



July 2014

2014 Meetings & Events

Friday, July 11, 2014

RECEPTION

*INTRODUCING THE NEW
LMHS RESIDENCY PROGRAM
PHYSICIANS AND STAFF*

FineMark National Bank & Trust
12681 Creekside Lane
Fort Myers, FL 33919

General Membership Meeting September 18, 2014

6:30 p.m.- Social

7:00 p.m. - Dinner/Meeting
Lexington Country Club

*MEDICAL MARIJUANA
LEGISLATION DISCUSSION*

November Membership Meeting

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Physician Recovery Network
(PRN) Discussion

RSVP to: Lee County Medical Society
13770 Plantation Road, Ste 1
Fort Myers, FL 33912
Tel: 936-1645 • Fax: 936-0533
Email: Valerie@lcmsfl.org

Inserts:

**Emergency Public Shelters
Residency Reception Invitation
Annual Medical Service Awards
Nomination Form**

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Happy 4th of JULY



**Cover Photo by:
Cayce Jehaimi, M.D.**

LEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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PRINTERS

The Print Shop

Lee County Medical Society Mission Statement & Disclosure Policy

The purpose of the LCMS is to unite the medical profession of Lee County, FL, into one compact organization; extend medical knowledge and advance medical science; elevate the standards of medical education; strive for the enactment, preservation and enforcement of just medical and public health laws; promote friendly relations among doctors of medicine and guard and foster their legitimate interests; enlighten and alert the public, and merit its respect and confidence.

All LCMS Board of Governors and Committee meeting minutes are available for all members to review.

NEW APPLICANTS



Anuj Agarwal, MD – Dr. Agarwal received his MD degree from JSS Medical College, Mysore, India in 2001. He completed a residency at St. Josephs Regional Medical Center, Paterson, NJ from 2002-2006 and a Cardiology fellowship at Seton Hall University, Newark, NJ from 2007-2010 and a Cardiac Electrophysiology fellowship at Aurora Sinai Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI from 2010-2012. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease and Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology. Dr. Agarwal is in group practice with Florida Heart Associates, 1550 Barkley Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33907 Tel: 239-938-2000.



George E. Blake, MD – Dr. Blake received his MD degree from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX in 2003. He completed an internship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA from 2003-2004, a residency at the University of Texas, Houston, TX from 2004-2007 and a Cardiovascular fellowship at the University of Kansas, Kansas City, KS from 2007-2010. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease. Dr. Blake is in group practice with Florida Heart Associates, 1550 Barkley Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33907 Phone 239-938-2000.



Reza S. Hussain, MD – Dr. Hussain received his MD degree from State University of New York at Stony Brook School of Medicine, Stony Brook, NY in 1996. He completed a residency at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY from 1996-1999 and a Pulmonary/Critical Care Disease fellowship at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL from 2003-2006. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Disease and Sleep Medicine. Dr. Hussain is in group practice with Internal Medicine Associates of Lee County, 13813 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33912 Tel: 239-936-1343.



Victor Luna, MD – Dr. Luna received his MD degree from Escuela Autonoma de Ciencias Medicas de Centroamerica, San Jose, Costa Rico in 1995. He completed an internship at LSU Health Sciences Center, Lafayette, LA from 1999-2000, residency at LSU Health Sciences Center, Lafayette, LA from 2000-2002 and a Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism fellowship at the University of South Florida, Tampa, FL from 2002-2004. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism. Dr. Luna is in group practice with Internal Medicine Associates of Lee County, 13813 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33912 Tel: 239-936-1343.



Pedro P. Martin, MD – Dr. Martin received his MD degree from the Higher Institute of Medical Sciences, Santiago de Cuba in 1990. He completed his residency at New York Medical College Metropolitan Hospital, New York, NY from 2009-2012. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine. Dr. Martin is in group practice with Internal Medicine Associates of Lee County, 1528 Del Prado Blvd S, Cape Coral, FL 33990 Tel: 239-458-3338.



Robin L. Roden, MD – Dr. Roden received her MD degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, VA in 1977. She completed an internship at the University of Virginia, Roanoke, VA from 1977-1978, a residency (family medicine) at the University of Virginia, Lynchburg, VA from 1978-1980 and a residency (dermatology) at Washington University, St. Louis, MO from 1984-1987. She is board certified in Family Medicine by the American Board of Family Medicine and in Dermatology by the American Board of Dermatology. Dr. Roden is in group practice with Florida Coastal Dermatology, 19910 S Tamiami Trail, Ste B, Estero, FL 33928 Tel: 239-676-8677.



Michael D. Tibbetts, MD – Dr. Tibbetts received his MD degree from Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA in 2009. He completed an internship at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston MA from 2009-2010, a residency at Wills Eye Institute, Thomas Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, PA from 2010-2013 and a Medical Retina fellowship at Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA from 2013-2014. Dr. Tibbetts is in group practice at Cape Coral Eye Center, 4120 Del Prado Blvd., Cape Coral, FL 33904 Phone 239-542-2020.



Juan F. Zapata, MD – Dr. Zapata received his MD degree from Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Medellin, Columbia in 1995. He completed his internship at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, Chicago, IL from 2001-2003 and residency at Louis Weiss Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL from 2003-2004. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine. Dr. Zapata is in group practice with Internal Medicine Associates of Lee County, 24600 S Tamiami Trail, Ste 400, Bonita Springs, FL 34134 Tel: 239-948-3761.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

by Peggy Mouracade, MD

CHARLOTTE'S WEB CANNABIS STRAIN

Charlotte's Web has always had special meaning for me as it was the first book that was read to my 1st grade class by our teacher. Remember the era when there was an actual scheduled time period each day when you were expected to sit at your desk and focus on a real live person who would actually read to you? I am sure that E.B White would never have dreamed that his classic would become synonymous with the first strain of marijuana legalized in the state of Florida.

On Friday, May 2nd, the Florida state legislature passed Senate Bill 1030, the "Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act of 2014", as well as Senate Bill 1700, which establishes record keeping requirements for the law and ongoing research for the use of low-THC cannabis and CBD. The legislation limited the use to low THC containing marijuana with varieties containing less than 0.8% THC and over 10% CBD (cannabidiol). This is similar to the strain that was developed in the state of Colorado and was used successfully to treat the recurrent and refractory seizures of Charlotte Fiji, a 5 yr old with a rare neurological disease that was unresponsive to all previously prescribed medications and therapy. As this has been signed into law, physicians may begin enrolling patients into the Compassionate Use Registry on January 1st 2015.

To qualify for enrollment, one must be a resident of Florida and have been evaluated by a licensed physician. If the patient is under the age of 18, a 2nd licensed physician must evaluate and be in agreement. Physicians must have successfully completed an 8 hour course and subsequently pass an examination offered by the Florida Medical Association or the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association. Physicians can only enroll patients who have been examined and are "suffering from cancer or a physical medical condition that chronically produces symptoms of seizures or severe and persistent muscle spasms and if no other satisfactory alternative treatment options exist."

Physicians must maintain a treatment plan that delineates dose, route of administration, planned duration and monitoring of symptoms, tolerance, reactions. These are to be submitted and updated quarterly to the University of Florida College of Pharmacy for research on safety and efficacy. Patients must be removed from the registry if no longer being actively treated. In addition there are very specific rules and regulations regarding the creation and administration of dispensaries, as well as for the growth, production and processing of low THC marijuana.

Interestingly, the FMA supported the current legislation but does not support the proposed constitutional amendment that will be on the ballot in November. The current law limits to a single strain of marijuana and has very specific and narrow margins for use. What is being questioned and of great concern in many circles is the proposed constitutional amendment that has become known as "No. 2". This garnered enough support (at least 611,009 signatures) to allow review by the Florida Supreme Court and subsequently was deemed worthy to be placed on the ballot. The official ballot title is "Use of Marijuana for Certain Medical Conditions." The summary reads as follows, "Allows the medical use of marijuana for individuals with debilitating disease as determined by a licensed Florida physician. Allows caregivers to assist patient's medical use of marijuana. The Department of Health shall register and regulate centers that produce and distribute marijuana for medical purposes and shall issue ID cards to patient and caregivers. Applies only to Florida law. Does not authorize violations of federal law or any non-medical use, possession or production of marijuana." Debilitating disease is defined as cancer, glaucoma, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, and Crohn's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease and "other conditions which a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for a patient." Not too difficult to understand why all the controversy. With such a broadened scope, it's comparable to opening the lid to Pandora's Box.

The FMA has taken a stance opposing the medical marijuana constitutional amendment. It has adopted the policy statement from the American Society of Addiction Medicine(ASAM): 1) That cannabis, cannabis-based products, and cannabis delivery devices should be subject to the same standards that are applicable to other prescription medications and medical devices and that these products should not be distributed or otherwise provided to patients unless and until such products or devices have received marketing approval from the FDA; 2)Reject smoking as a means of drug delivery since it is not safe; 3) Rejects a process whereby State and local ballot initiatives approve medicines because these initiatives are being decided by individuals not qualified to make such decisions (based upon a careful science-based review of safety and efficacy, standardization of formulation for dosing, or provide a means for regulated, closed system of distribution for marijuana which is a CNS drug with abuse potential); and 4) Recommends its members and other physician organizations and their members reject responsibility for providing access to cannabis and cannabis-based products until such time that these materials receive marketing approval from the FDA. (Taken from Amended Sub Res 11-110, BOG 2012)

Is the proposed amendment truly a means to provide a last ditch therapy to those with intractable suffering or is it going to be a conduit for the legalization of marijuana for the public? Once again the medical profession is placed in the cross fire and we are all going to have to be ready to deal with the outcome and aftermath. Will Florida join the 21 other states and District of Columbia in allowing the legalization of some form of medical marijuana? In a few months, we will soon know the answer. In the meantime be ready for the deluge of advertisement and lobbying that usually accompanies such a controversial topic. The Medical Society will be arranging a program in the upcoming months. Please plan to attend and participate in the discussion.

LCMS VOLUNTEERS PERFORM STUDENT ATHLETE PRE-PARTICIPATION PHYSICALS

Abbott Kagan II, MD

On Saturday, June 21, 2014, volunteers from Lee County Medical Society donated their time to perform student athlete pre-participation physical examinations for the 2014 - 2015 school term at Bishop Verot High School.

This year we examined 53 student athletes. There were 30 males and 23 females. The exams took about 2 hours to complete.

We cleared 52 student athletes for sports participation. Only one athlete under active care for an existing problem was referred back to the treating physician for clearance. Two athletes with elevated blood pressures were referred to the school nurse for monitoring.

My most sincere thanks to all the physicians who graciously gave their Saturday morning to help these student athletes. You all are the greatest! Year after year you are there for us! Without your assistance, these examinations would never be possible. Special thanks to Hans Smelker (Athletic Trainer) who coordinated the exams.



Front row left to right: Lisa Wall RN, Theresa Elliott ATC, Mariann Tischler RN, Hans Smelker ATC.

*Back row left to right: Don Moyer MD, Mark Petrites MD, Paul Liccini MD, Stu German PAC.
Not pictured: Bo Kagan MD.*



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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

REACTIVATED

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Internal Medicine Associates
 1528 Del Prado Blvd S
 Cape Coral, FL 33990
 Tel: 239-242-6712

NEW LOCATION

Louis Scala, MD
Cardiac Care Group
 3280 Chiquita Blvd S, Ste 110
 Cape Coral, FL 33914
 Tel: 239-574-8463 Fax: 239-574-8491

DROPPED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Douglas Brust, MD
 Suzy Lee, MD
 Thomas Morell, MD
 Allison Yee, MD

DECEASED

Elias Luis Duran Dia, MD
 Luis Alfredo Ruilova, MD

RETIRED MEMBERS

Bijan Bakhtian, MD
 Ronald Castellanos, MD
 Raymond Johnson, MD
 Alexander Lozano, MD
 Mohammad Rashid, MD
 William Silverman, MD
 Benjamin Tipton, MD

MOVED FROM AREA

John Bellew, DO
 Scott Fields, MD



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2014 Nomination form included in Bulletin.
Please nominate one or more deserving physicians and /or lay-persons to be recognized for their contributions to the field of medicine.

GET INVOLVED!

PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR MEDICINE!

We will help you with your nomination form.
Call us today at 936-1645 or email Valerie@lcmsfl.org

MEMORIALS

ELIAS LUIS DURAN DIA, M.D. **07/13/1935 – 05/04/2014**

Elias L D Dia, 78, of Matlacha, FL passed away Sunday, May 4, 2014 in Columbia, SC where he was with his family. Dr. Dia graduated from Far Eastern University in Manila and did his post graduate training in Family Medicine & Pediatrics in Jacksonville, FL and Norfolk, VA.

Elias, also known as “Doc”, “Dr. Dia”, “Ely”, or just “El”, made his home in Matlacha for over 40 years where he practiced medicine in a country doctor style, even making house calls. Matlacha was a perfect fit for Dr. Dia as he was an avid fisherman, cook, and gardener.

His most memorable trait was his genuine love and passion for helping others

He is survived by his son, Bayani (Yan), daughter in law, Tina, 3 grandchildren Gordon, Illia, and Vincent and his siblings Leonardo (Len) and Vita (Nen).

LUIS ALFREDO RUILOVA, M.D. **08/05/1940 – 05/06/2014**

Luis Alfredo Ruilova, 73, passed away May 6th, 2014. He was born August 5th, 1940 in Ecuador.

He moved to Lee County in 1977 and was a general and vascular surgeon with Lee Memorial Health Systems. He was a member of the Fort Myers Yacht Club and the Fiddlesticks Golf and Country Club. Dr. Ruilova also enjoyed skiing and was an avid ice climber. He attended St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church.

Left to cherish his memory are his daughter, Aida Ruilova and her husband Raymond Ginn of New York City; grandson, Bo Willow Ruilova; daughter and son Katya Ruilova, Luis Jr. Ruilova; brother, Leonardo Ruilova and 3 sisters in Ecuador.

UPDATE TO: PHYSICIANS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MARIJUANA BATTLE:

By Jacqueline Bain, Florida Healthcare Law Firm

Last month, we presented a history of Federal and State laws on medicinal marijuana and how the changes in the political landscape may affect physicians. The article mentioned a Florida ballot initiative for this November allowing Florida physicians to prescribe marijuana for a variety of specified diseases, and in the event that a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for a patient. This initiative remains unchanged, and will appear on the November ballot. However, Florida lawmakers recently enacted a separate law, the Compassionate Medical Cannabis Act of 2014, that allows physicians to prescribe low-dose medical marijuana for certain ailments.

Under the new law, which is effective January 1, 2015, physicians may prescribe low-dose marijuana to certain epilepsy and cancer patients. Low-dose marijuana contains roughly half the tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) of the average marijuana plant, while possessing normal levels of cannabidiol (CBD), which is used to treat seizures. The law does contain certain restrictions. Physicians may only prescribe the drug as a last resort if other treatments are not effective, and only to patients to whom they provide ongoing treatment. Patients must be permanent Florida residents. For patients under the age of 18, a second physician must concur with the treating physician's suggested use of medicinal marijuana. Physicians must register as prescribers of low-dose cannabis and include the name of each patient in a State registry. Physicians must update the registry with each change in or termination of such prescription. Physicians may be guilty of a misdemeanor for prescribing the drug to patients who do not have cancer, symptoms indicative of cancer or seizures. Moreover, before prescribing the drug, physicians must complete an 8-hour training program with the Florida Medical Association.



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From left: Kate Wagner, O.D.;
E. Trevor Elmquist, D.O.; Nina Burt, O.D.



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CMS RULE TO HELP PROVIDERS MAKE USE OF CERTIFIED EHR TECHNOLOGY

Provided by: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Rule also proposes to extend Stage 2 of the EHR Incentive Programs through 2016

Today, HHS published a new proposed rule that would provide eligible professionals, eligible hospitals, and critical access hospitals more flexibility in how they use certified electronic health record (EHR) technology (CEHRT) to meet meaningful use. The proposed rule, from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC), would let providers use the 2011 Edition CEHRT or a combination of 2011 and 2014 Edition CEHRT for the EHR reporting period in 2014 for the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs.

Beginning in 2015, all eligible hospitals and professionals would still be required to report using 2014 Edition CEHRT. Since the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs began in 2011, more than 370,000 hospitals and professionals nationwide have received an incentive payment.

“We have seen tremendous participation in the EHR Incentive Programs since they began,” said CMS Administrator Marilyn Tavenner. “By extending Stage 2, we are being receptive to stakeholder feedback to ensure providers can continue to meet meaningful use and keep momentum moving forward.”

The proposed rule also includes a provision that would formalize CMS and ONC’s previously stated intention to extend Stage 2 through 2016 and begin Stage 3 in 2017. These proposed changes would address concerns raised by stakeholders and will encourage the continued adoption of Certified EHR Technology.

“Increasing the adoption of EHRs is key to improving the nation’s health care system and the steps we are taking today will give new options to those who, through no fault of their own, have been unable to get the new 2014 Edition technology, including those at high risk, such as smaller providers and rural hospitals,” said Karen DeSalvo, M.D., M.P.H, M.Sc., national coordinator for health information technology.

Proposed changes to meaningful use timeline

First Payment Year	Stage of Meaningful Use										
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2011	1	1	1	2	2	3 -> 2	3	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2012		1	1	2	2	3 -> 2	3	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2013			1	1	2	2	3	3	TBD	TBD	TBD
2014				1	1	2	2	3	3	TBD	TBD
2015					1	1	2	2	3	3	TBD
2016						1	1	2	2	3	3
2017							1	1	2	2	3

Current
Stage 2
Start
Date

SYLVIA M. BURWELL TO REPLACE KATHLEEN SEBELIUS AS SECRETARY OF HEALTH

Reported by: New York Times



WASHINGTON — The Senate on Thursday confirmed the nomination of Sylvia Mathews Burwell to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, which will make her responsible for delivering health insurance to more than one-third of all Americans. Ms. Burwell was confirmed by a vote of 78 to 17. All the no votes were cast by Republicans. But 24 Republicans joined 52 Democrats and two independents in voting for confirmation.

Ms. Burwell, 48, has been director of the White House Office of Management and Budget since April of last year. White House officials said that President Obama selected her because he wanted a proven manager to carry out the health care law, which got off to a rocky start under Kathleen Sebelius as health secretary. Senator Tim Kaine, Democrat of Virginia, strongly supported Ms. Burwell, saying Thursday that she had brought “a more businesslike approach” to the White House budget office and that she would do the same at the Department of Health and Human Services.

WINDOWS XP USE MAY TRIGGER HIPAA NON-COMPLIANCE

Now that Microsoft has stopped supporting the Windows XP operating system, physician practices using Windows XP face threats from viruses, Trojans, and other potential security breaches. All PC workstations and laptops using Windows XP that contain Protected Health Information (PHI) are no longer compliant with HIPAA and the HITECH Act. This includes devices used to access PHI via the Internet. HIPAA Security Rule section 164.308(a)(5)(ii)(B) states that practices must implement “procedures for guarding against, detecting, and reporting malicious software.” This is no longer possible with Windows XP.

If your practice system currently runs on Windows XP, follow these tips immediately to bring your practice into HIPAA compliance:

- Identify all at-risk workstations and laptops.
- Analyze the hardware in all at-risk computers to determine if they are capable of running a new operating system, such as Windows 7 or 8.
- Upgrade all at-risk computers identified as capable of running a new operating system.
- For computers that cannot be upgraded, either replace the hardware or purchase new computers.
- Create a transition plan for upgrading or replacing computers.

Internet Explorer 8 is also no longer supported—if your practice is running Windows XP *and* using Internet Explorer 8, you may be exposed to additional threats.

Contributed by The Doctors Company. For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety.

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LEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WELCOMED OUR LOCAL LEGISLATORS MAY 15, 2014

The LCMS would like to thank our local legislators for coming out to speak to our members on Thursday evening at the Hilton Garden Inn of Fort Myers. Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto, Representatives Matt Caldwell, Dane Eagle and Heather Fitzenhagen spoke briefly about their duties in the 2014 Legislative Session, what bills they were working on and their achievements. A question and answer period followed.



Left to right: Representative Matt Caldwell, Heather Fitzenhagen, Dane Eagle and Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto.



Rep. Matt Caldwell R-79



Senator Benacquisto R-30



Rep. Heather Fitzenhagen R-78



Rep. Dane Eagle R-77

McCOURT SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS SENDING FIVE CHILDREN TO DIABETIC CAMP THIS SUMMER!

This year the McCourt Scholarship Fund of the Lee County Medical Society will financially support five youths to Florida's Diabetes Camp. Children are recommended for camp by their physicians. Attending camp this year are: Justine Lafenetre, Noah Janson, Katelyn Blair, and Mitchell Huffer from Cape Coral and Isabella Sosa of Fort Myers.

Since 1982, physicians in the Lee County Medical Society have donated \$ 71,077 to the scholarship fund. Using the interest and extra donations, the Scholarship fund has sent 112 youths to the Florida's Diabetes Camp for Children and Youth totaling \$46,185.

November 4, 1982, Jerome P. McCourt, M. D., his wife, Donna and their four children were returning from a visit to Orlando when their plane crashed near Arcadia, FL. Dr. McCourt was the first endocrinologist in Lee County. A scholarship was set-up in his family's name by the Lee County Medical Society Members to send children and youth with diabetes to camp to learn how to live a normal life with this disease.

This Camp helps these young people to adjust to this disease providing for a fun camping experience in a medically supervised environment. They learn diabetes management and receive important psychological support from professionals and especially from their peers. They come away knowing they can accomplish any goal to which they set their minds; that there are many others with the same disease, and they establish a large support system.

The McCourt Scholarship Fund, in honor of the McCourt Family, is pleased to be a part of this life changing experience for our youth.

\$1.6 TRILLION, 10 MILLION JOBS: STUDY SHOWS PHYSICIAN IMPACT ON ECONOMY

From the American Medical Association

Each physician in the United States supports 13.84 jobs on average and contributes \$2.2 million in economic output, underscoring how physicians influence the health of both their patients and the economy, according to the AMA's new Economic Impact Study.

The study, prepared by IMS Health and released this week, focused on the roughly 720,000 physicians who primarily engage in patient care activities, as opposed to those who focus on research or teaching. Nationally, these physicians support \$1.6 trillion in total economic output—that's \$2.2 million per physician—and 10 million jobs.

The study also found that:

- Physicians support \$775.5 billion in wages and benefits at the national level.
- Physicians contribute \$65.2 billion in total state and local taxes nationally, or \$90,449 in local and state tax revenue per physician.

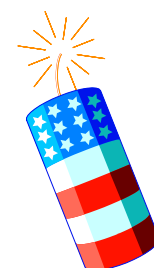
The study estimated the total economic impact of patient care physicians at the national level and for each of the 50 states and Washington, D.C., measuring output, jobs, wages and benefits, and state and local tax revenue. At the national level, physicians support greater economic output than the following industries: legal services, home health care, higher education and nursing home and residential care.

"Physicians carry tremendous responsibility as skilled healers, trusted confidants and patient advocates, but their positive impact isn't confined to the exam room," said AMA President Ardis Dee Hoven, MD, in a news release.

"The new AMA study illustrates that physicians are strong economic drivers that are woven into their local communities by the jobs, commerce and taxes they generate," Dr. Hoven said. "These quality jobs not only support the caring role of physicians, but also generate taxes that support schools, housing, transportation and other public services in local communities."

Key economic benefits provided by physicians both nationally and in Florida in 2012 include:

	Florida	National
<u>TOTAL PATIENT CARE PHYSICIANS</u>	43,111	720,421
<u>JOBS</u>		
Total Direct Jobs Supported by Physician Industry	1 199,437	3,336,077
Total Indirect Jobs Supported by Physician Industry	1 329,295	6,632,265
Total Jobs Supported by Physician Industry	1 528,732	9,968,342
<u>Average Jobs Supported by Each Physician Including His/Her Own</u>	12.3	13.8
<u>SALES REVENUE</u>		
Total Sales Revenue Generated by Physician Industry 1	\$ 76.4 Billion	\$ 1.6 Trillion
% of Total GSP/GDP 2 9.8% 10.2%		
<u>WAGES & BENEFITS</u>		
Total Wages & Benefits Supported by Physician Industry	\$ 40.2 Billion	\$ 775.5 Billion
<u>LOCAL & STATE TAX REVENUE</u>		
Total Local & State Tax Revenue Generated by Physicians	\$ 2.3 Billion	\$ 65.2 Billion



#KnowTheImpact: Visit the Economic Impact Study Web page to access an interactive map and see a specific break-down of economic contributions for each state. www.ama-assn.org - Florida Impact download

LCMS Friends in Medicine



LCMS Friends in Medicine program is open to area businesses that can offer member only benefits and discounts. We encourage our members to patronize these businesses that have been selected by the LCMS for their outstanding services and products.



LCMS
FRIENDS IN MEDICINE



SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CENTERS' HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC CONTINUAL GROWTH

Written by Julie Ramirez, Health and Wellness Director, Senior Friendship Centers of Lee County

In late August 2013, a 61 year old low income, uninsured, male patient came to our office for an annual physical. He could barely walk through the parking lot without becoming winded and short of breath. Upon his complete physical, it was concluded that this patient needed a stress test immediately. His stress test, done by Radiology Regional pro bono, proved that this patient had a 99% blockage of his left artery. After contacting The Salvation Army We Care Program director, the patient was seen by a local cardiologist pro bono, had an angioplasty and was healed. Where did this patient go to receive such care? He went to Senior Friendship Centers' Health and Wellness Clinic.

Senior Friendship Centers' health and wellness clinic in Lee County offers basic medical screenings and annual GYN exams for patients who are ages 50-64 with no insurance and limited incomes. Our Health & Wellness Program utilizes retired volunteer health care professionals providing care to low income, uninsured patients. We see patients at two clinic locations by appointment only: Hatton Rogers Retirement Community in North Fort Myers and The Heights Clinic in South Fort Myers.

In 2009, we were only seeing 5 patients a month with 1 volunteer gynecologist, whereas, in 2013, we grew to almost 700 patient visits for the year with 8 volunteer physicians. We have 3 general physicians who perform basic care such as physicals, EKG's and order blood work; 3 gynecologists who do our annual well women exams; and 1 Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist. This past year, we diagnosed 5 patients with breast cancer, 1 patient with endometrial cancer, and 1 patient with a 99% heart blockage.

Would you like to join our team or know someone who would? Our Health and Wellness Clinic is the perfect place to volunteer if you are a retired nurse or physician. Just a couple hours a month makes a huge difference in the health and lives of our seniors here in Lee County. Every physician is given sovereign immunity through the Lee County Health Department and State of Florida. Our hours to see patients revolve around our physicians and the times that they have available. For more information on how you can join the team, call Julie Ramirez at 239-656-0221 or email at jramirez@friendshipcenters.org.

"As a retired colon and rectal surgeon, I have had to learn a lot of medicine, but the rewards have been great. In the past, most of my patients were "well, worried and wealthy" but now my patients are in dire need of care. Just being the physician to renew meds and manage chronic illnesses is so meaningful to them and rewarding to me. Sometimes I feel that I receive more than I give." – Dr. Thomas Logio, volunteer for 2 years at Senior Friendship Centers

AMA ANNOUNCES BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2014-2015

By: American Medical Association

The American Medical Association (AMA) today introduced the 21 members of its Board of Trustees for the coming year following elections held during the Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates.

Robert M. Wah, M.D., a reproductive endocrinologist and obstetrician-gynecologist in McLean, Va., has been sworn in as the 169th president of the AMA, the nation's largest physician organization. Dr. Wah, who is the organization's first Chinese-American president, will focus his tenure on advancing the AMA's three strategic areas: improving health outcomes, accelerating change in medical education, and enhancing physician satisfaction and practice sustainability.

Steven J. Stack, M.D., an emergency physician practicing in Lexington, Ky., was named president-elect of the AMA, while Ardis Dee Hoven, M.D., an internal medicine and infectious disease specialist in Lexington, Ky., assumed the office of immediate past president.

The new chair of the AMA Board of Trustees is Barbara L. McAneny, M.D., a medical oncologist/hematologist from Albuquerque, N.M. Stephen R. Permut, M.D., J.D., a family medicine physician from Wilmington, Del., was chosen as chair-elect.

The other executive officers on the AMA Board of Trustees for 2014-2015 are:

- Susan R. Bailey, M.D., Fort Worth, Texas, was re-elected vice speaker.
- David O. Barbe, M.D., MHA, Mountain Grove, Mo., assumed the office of immediate past chair.
- Andrew W. Gurman, M.D., Hollidaysburg, Pa., was re-elected speaker.
- Patrice A. Harris, M.D., Atlanta, Ga., was named secretary.

The newly elected members of the AMA Board of Trustees are:

- Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., M.P.H., Nashville, Tenn.
- Russ Kridel, M.D., Houston, Texas.
- Jack Resneck Jr., M.D., San Francisco, Calif.

Members of the AMA Board of Trustees are elected by physicians and medical students representing more than 180 state and specialty medical societies who gathered in Chicago for the Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates, the AMA's primary policy-making body. The mission of the AMA Board of Trustees is to foster the promotion of the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health.

Lee County Medical Society

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