MARCHING ORDERS NOV. 11 when the Council voted to conduct due diligence and take steps toward establishing an agency/brokerage for CMS members. Acting on the recommendations of the Professional

BROKERAGE (continued from front page)

Liability Insurance Committee, which had been charged by the Council with studying the creation of a new medical liability insurance company, the Council was unanimous in its support of an effort to bring more affordable insurance to members. The initial estimate of start-up cost for an independent agency/broker is \$70,000-\$80,000, which includes salary and all state registration fees with the Department of Insurance.

Although CMS will not be legally entitled to give discounts or return any portion of the premium to the insured as a rebate, the agency/brokerage could financially support other CMS programs, such as the Midwest Clinical Conference, potentially reducing the cost to members.

In the meantime, CMS will continue to monitor the medical liability crisis and consider the formation of a medical liability product, either an insurance company or an alternate risk program, such as a captive. The cost for start-up of an insurance company is estimated at \$9 million, and for a captive is \$400,000. In addition, three to five times the premium would be needed to meet the surplus requirement.

CMS responds to ISMS redistricting and elections plan

AN ISMS FORMULA TO REDRAW STATEWIDE district boundaries and to reapportion trustees drew a response at both the CMS Council meeting Nov. 11 and at a special Executive Committee meeting the following morning.

"CMS has long supported an ISMS trustee structure composed of leadership representing the entire state rather than attempting to gain increased trustees for our Third District when those opportunities were present," said CMS President Neil E. Winston, MD. He urged councilors to send their comments to Ronald Ruecker, MD, chairman of the ISMS Board of Trustees before Nov. 14.

Following an initial six-part proposal by the ISMS Select Committee on Redistricting and Elections (SCORE) and the comment phase, the SCORE findings will be discussed at the winter ISMS trustee meeting and presented at the 2004 Annual Meeting in April.

Based on discussions at the Council meeting and the special Executive Committee meeting, Dr. Winston laid out CMS concerns over such issues as the process and structure of trustee reapportionment.

As of press time it was reported that the SCORE Committee is giving strong consideration to the feedback provided by both CMS and Downstate members.

Call to action!

ISMS delegates and alternates, mark your calendar for the ISMS HOD meeting April 22-24 at the Oak Brook Hills Hotel. Last year only 39 percent of our representatives attended. Many of our allocated seats were vacant. Both delegates and alternates should plan to attend.

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



Newsletter, November 2003 Vol. 106, No. 13

515 N. Dearborn St. Chicago IL 60610 James R. Tarrant, CAE, Executive Director Liz Sidney, Managing Editor Scott Warner, Production Editor

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY Neil E. Winston, MD President Peter E. Eupierre, MD President-elect Steven M. Malkin, MD Secretary William N. Werner, MD Treasurer Harold C. Labinsky, MD Chairman of the Council Shastri Swaminathan, MD Vice-Chairman of the Council Richard A. Geline, MD Immediate Past President *Chicago Medicine* (ISSN 0009-3637) is published monthly with one additional issue published each winter, spring, summer and fall for \$20 per year for members; \$30 per year for nonmembers, by the Chicago Medical Society, 515 N. Dearborn St. Chicago, Ill. 60610. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, Ill. Postmaster: Send address changes to *Chicago Medicine*, 515 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610. Telephone: (312) 670-2550. Copyright 2003, *Chicago Medicine*. All rights reserved.

LOOKING AHEAD

CMS holds long-range planning retreat

Goal: Streamline and adjust CMS structure for nimble organization

ENCOURAGING BROAD-BASED MEMBER representation, the CMS Board of Trustees held a Long-Range Planning Retreat on Nov. 12 in the CMS Building. Attending with the Board were Branch presidents and members of the Long-Range Planning Committee.

The Committee strongly recommended that CMS begin the process of implementing governance changes to make the Society more efficient, effective and relevant to members and potential members. Consideration was given to the CMS governance structure under its new 501 (c) (6) professional association status that encourages members to become politically active. This new emphasis will require the involvement of the Executive Committee, Board, Council, Branch leadership, and committee chairmen.

The participants reached agreement on many of the ideas presented and will forward their report to the Council for approval.

The main consensus was that CMS must adjust its structure and streamline activities to create a nimble organization. Such restructuring would allow the Society to respond quickly to the changing needs of members and potential members, enabling them to survive in practice and provide quality care in the future.

CMS/CDPH grant program begins second year

THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CHICAGO Medical Society and the Chicago Department of Public Health, which resulted in a Bioterrorism Preparedness course that trained more than 1,000 Chicago-area health-care professionals last academic year, has continued and expanded, and will offer two new, free CME courses to area medical facilities over the next year.

In spite of the success of last year's program, a recent study by University of Chicago researchers reported that only one in five physicians feels prepared to cope with a bioterrorist event. The survey's authors say this alarming result means more must be done to prepare the medical profession for bioterrorism.

With this in mind, the grant program this year will be offering, "Survey of Bioterrorist Agents: Preparedness Training for Physicians," a followup to last year's smallpox course. This new course will cover anthrax, plague, botulinum toxin, and viral hemorrhagic fevers, as well as smallpox and the smallpox vaccine. Last year's course is not a prerequisite, but those who did attend last year's course should find plenty of new material.

In conceiving the second course in this year's program, CMS and CDPH have responded to requests from attendees at the first year's smallpox program by creating "Emerging Infectious Diseases: Focus on SARS." This course contains the most up-to-date SARS information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and offers extensive influenza coverage as well.

In addition to these two new courses, talks are also underway on the creation of a third course, to center on the West Nile virus.

With the increase in course offerings, the program has also elevated its goals, and is hoping to reach 2,000 C h i c a g o - a r e a health-care professionals, twice the number reached in

the first year of the program.

To schedule either or both of these vital, free one-hour CME courses at your medical facility, please contact Dan Pashman at (312) 329-7324. Several presentations open to the entire medical public will also be scheduled, and those dates will be released in coming weeks.



Jorge P. Parada, MD, MPH, presents "Survey of Bioterrorist Agents: Preparedeness Training for Physicians," at Alivio Medical Center, on Chicago's southwest side, on Nov. 19. Dr. Parada is assistant professor of medicine at the Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University, and senior research associate at the Hines VA Medical Center.

POTPOURRI



Breakfast with the legislators

Vikram Gandhi, MD, left, West Side Branch president, organized the very first CMS legislative breakfast on Oct. 29 at Loretto Hospital. The prototype event was designed to allow CMS members to network and build relationships with their elected officials. Similar events currently are being planned for other CMS branches. Shown with Dr. Gandhi are James Tarrant, CMS executive director; State Representative Deborah Graham, State Senator Kimberly Lightford; Zivajin Pavlovic, MD; Deen Gaddam, MD; Tito Yao, MD; and Hamid Humayun, MD.

CMS announces EMTALA final rule

THE FINAL RULE REGARDING POLICY CLARifications of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) went into effect Nov. 10. The final rule addresses on-call requirements, situations that trigger EMTALA, prior authorization and situations where EMTALA does not apply. Here are some highlights:

• Hospitals must maintain an on-call list of physicians on their medical staff.

• Hospitals can now permit physicians: (1) to schedule elective surgery during the time they are on-call; and (2) to have simultaneous on-call duties among different hospitals in the community.

• Hospitals must have written policies and procedures in place: (1) to respond to situations when a particular specialty is not available; (2) to respond to situations when an on-call physician cannot respond due to circumstances out of his control; and (3) to provide that emergency services are available to meet patients' needs if it permits physicians to schedule elective surgery during on-call duties or allows physicians to have simultaneous on-call duties.

The rule further defines terms such as "dedicated emergency department," "hospital property," and ground/air ambulances, and clarifies that a hospital cannot delay treatment to inquire into a patient's ability to pay or to seek "prior authorization."

To review a two-page handout prepared by the AMA Division of Legislative Counsel highlighting the final rule, please call (312) 670-2550, ext. 335.

Volunteer ophthalmologist needed in the Philippines

THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION in Chicago (PMAC), through its newly installed president, Edgar A. Borda, MD, is announcing a medical/surgical mission in Sibuyan, Romblon, Philippines, Jan. 12-15, 2004. The Association is looking for an ophthalmologist willing to volunteer during the mission by providing cataract surgeries. The transportation from Manila to Romblon and back (to Manila), including board and lodging in Sibuyan, Romblon, is free. After the medical/surgical mission, on Jan. 16, the group will use the yacht of the governor of Romblon to go to Boracay Beach Resort.

If you are interested in joining this mission, or would like more information, please call Dr. Borda at (773) 528-5851 (office) or (630) 529-1811 (home).

Most docs feel unprepared to cope with bioterrorism

"Two years after 9/11, only one of five physicians feels well prepared to care for victims of a bioterrorism attack, according to a survey published by University of Chicago researchers...The survey's authors say the data shows that more needs to be done to prepare the medical profession for bioterrorism."

-From the September 10 Chicago Sun-Times

Will you be ready?



The Chicago Medical Society

in conjunction with The Chicago Department of Public Health presents

Two vital, one-hour CME courses currently offered <u>at no cost</u> to Chicago's medical community

Emerging Infectious Diseases in the U.S.: Focus on SARS

- ⇒ SARS diagnosis, laboratory testing, infection control and reporting guidelines
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- ⇒ The most up-to-date information from the CDC
- ⇒ Conducted by leading specialists from the CMS/CDPH Speakers Bureau

Survey of Bioterrorist Agents: Preparedness Training for Health Care Professionals

- ⇒ Covers anthrax, plague, smallpox, tularemia, botulism, and viral hemorrhagic fevers
- ⇒ Disease recognition, therapy, post-exposure prophylaxis, reporting guidelines
- ⇒ The follow-up to our Bioterrorism Preparedness course, "A Focus on Smallpox," which was attended by more than 1,000 area health care professionals
- ⇒ Previous BT course is <u>not</u> a prerequisite

Both courses are open to <u>all</u> health care professionals

For more information, or to schedule either of these free CME courses at your facility, please call Dan Pashman, Bioterrorism Project Coordinator, Chicago Medical Society, at (312) 329-7324.

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 Department of Public Health and 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 1 hour in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the activity.

LEISURE TIME

ChicaGourmets offers culinary programs, gourmet travel, and cruise

CHICAGOURMETS, THE FINE-DINING ORganization endorsed by the Chicago Medical Society Service Bureau, Inc., announces upcoming dining events and programs. (All CMS members are considered members of ChicaGourmets, and will receive the ChicaGourmets discount for all events. Luncheon and dinner prices include tax, tip and wines.)

• The Illinois Institute of Art: "The South American Table"

THURS., DEC. 11, 6 P.M. AT 180 N. WABASH, CHICAGO Our dinner will honor Maria Kijac and her new cookbook, "The South American Table"--The flavor and soul of authentic home cooking from Patagonia to Rio de Janeiro, with 450 recipes. Each guest at the event will receive a complimentary copy of Maria's book, signed by the author. A complete dinner, including hors d'oeuvres, will be served, all from Maria's recipes. Cocktails and wines are also included. Member's price: \$75.

• TRAVEL:

Join Chef Patrick Chabert's ChicaGourmetssponsored TOUR OF ALSACE, FRANCE. Choose June 15 to June 23, or July 1 to July 9, 2004. Cost is \$2,800 per person, based on double occupancy, and includes bus transportation, breakfast, lunch and dinners (except for last night), and wines in most restaurants, hotel accommodations, guided visits. Airfare is not included.

For more information, contact Chef Patrick at (847) 520-9219; E-MAIL P.CHABERT@COMCAST.NET.

Be a part of history as ChicaGourmets sails on the new CUNARD QUEEN MARY 2, July 11-22 (departs from England). Itinerary includes England, Scotland, Norway, Germany, Netherlands. Included on the cruise are gourmet meals created by celebrity chefs Daniel Boulud and Todd English.

For more information, please see the AD on the facing page.

To reserve for ChicaGourmets events, please prepay by sending in your check, <u>and identify yourself as a CMS</u> <u>member.</u> (Memberships will be verified.)

Send checks to: ChicaGourmets, Mail Boxes, Etc. PMB 347, 47 W. Division St., Chicago, IL 60610-2220.

For more details, view the ChicaGourmets web site:



ChicaGourmets hosted former *New York Times* food editor Raymond Sokolov (seated, right) at a luncheon and book signing on Nov. 19 at La Vita Restaurant on Taylor Street. Sokolov, whose father was a physician in Detroit, spoke about his life in food, and signed copies of his new book, "The Cook's Canon - 101 Recipes Everyone Should Know." Shown with Mr. Sokolov are: seated, left, Robert Scarola, assistant press secretary to Mayor Daley; standing: James R. Tarrant, CMS executive director; Peter E. Eupierre, CMS president-elect; and Bruce Kraig, PhD, president, Culinary Historians of Chicago.

www.chicagourmets.com/. Or, go to the Chicago Medical Society web site: www.cmsdocs.org/ and click on "links," then go to the ChicaGourmets website.

For further information, contact: Don Newcomb, founder, ChicaGourmets, (708) 383-7543; or e-mail donaldnewcomb@attbi.com.

"TURNING POINT"

Collaborative releases model public health statute

MANY PUBLIC HEALTH LAWS AT THE STATE and local level in this country are antiquated, ineffective and insufficient for addressing modern public health needs, says the nationally based Turning Point Public Health Statute Modernization Collaborative.

The Collaborative cites existing laws that were built up in layers during the 20th century in response to specific diseases or health threats, without a standard approach for addressing new infectious diseases such as West Nile virus or SARS.

To provide model public health provisions that can be adapted to meet the specific needs of varying jurisdictions, the Collaborative has released a Turning Point Model State Public Health Act (Turning Point Act). It covers a wide range of issues, including public health infrastructure, authorities and powers, information sharing and privacy protections. States and localities can use the Act to assess their current public health laws and to identify



Branch Presidents confer

CMS President Neil E. Winston, MD, right, discusses the importance of grassroots advocacy before the annual meeting of the Society's Branch presidents on Oct. 30 in the CMS building.

areas that need updating and improving.

The Collaborative is a partnership of five states, several national organizations and government agencies, and experts in specialty areas of public health. It was funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

For more information, go to www.turningpointprogram.org or www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/improving/turningpoint/MSPHA.htm.

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

STUDENTS

(CCOM) Adams, Heather Bauer, Matthew Bauer, Matthew Boyd, Bradley Brasky, Jeffrey Braybrook, Lisa Brown, Michael Byington, Matthew Damuth, Summer Dihu, Jamil Divakaruni, Naveen Donohue, Brian Dziadosz, Kristin Gerstmayr, Emily Goodhue, Elizabeth Grimand, Brian Heckler, Alan Kahute, Torry Kuhlmann, Éric Lavelle, John Leonardi, Nick Lim, Tamara Mayer, Stockton Melvani, Sharon Merrick, Anne Multack, Sam Parsaei, Shadi Parsons, Benjamin Peterson, Brian Pflieger, Janelle Pillai, Nishant Pratt, Marshall Ouandt, Andreas Rahman, Raed Raymond, Chad Roderick, Jana Schuppner, Paul Silvey, Michael Sivils, Steven Soliman, John Spanbauer, Jennifer Stern, Laura Tuncay, Crystal Walczak, Brian Whitehead, John Wright, Amanda Zurek, Rachel Zurich, Elizabeth

(FUHS)

Afaneh, Cheguevara Akan, Denizhan Angelmeier, Fred Baker, Clyde Berry, Kevin Bert, Timothy Bochtler, Elizabeth Bradwein, Warren Brauer, Emily Brown, Aaron Chan, Chung-Wei Chan, Kerwin Cheng, Tinting Childers, David Chin, Kathleen Chism, Darren Cook, Ian DeWitt, Lauren Doliner, Marina Eckstein, Olive Elbich, Jeff Gabhart, Julia Gajjar, Meeta Go, Shani Graceffa, Sarah Ham, James Han, Jeannie Handlonry, Josh Haule, Elizabeth Horak, Richard Huynh, Uyen Ibrahim, Saad Jain, Jyoti Jakubowiau, Joanna Javdanfar, Shahram , Kazmierzak, Jamie Kielhorn, Eric Kinder, Russell Kumareswaran, Ramanan Lai, Elson Lee, Doreen Lee, Ricky Lever, Ronit Lin, Henry Long, Rachel Loo, Eric Lorenz, Nicole Magaina, Patrick Manuelpillai, Chandra Mayredakis, Erin Mercado, Michael Miller, Seth Mindrut, Laura Moore, Louis Myers, Lee Nandi, Jyoti Nede, Matthew Nelson, Michael Newman, Devon Nguyen, Patrick Nolan, David Nugent, Matthew Osipova, Maria Pack, Tiera Panahi, Rashid Panju, Mohamed Patel, Monali Patel, Nachiket Patel, Sonal Ray, Thomas Samaniego, Susana Sasada, Kelli Sayyad, Anjum Sorin, Luda Suarez, Guillermo Sweiss, Natalie Taylor, Tressa

Textor, Majken

To, Thuc

Vercillo, Michael Verma, Madhuri Vermani, Anoop Wiseman, Colette Wojewnik, Bartosz Wong, Frances Yang, Louis

(LUMS)

Buer, William Cuento, Joseph Hossain, Tania Irving, Daniel Kelley, David Krad, Omar Kwosek, Shaun Mack, Peter Morell-Watton, Aimee Murphy, Darby Piechowski, Melissa Plodkowski, Andrew Spector, Matthew Tabore, Lawrence Timpore, Vincent Weiss, Clarissa Wind, Joshua Zimay, Ryan Zimmerman, Laura

(NUMS)

Al-Madani, Sameh Arafat, Omar Arekapudi, Swathi Aretakis, Kari Bickford, Alison Buck, Ryan Butler, Gordon Chang, Astra Chang, Lee-Jah Chaudguri, Sumanta Chi, Christopher Clark, Frank Claveria, Joanne Cooke, Ionathan Desai, Kush Drelicharz, David Earhart, Jeffrev Ehrman, Robert Eisenberg, Paul Fansler-Wald, Derrick Farhat, Joseph Ferkel, Eric Finkle, David Fofie, Anita Gatsinos, Peggy Gehl, James Gindi, Mark Hsu, Lawrence Ilbawi, Nadim Janowiak, Christine Kang, Hanna Kasturi, Sanjay Kattan, David Kim, James Kolavennu, Vasantha Laabs, Sarah

Lin, Eugene Lin, Jeff Liu, Kenneth Liu, Stephanie Malaikal, Teresa Martens, Kelly Metildi, Cristina Miao, Richard Monge, Maria Mundi, Jagmeet Munger, Heidi Nickele, Christopher Obadina, Eniola Osetermann, Philip Pasnick, Susan Phillips, Joseph Pokorney, Sean Pyper, Sean Quader, Nishath Reaven, Richard Redig, Amanda Roberts, David Ross, Kenneth Ruble, Anne Schmid, Daniel Simpson, Corv Tam, Jonathan Tannir, Justin Tapazoglou, Nicholas Terp, Sophie Thomas, Celeste Tripp, Eleanor Uihlein, Alexander Vidula, Himabindu Wei, Janet Yen, Stephanie Yip, Darwin Zhumbkhawala, Ali-Asghar

Lee, Jane

(RMC)

Balsam, Ashley Carqueville, Jordan Davidson, David Desai, Shraddha Huang, Nancy Humes, Jefford Kamerlink, Jonathan Kumar, Ashwin Parkes, Megan Paul, Joya Raisdana, Dana Sisk, Matthew Vladimirskiy, Natalya Zembrzuska, Hanna

(UIC)

Afshar, Armin Aldridge, Christopher Bauer, Andrew Bello, Jose Bhatt, Sanjay Bhausar, Shripal Callon, Jachan Carter, Lakisha Choi, Juliana

Choi, KwangJin Choi, Mark Chung, Jonathan Cohen, Joshua Franzwa, Katherine Gandhi, Maria Gangopadhyaya, Ananya Garbis, Nickolas Golden, Daniel Goldman, Todd Gomez, Suzanne Houchens, Nathan Ivkovic, Ana Iih. Iane Kay, Stephanie Keric, Natasha Kim, Andrew Kim, Edina Kim, Paul Kolcopuslos, Elias Kuo, Catherine Lamba, Anu Lee, Chung Lee, Edward Leweling, Elizabeth Lo, Verna Lucos, Ted Luka, Lance Matkowskyj, Kristina Modi, Dimple Mody, Samek Nadimpalli, Sruti No, Grace Pae, Sarah Pappalardo, Andrea Patel, Adarsh Patel, Jay Patel, Nemish Riaz, Kamran Rvvkin, Victoria Shah, Smiresh Shrivastava, Akanksha Singh, Natasha Sitafalwalla, Shoeb Srinivasa, Suman Stein, Adam Stinauer, Michelle Suruki, Hubert Thorsen, Cristina Valika, Aziz Vora, Avni Wantuch, Elizabeth Wojewode, Christi Wolff, Suji Youssef, Nancy Yun, Duri

(U of C)

Felman, Helene Fox, John Hennelly, Meghann Schenker, Mara Schoettler, Nathan Silver, David

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