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THE Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2009 Volume 85 Number 11

**Venkat Rao, MD,
President 2009-2010**

Town Hall Photos

Problem Pathogens

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THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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Our Vision

That the Genesee County Medical Society maintain its position as the premier medical society by advocating on behalf of its physician members and patients.

Our Mission

The mission of the Genesee County Medical Society is leadership, advocacy, education, and service on behalf of its members and their patients.

PLEASE NOTE

The GCMS Nominating Committee seeks input from members for nominations for the GCMS Presidential Citation for Lifetime Community Service. The Committee would like to be made aware of candidates for consideration.

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TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as President of our Society for this coming year. It is indeed an honor and privilege to be part of this great Medical Society.

Times are tough for people in Genesee County. People are losing jobs and medical insurance. People with insurance are crushed with the burden of higher co-pays and are not seeking necessary care. A large percentage of the population is provided only bare minimum outpatient coverage through county plans. We are all helping them by giving free samples, writing off co-pays, providing free care in the hospital and services at the free clinic.

We are sharing their pain. We are with our patients during these difficult times. This doesn't seem to be enough in the eyes of some of our local elected officials



Venkat K. Rao, MD

who voted to tax us on our gross revenues to balance the budget of Michigan. How can we get any physicians to come to Flint to take care of our patients? As the auto companies have, doctors will be migrating to other states.

We are attacked constantly from all directions. We have become easy targets. Why? Lawmakers perceive us as passive, a group that won't fight back, and they can get by taxing us. I feel it is high time to organize ourselves effectively and fight back on issues affecting our patients and

us. Our strength is in our numbers and our commitment to our patients. Please ask our colleagues to join our Genesee County Medical Society. Please participate in our advocacy efforts. Together we are stronger.

Practice Managers Meeting



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BEWARE THE DANGER RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE

*"Many a man is saved from being a thief by finding everything locked up."
— E.W. Howe (1853- 1937)*

Whether the economy is booming or busting, whether one is the CEO or a laborer, it is a natural desire to look for ways to improve one's personal bottom line. Sometimes, though, employees find the simplest and surest way to enhance their income is to steal from the boss, and medical practices tend to be easy pickings for a determined embezzler. According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, employee embezzlement costs US businesses about \$650 billion each year. Physicians have a tendency to automatically trust their employees and are often lazy about looking after the business of the practice, leaving that to office managers and clerical staff. After all, won't the accountant be able to sniff out the odor of an embezzler? Don't count on it!



Daniel Ryan, MD

According to a March 2008 report from MediCo Unlimited, a medical practice consulting firm, more than 80 percent of all medical practices will experience embezzlement in one form or another. Why would an employee risk job loss and possible jail time to steal from their boss? The most obvious reason is to increase spendable income, often to support a drug habit or out-of-control shopping addiction. Others sense a lack of appreciation from their employer, are angry with a supervisor or co-worker, or are jealous of the physician's earning capacity. Some embezzlers are intrigued and motivated by the challenge of getting away with the dirty deed more than money itself. Of course, one cannot ignore good old-fashioned greed.

As you might expect, the bulk of the thievery takes place at the front desk when employees simply pocket co-pays and other fees paid in cash. Another common ploy is to deposit checks payable to the practice into an account that does not belong to the practice but is actually set up by the embezzler. The money is then "adjusted off" the patient accounts. Watch for refunds

paid to fictitious patients, payroll checks for unworked hours, and accounts payable checks for bills that are not legitimate practice expenses.

Indications that you may be the victim of embezzlement include fluctuations in general ledger practice revenue and expense accounts or an unusual increase in clerical errors and patient complaints about bills. Another tip-off may be odd behavior by an employee such as refusing to take earned vacation time or maintaining a lifestyle far more lavish than their salary would allow.

We need to be careful when making hiring decisions. Be especially diligent when verifying credentials and checking references. A pattern of job hopping is a red flag for many employee problems, embezzlement among them. Every practice should establish internal controls to guard against theft. All transactions must be documented and receivables should be reconciled daily. Segregate duties in the business office and cross train employees so that one employee is not responsible for all financial transactions. Also, consider hiring an independent auditor periodically to check for irregularities and inconsistencies in money management. Make sure that your staff is aware that you will vigorously prosecute any and all cases of theft. Few physicians consider taking out insurance to protect the business from embezzlement, but many practice management consultants consider this a mistake. Known as fidelity bonds, surety bonds, or employee dishonesty bonds, they can cover a specific employee, a category of employee, or the entire staff. The coverage is inexpensive relative to the peace of mind it provides.

Physicians need to protect themselves and the viability of their practice by taking an active and informed role in the business side of the practice to avoid the calamity of embezzlement.



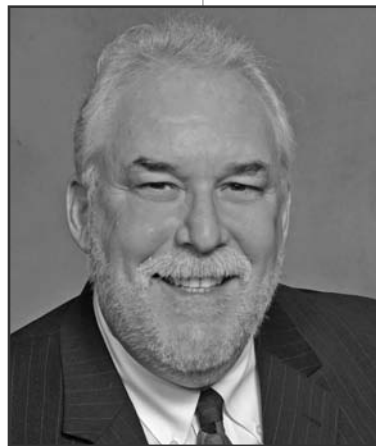
CAPITOL CHECK-UP

On September 24, 2009, a major GCMS/GCMSA delegation attended the MSMS Capitol Check-up to express serious concerns regarding the State Department of Community Health Budget and its impact on physicians and patients. Attendees included Mona Hardas, MD, Jay Kommareddi, Nita Kulkarni, MD, Elizabeth Jordan, PhD, Pete Levine, S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD, Gary Johnson, MD, MPH, Lakshmi Tummala, Hima Rao (medical student), Beth Schumacher, and Mona Sahouri. Also in attendance was practice manager Margaret Flesher. The GCMS members in attendance were very assertive in their communication with legislators present, including all of the leadership of the State House, and Senate regarding their feelings about the proposed physician tax, as well as the significant access barriers that would be created through a cut in physician Medicaid fees. GCMS was assertively represented by those in attendance.

AND THUS BEGINS THE PRESIDENCY OF DR. VENKAT RAO

Dr. John Waters' presidential year is over. It will be celebrated on November 7 at the Presidents' Ball to which everyone has been invited. If you have time, please come. It should be a lot of fun. It is always nice to congratulate the president as he leaves office. No matter how easygoing our presidents appear, they do plenty of work during the year and have to make lots of decisions, sometimes on very short notice. Dr. Waters handled his year with a real sense of diplomacy. He had represented us in so many venues, and done so very well. He is as comfortable dealing with the Board of the Greater Flint Health Coalition, state legislators, and the news media, as he is in surgery.

And thus begins the presidency of Dr. Venkat Rao. He will be installed at the Presidents' Ball on November 7. Each president faces his own set of issues, which makes the year unique. While Dr. Waters faced the state budget crisis, the physician tax issue, the potential 21 percent cut in Medicare reimbursements, and health care reform, Dr. Rao's environment has yet to be determined.



Peter Levine, MPH

I would be totally remiss if I didn't thank GCMS and GCMSA membership for its assertive and constant work during the state budget crisis. The membership kept legislative offices flooded with phone calls, e-mails, and faxes. It is a joy watch the Legislative Liaison Committee work with the delegation on critical issues. It is a pleasure to work with the MSMS Government Relations staff at times of crisis. They kept us informed and were appreciative of what our county did when instant response was needed.

It is time to realize that political activities cannot be set aside for others to handle. While the GCMS/MSMS and AMA do the heavy lifting, there is a real need for communication from members to legislators, at times. We are the best at doing this, consistently over great lengths of time. One of the luxuries of being the best is that it gives you the impetus to look and see how well we are really doing. While we are doing well, we could be doing better. Please, the next time you are asked to make a call or send an e-mail, do it. The profession you save, may be your own.

GCMS MEETINGS - NOVEMBER 2009

- 11/4, 7:30 a.m. - Bulletin Committee @ GCMS
- 11/7 - GCMS/GCMSA Presidents' Ball @ Warwick Hill Golf & County Club
- 11/16, 12 Noon - Membership Committee @ Grill of India
- 11/24, 5:15 p.m. - Finance Committee @ GCMS
- 11/24, 6 p.m. - GCMS Board of Directors @ GCMS
- 11/25, 12:30 p.m. - Community & Environmental Health Committee @ Sagano Japanese Restaurant
- Recessed - Practice Managers @ GCMS

GCMS/MSMS LIFETIME MEMBERS:

Evelyn D. Alunit, MD
 Jagdish B. Bhagat, MD
 Eyassu Habte-Gabr, MD
 Susumu Inoue, MD
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SPECIALIZED SERVICES TO SENIORS FROM DIVERSE ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS

Summarized by Sabita R. Tummala, LMSW, BCD, GCMSA member

Jewish Community Services (JCS), a non-profit social service agency in Flint, serves people from all walks of life. People of all backgrounds are welcome to participate in their programs and services. The goal of JCS is to provide seniors with a variety of services that improve quality of life, decrease isolation and maximize independence.

The Programs for the Seniors (60+) include: Assessment; Coordination and Referral; Senior Nutrition, Local Transportation, Highway to Health, and Translation services. Bilingual Russian and Asian Indian caseworkers are available. **These services are offered at no charge or minimal charge.** To obtain a full schedule of events, hours of service, please contact JCS at (810) 767-5922.

Jewish Community Services has extended their services to meet the needs of Special Populations in Genesee County.

The need to provide specialized services to Seniors from different Ethnic backgrounds was recognized by JCS. Three years ago, the Asian Indian community in Genesee County approached JCS with a request to meet the needs of their Seniors who are homebound, unable to drive independently, have language and food barriers, and feeling the need for socialization. JCS applied for a special grant and obtained it through the Senior Mileage two years ago. Since then, the Seniors of Asian Indian origin are able to enjoy these special services offered by JCS and able to socialize with other Seniors from the community as well. The following services are being utilized by Asian Indian Senior group:

1. ONCE A WEEK CONGREGATE MEALS OUTSIDE THEIR HOME: Asian Indian Seniors meet once a week (currently every Tuesday from 11:30 to 1:30 pm at Temple Beth El- on Calkins Rd, and enjoy Lunch, socializing, educational programs, and field trips. Two types of meals are served: Kosher meals; and, Indian vegetarian meals catered from Grill of India. Both these meals meet the criteria of County Dietary Guidelines.

Seniors have opportunities for socialization, education and personal interaction such as exercise classes, outings, shopping excursions, and lectures. Activities are designed to accommodate clients' cultural and language backgrounds.

2. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION: door to door and door through door transportation for errands, appointments and congregate meals is provided. A wheelchair lift-equipped bus provides transportation for older adults, people with disabilities, and residents with special needs within Genesee County.

3. HOME DELIVERED MEALS FOR SENIORS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE: Kosher and Asian Indian Vegetarian meals are available.

4. HIGHWAY TO HEALTH: County residents are provided with transportation to medical appointments outside the county in Ann Arbor, Detroit, Lansing and Saginaw. Their van is wheelchair lift-equipped.

5. TRANSLATION SERVICES: Document translation and interpretation services primarily for medical appointments. Translation is offered in Russian, Ukrainian, Hebrew, Hindi and other Indian Languages.

Mrs. Jyoti Khurana (who is bilingual and speaks Hindi) is the Coordinator for the Asian Indian Services. Several dedicated volunteers from the community contribute their time and talent to make these programs very interesting.

These specialized services offered by JCS are unique, and beneficial for Seniors from other Ethnic backgrounds as well. JCS services are open to all Seniors residing in Genesee County.

I would like to enhance the awareness of our members regarding these specialized services which meet the needs of our Seniors from different ethnic backgrounds. If you would like to represent your group of Seniors, need further information, would like to volunteer, or could benefit from these services, please contact Lynda Yeotis (Executive Director) or Jyoti Khurana at (810)767-5922 or visit JCS Website at www.jcsflint.org.

HOUSE PASSES PHYSICIAN TAX DESPITE STRONG MSMS GRASSROOTS OPPOSITION

It took almost two hours of legislative arm-twisting from House leadership and the governor despite strong MSMS grassroots opposition, but on October 6 the Michigan House of Representatives passed a bill on a 56-52 vote that will impose a 3 percent tax on the gross receipts of physicians. The bill quickly moved to the Senate.

"Physicians have propped up the Medicaid program since its inception by taking reimbursement for services well below the cost of treatment," said MSMS President Richard E. Smith, MD, a Wayne County obstetrician-gynecologist. "Now we are being told by the House that physicians should be singled out to pay for a program that is a safety net for all of society. The House has acted without considering the ramifications of this proposal, and how it could negatively impact all patients' access to physicians in Michigan."

What Happened in the House?

House Speaker Andy Dillon (D-Redford Township) pushed aggressively to get the necessary votes-even forcing some representatives to change their votes-in order to pass the bill. He was quoted in *MIRS Capitol Capsule* (October 1, 2009) as saying he supported a measure to tax physicians and other providers, and believed he had enough votes in the House to pass it. Following are excerpts from MIRS:

--"Someone showed me an article where John Engler really looked at and promoted it when he was governor for the hospitals and the nursing homes. So, I think we have to look at it. It could mean as much as a half a billion. It matches 2.7 to 1. For every dollar we put up we get \$2.70 and the doctors get all their money back."



Venkat Rao, MD
District VI Director

--"I'll admit that there is [sic] going to be winners and losers, but a destabilized health care system in the state isn't good for any doctors."

Speaker Dillon has been working with Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) and key senators to try to get key votes in the Senate for such a measure, as well.

MSMS Responds

MSMS President Richard E. Smith, MD, a Wayne County obstetrician-gynecologist, said it best in his response to the Speaker's assertions. "Speaker Dillon hasn't done his homework with the physician community to know that these statements are not the case. What he is saying is not consistent with the reality in physician practices," Doctor Smith said.

"Taxing physicians a second or third time-on top of their income tax and the Michigan Business Tax that some physicians pay-will, in fact, cause the destabilization of Michigan's health care system because it will drive many physicians out of business. Under that scenario, there are no winners."

In addition to Speaker Dillon, Gov. Jennifer Granholm lobbied hard on the day of the vote, meeting personally with the House Tax Policy Committee and then with key representatives. She has been publicly calling for a physician tax to restore revenue to the budget. A *Detroit Free Press* article stated: "Gov. Jennifer Granholm said Thursday that she'll veto portions of a new state budget to force lawmakers to come up with more money to continue the popular Michigan Promise college scholarship and aid to schools, cities and Medicaid. She called again for targeted taxes to pay for those programs." ("Tactics emerge in state budget fight," October 1, 2009). The governor also said on a video of

that news conference that she believed a tax on physicians would be good for the budget.

Physicians Must Remain at the Table

At press time, senators had not yet completed work on the FY 2010 budgets and were working toward a November 1 deadline. Meanwhile, MSMS has continued to work closely at the Capitol with key senators and the governor's office to urge their opposition to the tax. Also, MSMS has kept members updated and provided the means for them to contact with the state's top leaders and their own lawmakers about this issue.

We were successful in 2005 in defeating the

"Physicians have propped up the Medicaid program since its inception by taking reimbursement for services well below the cost of treatment."

physician tax. During this vigorous debate, it is important to remain in contact with policymakers in our state, whether it is to thank them for their support or to encourage a dialogue about the issue. They need-and want-to know what you think! (Visit www.msms.org/lawmakers to find contact information.) It has been said that the world is run by those who show up, and debates such as this are exactly why physicians must keep showing up, educating

and working with lawmakers, and making our collective voice heard at the highest levels of state government. Contact senators and the governor at www.msms.org/action.

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TOWN HALL ON THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

WHAT EVERY PHYSICIAN NEEDS TO KNOW

On September 9, the Genesee County Medical Society Town Hall meeting on “The Future of the American Automobile Industry What Every Physician Needs to Know” was held. Dr. David Cole, Chairman of the Center for Automobile Research, an internationally renowned expert on the auto industry and speaker in great demand, was the primary presenter. The response panel included Ted Henry, Chairman of the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, Scott Kincaid, President of Flint City Council, and Ed Donovan, Vice President of the Greater Flint Regional Chamber of Commerce. The meeting was highly stimulating with some optimistic outlooks.

Questions to the panel continued until after 9:30 p.m. Those who missed this meeting missed a terrific opportunity to learn about the future of the business climate in this community. DVD's of the presentation are available. Contact Marcia at (810) 733-9923 if you are interested.



Dr. David Cole, Ted Henry, Ed Donovan, and Scott Kincaid



Dr. AppaRao Mukkamala & Michael Vincent, MSMS



Dr. John Waters, Tim Knecht, Dr. Jim Martin, Dr. Debra Duncan



David Cole, PhD



Anita Abrol & Mona Hardas, MD



Dr. & Mrs. Maurice Chapin



Dr. Paul Dake with Residents



Dr. Rao has been a bulldog in recruiting new members to the Genesee County Medical Society...



– BIOGRAPHY OF VENKAT RAO, MD – GCMS PRESIDENT 2009-2010

Meet Venkat Rao, MD, your GCMS President for the coming year. Dr. Rao specializes in pulmonology-critical care medicine, and sleep medicine. He is Board Certified in sleep medicine and pulmonary critical care. He practices with Dr. Joseph Varghese.

When asked about his history of involvement in organized medicine Dr. Rao noted that when he was in Peoria, he was very involved in the American Association of Physicians of India, as well as community relations issues on behalf of the medical community but really started his involvement in Flint. Dr. Rao's experience in organized medicine is broad. He was Past-Chair of the AMA International Medical Graduate Section (2006-2007). He also served as Vice Chair to the Council from 2005-2006. He has represented Genesee and Shiawassee Counties, along with Edwin Gullekson, MD, on the MSMS Board of Directors since 2004. He is a Past-Chair of the MSMS International Medical Graduates Governing Council. He has been a member of the Genesee County Medical Society since 1992. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Genesee County Medical Society since 1995. He has served on several key AMA committees and has been a delegate to the MSMS House of Delegates since 1995.

Dr. Rao has been a bulldog in recruiting new members to the Genesee County Medical Society and Michigan State Medical Society as well as the AMA. He has been involved in many political activities on behalf of GCMS and MSMS. Dr. Rao served in many leadership positions for the Michigan Association of Physicians of India including serving on its governing board and as liaison to organized medicine. As a leader of the AMA IMG Governing Council, Dr. Rao is proud to have started the IMG Honor Fund for the AMA Foundation. He has also served on several AMA IMG Committees, including the Nominating and the Resolution Committees. He will continue to serve on the MSMS Board until 2012, and currently serves on its Finance Committee. Dr. Rao is a member of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Chest Physicians.

Dr. Rao's goal is to help the community. His Presidential focus will be on both the physician and general community during his presidential year. He would like to see more emphasis on the overall health of the community. Obesity, diabetes, and smoking contribute so much to the cost of medicine and morbidity, yet they can be controlled. The availability

of health care is another issue. "It is shocking to see middle class people being unable to afford health care. They are caught in the middle and are often forgotten. Access needs to be improved"

Dr. Rao is very excited about the possibility of involving new people in the GCMS Committee process. He reminds all members and non-members that there are a lot of new people involved in the Society and there is always room for more.

Dr. Rao practiced in Peoria from 1986 to 1992 and was a member of the Illinois State Medical Association and the Peoria County Medical Society. With the Genesee County Medical Society he serves on the Bylaws Committee, Peer Review Committee, and is heavily involved in legislative advocacy.

Dr. Rao came to Flint from his practice in Peoria because he had friends here. He visited in 1983, and found a lot of people from Guntar Medical College practicing in Genesee County. Before practicing in Peoria, Dr. Venkat Rao graduated from Guntar Medical School College in 1974. He practiced in Chicago, where he completed his residency at Columbus Hospital in 1980. He completed a two-year fellowship in pulmonology at Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital in 1983, and completed research fellowship in 1984. Dr. Rao then served as Assistant Professor at Loyola University College of Medicine until 1986 and also served as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at the

University of Illinois, College of Medicine.

Dr. Rao is married to Rama Devi Rao, MD, an anesthesiologist and pain specialist whose office is on West Court St. They met in medical school, and were married 33 years ago. He came first to the United States. Dr. Rama Rao got her visa and arrived eight months later. She started her residency in July of 1978 and he in July 1977. She did her pain fellowship at Henry Ford hospital in Detroit.

Dr. Rama Rao is deeply religious and is very involved in the Temple and in the Chinmaya Mission. He described her as very caring for her patients.

Both Drs. Rao commented that it is amazing that they could come from the other side of the world, and be surrounded by friends like they were in Chicago, Peoria, and now in Flint.

For fun, Dr. Rao reads philosophy and looks at ways to make "things better." He listens to Indian classical music and watches movies. They have two children, Hima and Bharat. His daughter Hima is heavily into volunteer activities including working at a camp for children with cancer, which is part of the St. Jude system. His son Bharat loves tennis. He is a medical student and finished under graduation at the University of Michigan. Hima is a medical student and finished under graduation at Boston University.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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Medical Society Foundation



Consider a donation to the Medical Society Foundation for all of your holiday giving. What a wonderful way of expressing your holiday sentiments while supporting important health related causes.

The Medical Society Foundation has been coordinating physician giving in Genesee County since 1987. This holiday season, why not use the Foundation to make sure your gifts to family, friends and colleagues help to improve the health and well-being of our community.

By giving to the Medical Society Foundation, you receive a great year-end tax benefit at the same time that you tell others how much their health - and the health of those who are most vulnerable in our community - really means to you.

In the past, the Medical Society Foundation funds have been used to support specific public television programs, support of HIV programs, Reach Out and Read, Michigan State Medical Society Alliance, continuing medical education programs, Greater Flint Health Coalition, Turkish Red Crescent Society, Orissa Relief Fund, Sloan Museum's health exhibits, The Genesee County Free Medical Clinic and the Richard A. Rapport Memorial Conference Room.

Contributions can also be made in memory of an individual or to honor someone.

If you want to designate your gift(s) to a special cause, please indicate your choice on your check. A holiday card will be sent to the person(s) of your choice acknowledging your gift. (We will deduct only 10% from the amount of your check to cover expenses).

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For questions or information on how your gift can help support the charitable activities of your Medical Society Foundation contact Peter A. Levine, MPH at (810) 733-9925 or at plevine@gcms.org.

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- GCMS held Town Hall meeting on "The Future of the Automobile Industry, What Every Physician Needs to Know"
- GCMS helped a clinic with a threatening situation relating to dismissal of patient
- GCMS helped two practices with complicated billing problems via communication directly with insurance companies
- GCMS consulted with a practice regarding handling a third-party-payor inquiry which could change reimbursement retroactively
- GCMS worked to organize Ball
- GCMS sought sponsors for GCMS events
- GCMS co-sponsored with the Greater Flint Health Coalition a seminar on Group Medical Appointments Relating to Diabetes
- GCMS coordinated GCMS and GCMSA attending MSMS Capital Check-up



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Genesee County Medical
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**GCMS/MSMS NEW MEMBER
APPLICATIONS**

Gianina Cazan-London, MD

OBGYN
Hurley Medical Center
One Hurley Plaza
Flint, MI 48503

Dr. Cazan-London received her medical degree from Wayne State University, Detroit, MI in 1998. She did her residency at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, MI. Dr. Cazan-London is Board Certified in Obstetrics & Gynecology. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Nanci Mercer, MD

Radiology
Regional Medical Imaging
3346 Lennon Rd.
Flint, MI 48507
Ph: 810-732-1919
Fax: 810-732-1945

Dr. Mercer received her medical degree from Medical College of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA in 1989. She did her residency at Oakwood Hospital & Medical Center in Dearborn, MI. Dr. Mercer is Board Certified in Radiology. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

MCLAREN RESIDENTS:

Aileen M. Arguelles, MD
Chetankumar Keshavbhai Chauhan, MD
Victoria N. Dooley, MD
Andrew M. Duda III, MD
Shagun Dutt-Arora, MD
Ovidiu Grigoras, MD
Mehvish Javaid, MD
Mohammed N. Kanaan, MD
Naveed A. Klair, MD
Vidya S. Kollu, MD
Nobin J. Kottukapally, MD
Cheryl Mariano-Panggat, MD
Anil K. Nalubotula, MD
Aditya Neravelta, MD
Harishchandra Nuthakki, MD
Deepthi Panjam, MD
Negeswarrao Pothula, MD
Shantala Sonnad, MD

Ashvin K. Tadakamalla, MD

Eugene Tan, MD
Jija Thomas, MD
Ramesh C. Yarlagadda, MD

Jacob Andrew Sedrick, DO

Family Practice
Emergency Medical Centre of Flint
2284-2 S. Ballenger Hwy.
Flint, MI 48503
Phone: 810-232-6101
Fax: 810-232-4925

Dr. Sedrick received his medical degree from Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Des Moines, IA in 2008. He did his residency in Family Practice and Radiology at Genesys Regional Medical Center in Grand Blanc, MI. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Afroze Hai, MD

Pediatrics
Hamilton Community Health Network
G7057 Clio Rd.
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
Phone: 810-789-9141
Fax: 810-789-9222

Dr. Hai received her medical degree from Osmania Medical College, NTR University of Health Science, Hyderabad, AP, India in 1992. She did her residency at Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Denise Gruener

Health Services Administrator
Baker College
1050 W. Bristol Rd.
Flint, MI 48507
Phone: 810-766-4233
Fax: 810-766-2055

Denise Gruener is the Health Science Program Director of Medical Assisting, Medical Administrative Assisting, Medical Insurance Specialty & Medical Receptionists, Instructor, and Clinical Coordinator at Baker College. Ms. Gruener has requested to be an Associate member of the Genesee County Medical Society.

Shavell Karel, MD

OBGYN
Hamilton Community Health Network
G7057 Clio Rd.
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
Phone: 810-789-9141
Fax: 810-789-9222

Dr. Karel received her medical degree from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2003. She did her residency at Hurley Medical Center, Flint, MI. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Joel Kimelman, DO

Radiology
Regional Medical Imaging
3346 Lennon Rd.
Flint, MI 48507
Phone: 810-732-1919
Fax: 810-732-1945

Dr. Kimelman received his medical degree from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas in 1968. He did his residency at Harper-Grace Hospital-Grace, Detroit, MI. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Christopher Murray, DO

Radiology
Regional Medical Imaging
3346 Lennon Rd.
Flint, MI 48507
Phone: 810-732-1919
Fax: 810-732-1945

Dr. Murray received his medical degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas in 1992. He did his residency at Garden City Hospital, Garden City, MI. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Sweety Srivastava, MD

Pediatrics
Hamilton Community Health Network
G7057 Clio Rd.
Mt. Morris, MI 48458
Phone: 810-789-9141
Fax: 810-789-9222

Dr. Srivastava received her medical degree from Seth Gordhandas Sunderdas Medical College, India in 1999. She did her residency at John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital in Chicago, IL and Washington University, St. Louis, MO. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Michele Kreft, DO

Anesthesia
Shiawassee Anesthesia Associates, PC
3295 Fieldstone Dr.
Flushing, MI 48433
Phone: 810-659-8901
Fax: 810-659-1857

Dr. Kreft received her medical degree from Michigan State University School of Osteopathic Medicine in 2004. She did her residency at Ingham Regional Medical Center, Lansing, MI. She is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

Mark Camens, MD

Radiology
Diagnostic Radiology Associates
G3239 Beecher Rd., Ste. F
Flint, MI 48532
Phone: 810-733-6780
Fax: 810-733-8871

Dr. Camens received his medical degree from Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine in 1997. He did his residency Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI. He is sponsored by Amitabha Banerjee, MD and S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD.

PROBLEM PATHOGENS: ESBL Producing Gram-Negative Bacteria

“Infectious disease is one of the few genuine adventures left in the world.” – Hans Zinsser

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

- The Fund for Better Health provides grants to support community - based public health service projects in areas such as substance abuse prevention, violence prevention and healthy lifestyles.
- The Development Fund is an unrestricted fund that allows the AMA Foundation to respond quickly to issues as they arise or provide support in areas of greatest need.
- The Scholars Fund distributes approximately \$500,000 annually in tuition assistance to medical students across the country. Gifts to this fund can be designated to specific U.S. medical schools

Antibiotic resistance is a well recognized health care concern and affects almost every bacterial species for which treatment with antibiotics is available. There are 5 principles of antimicrobial resistance, which are as follows: (1) given enough time and drug use, the development of resistance is inevitable; (2) resistance is progressive; (3) an organism that becomes resistant to one drug will likely become resistant to other agents; (4) once resistance occurs, it usually will not diminish; and (5) use of an antibiotic in one individual will ultimately affect others.

The ability of bacteria to produce enzymes that destroy the dlactam antibiotics began even before penicillin was developed. Over the years the pharmaceutical industry developed the β -lactam antibiotics to negate the effects of these enzymes. As these so-called expanded-spectrum β -lactam antibiotics were widely used, resistance to this class of antibiotics quickly emerged. Extended spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBLs) have so far been described only in gram negative bacilli. ESBL producing isolates are most commonly Klebsiella species and Escherichia coli. Most ESBL producing organisms are in the family Enterobacteriaceae and have been described in almost all members.

Known risk factors for colonization or infection with ESBL producing organisms include admission to an intensive care unit, recent surgery, instrumentation, prolonged hospital stay and antibiotic exposure. Use of extended-spectrum antibiotics exerts a selective pressure for emergence of ESBL producing gram negative rods. The resistance plasmids can then be transferred to other bacteria, not necessarily of the same species, conferring resistance to them. The lower digestive tract of colonized patients is the main reservoir of these organisms. Gastrointestinal carriage can persist for months. Nursing homes may be an important reservoir of ESBL producing strains. These patients are more likely to be treated empirically with antibiotics, and thus on admission to a hospital to be more likely to possess an ESBL producing strain. Patient to patient transmission of ESBL producing bacteria occurs via the hands of hospital staff.

It is known that ESBL producing strains can survive in the hospital environment. Successful infection control requires institution of strict hand hygiene, gloves and gowns.

In summary, microbiology laboratories and clinicians need to be aware of the presence of ESBL producing organisms in their hospital. The management of infections caused by ESBL producing organisms can be challenging; these organisms should be considered resistant to most penicillins, cephalosporins, and aztreonam. Carbapenems appear to be the drugs of choice for treating infections caused by these bacteria. Of additional concern, but fortunately rare in occurrence, are the carbapenemases, a diverse group of β -lactamases which render carbapenems ineffective.

GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY ALLIANCE

• AMA Foundation Holiday Greeting 2009 •

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Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors Meeting – August 25, 2009

MINUTES

Motion:

That the Budget to Actual report be proved as presented. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That the requests for memberships be approved.

Requesting Membership:

Jamal Hammoud, MD
Eric Zimmerman, DO
Allecia Wilson, MD
Elfateh Seedahmed, MD

Yahya Osman-Malik, MD
Josephine Bello, MD
John Blamoun, MD

Requesting Reinstatement:

Aftab Aftab, MD

Requesting Change from A-PIT to A:

Margaret Beran, MD - OBGYN

Hossam Hafez, MD - Family Practice

Hurley Residents Requesting Membership:

Thalia R. Pachiyannakij, MD
Sherif Gobrial, MD
Srinivasa Reddy Sanikommu, MD
Arveity Setty, MD
Sushma Bangaldre Raju, MD
Ruchira Singh, MD
Hareesha Chakunta, MD
Smaik Mohammed Tabrez, MD
Irmgard Philipowitz, MD

Farrah F. Ahmad, MD
Sunil Meruga, MD
Aisha Rush, MD
Kenni Allen El-Amin, MD
Lakshmi Gowda Hanumaiah, MD
Nisha Kalia, MD
Narendra Veerapaneni, MD
Olga Zand, MD
Ghidah Caettoche, MD

McLaren Residents Requesting Membership:


Christopher Verioti, DO

Shahin Sheibani-Rad, MD


Genesys Residents Requesting Membership:

Mufaddal Abdulai, MD
Michelle J. Auerbach, DO
Jerel Brandt, DO
Megan Bridges, DO
Tammy Chen, MD
James Cusser, MD
Nicholas Draeger, DO
Lawrence Gooss, DO
Derrick Hoover, MD
Kendra Johnson, DO
Gurinderpal Khaira, MD
Heather LaClair, DO
Paul McGowan, DO

Zachary Allred, DO
Michelle Balmaceda, MD
Matthew Brewster, DO
Benjamin Brown, DO
Daquesha Chever, DO
Merlyn Devaseelan, MD
Paul Fagan, DO
Maurilio Hernandez, MD
Max Izbicki, DO
Simran Kaur, MD
Uzma Khan, MD
Stacey McEwen, DO
Jozia McGowan, DO



**SAVE THE
DATE:
GCMSA/
GCMS
Presidents'
Ball
Warwick Hills
Country Club
November
7, 2009**



Jered Mancell, DO
Therese Mead, DO
Darshan Patel, MD
James Shurlow, DO
Joshua Walker, MD

Silvana Matte, MD
Robert Milanes, MD
Lakshmi Polavarapu, MD
Vijay Tirumalasetty, MD

The Motion Carried.

Motion:

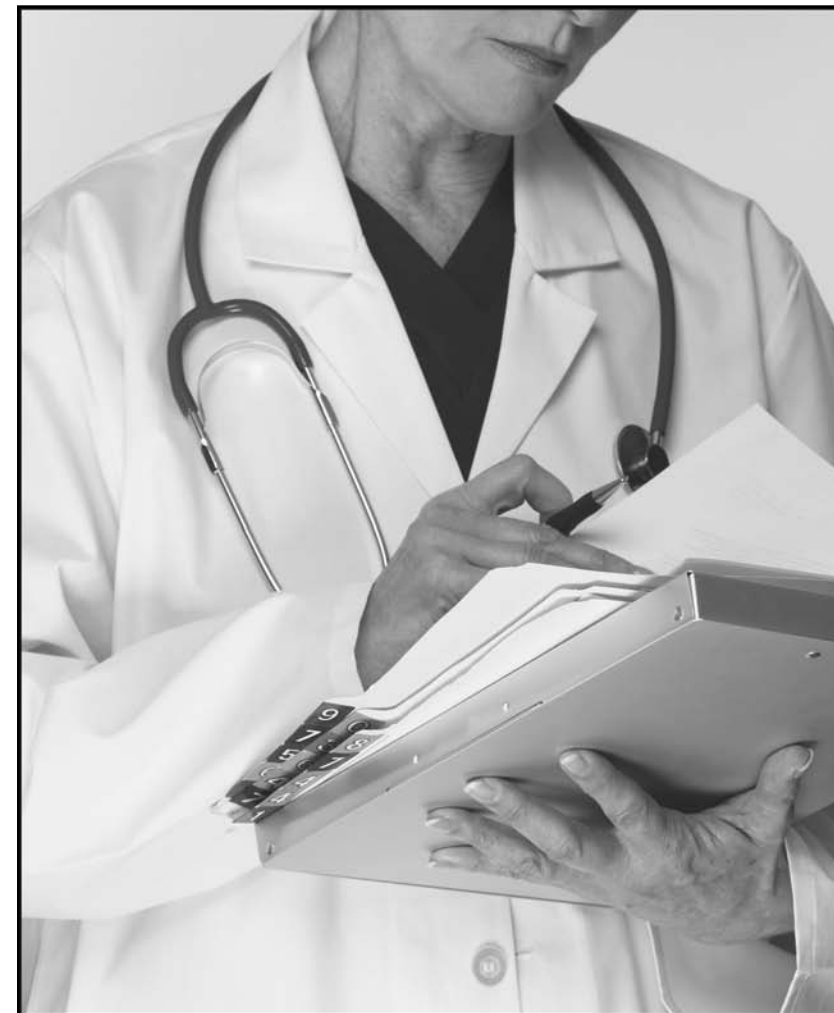
That Dr. Jose Jota's dues exempt membership in the Genesee County Medical Society not be renewed as he is living out of the country. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That the Genesee County Board of Directors ask MSMS Board of Directors to review the AMA Board of Trustees report #20 and support further developments of the Patient Compensation Act in response to the AMA Board of Trustees review. The Motion Carried.

Motion:

That a resolution be drafted for the next Board of Directors meeting asking MSMS to support legislation to allow generic manufacture of Biologics. The Motion Carried.



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Please contact Debbie Green
at 810-733-9921.

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Flint, MI 48532



Happy Birthday Doctor NOVEMBER

Gerald Berner	1	Mona Hardas	17
Carlton Dettman	2	Manulal Lala	17
Rosie Lumaque	2	A. George Dass	19
Yong Seup Chung	2	Michael Macksood	19
Pacita Li Tanhehco	2	Jamal Farhan	19
Michael Zarr	2	Chandler Veenhuis	19
Punam Sharman	4	Brenda Rogers-Grays	19
Manmeet Dhillon	4	Dennis Pank	20
Ayman Haidar	5	Charles Thompson	20
Abdul Tabbaa	5	Cecilia Lopez	22
Jolanta Sobotka- Czarnecki	6	Alan Goldberg	22
JD Wheeler	7	Mark Trudell	22
Minoo Chinoy	9	Heinz Schwarz	23
Maurice Robitaille	9	J Bernard Sloan	23
Daniel Walter	9	John Frederick	23
Badar Ahmed	9	John McIlduff	24
Khaled Shukaury	9	Aram Minasian	24
James Culver	10	Bernard Noveloso	24
Barbara Mercer	14	Juanito Boado	24
Lynn Walker-Payne	14	Mostafa Abuzeid	25
Phyllis Helcher	15	Daniel Anbe	26
Peter Stoyanoff	15	Robert Joynt	27
Gerald Natzke Jr	16	Stephen Wang	27
David Ojeda	16	Ali Mohammed	28
Larry Pack	16	Alan Hartz	29
		K V Mathew	30

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