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February | 2011

PULASKI COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

NEWS

When you think professional, ethical, quality healthcare, think physicians of Pulaski County Medical Society.

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Delegate Call for April 30 HOD Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Medical Society (AMS) House of Delegates (HOD) will be held Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs. All physicians who are members of both the Pulaski County Medical Society and the AMS are invited to attend.

In the current climate it is more important than ever to make your voice heard and be a part of this important process. PCMS has 1,343 voting members with 54 delegates.

Following is list of delegates. If your name is on the list and you are unable to attend the April 30th meeting please email carolyn@pulaskicms.org so that we may contact physicians from the alternate delegate list to fill that post.

“In case of vacancy in the office of delegate, the House of Delegates shall have the authority to seat any member of that county society in attendance at said meeting as delegates, with full right to perform all the duties of that office.” *AMS Bylaws*

continued on page 2

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Welcome New Members

Erwin P. Cortez, MD
Samuel T. Houston, MD

Delegate Call for April 30 HOD Meeting

Continued from page 1

Delegates

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ladly Abraham, MD | 34. Nancy Kahn, MD |
| 2. Lawrence Bandy, MD | 35. Tom Koonce, MD |
| 3. James Beck, MD | 36. Charles Logan, MD |
| 4. Rhys Branman, MD | 37. C. Allen McKnight, MD |
| 5. Derek Bryant, MD | 38. Annette Meador, MD |
| 6. J.K. Buchman, MD | 39. David Miles, MD |
| 7. Joe Lee Buford, MD | 40. Edward Pennick, MD |
| 8. Hugh Burnett, MD | 41. Raymond Rimmel, MD |
| 9. J. Michael Calhoun, MD | 42. Michael Roberson, MD |
| 10. Robert E., Casali, MD | 43. Karl V. Sitz, MD |
| 11. Steve Cathey, MD | 44. Vestal B. Smith, Jr., MD |
| 12. Kent Covert, MD | 45. Martin Taylor, MD |
| 13. Glenn R. Davis, MD | 46. Henry Thomas, MD |
| 14. Monica Dellimore, MD | 47. Emilio Tirado, MD |
| 15. Jennifer Dillaha, MD | 48. Gary Wheeler, MD |
| 16. Bradley C. Diner, MD | 49. Wm. Rollefson, MD |
| 17. John Dunn, MD | 50. John Rowen, MD |
| 18. Steven Dunnagan, MD | 51. David Shenker, MD |
| 19. Gregory A. Dwyer, MD | 52. Michael Spann, MD |
| 20. James Florez, MD | 53. Paul W. Stout, MD |
| 21. Hayden Franks, MD | 54. Greg Wood, MD |

Alternate Delegates

1. Peter Kim, MD
2. Phillip Kravetz, MD
3. Ed Love, MD
4. Rex Luttrell, MD
5. John D. McCracken, MD
6. Amir Qureshi, MD
7. Reza Shahim, MD
8. Sam Smith, MD
9. Rob P. Svoboda, MD
10. Michael F. Weiner, MD
11. Bruce White, MD

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House Judiciary Committee Approves Medical Liability Bill

The House Judiciary Committee completed its two-day mark-up of H.R. 5, the "Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost Timely Health Care Act" (HEALTH Act), on Feb. 16. Votes on amendments were along party lines, with Democrats offering amendments to weaken the \$250,000 cap on non-economic damage awards that were defeated.

The mark-up became contentious when a minority of Republicans agreed with Democrats that medical malpractice reform is traditionally regulated by the states and that the federal government should not pass a bill that allows for the preemption of state law. H.R. 5, as introduced, would institute a \$250,000 cap on non-economic damages in states without caps. However, state laws that provide for higher or lower damage caps on non-economic damages would not be preempted.

CMS Limits RAC Documentation Requests

In response to AMA advocacy, RACs are now limited to requesting 10 medical records in 45 days from offices with 5 or fewer physicians and non-physician practitioners. This is a significant improvement over prior CMS proposals to base Additional Documentation Request (ADR) limits on a percentage of annual claims submitted, a methodology the AMA strongly advocated against. The new ADR limits will be based on the servicing physician or non-physician practitioner's billing Tax Identification Number (TIN H.R.)

Excerpted from AMA Advocacy Update, 2/21/11

CMS to Pull Requirement for Physician Signatures on Lab Orders

The AMA has learned that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is pulling the controversial new requirement for physician signatures on lab requisitions. The requirement was included in the Final Physician Fee Schedule Rule published in early Nov. 2010, and was originally scheduled to go into effect on Jan. 1.

Efforts to Eliminate Form 1099 Reporting Requirements Advance

On Feb. 17, the House Ways and Means Committee considered legislation (H.R. 4 and H.R. 705) to eliminate a provision in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that requires businesses to file an IRS form 1099 for all goods and services they receive that are valued over \$600. H.R. 4, introduced by Rep. Dan Lungren (R-CA), eliminates the requirement without a financial offset, and the committee passed it on a voice vote. AMA Position: The AMA strongly supports the repeal of the 1099 reporting requirement for goods and services and sent a letter in support of H.R. 4 to Chairman Dave Camp (RMI). The letter can be accessed at <http://www.amaassn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/399/hr4-1099-repeal-letter-15feb2011.pdf>.

2011 Calendar of Meetings & Events

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| March 15 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| April 19 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| April 30 | Arkansas Medical Society Meeting & House of Delegates, Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs |
| May 17 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| June – July | No scheduled meetings. |
| August 16 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| September 20 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| October 18 | PCMS Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 p.m., Doctors Bldg. |
| November | TBD |
| December | TBD |

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