



THE Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2014 Volume 91, Number 2

**MAXIMIZE REIMBURSEMENT...
FARMRAISER SUPPORTS GCMS
IMPORTANCE OF
DOCUMENTATION
ADVANCE CARE PLANNING
DR. JOHN LOVE PHOTOS**

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THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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Cover photo by Dr. John Love (Tucker Pond, Glen Arbor).

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.

THE BULLETIN

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designed and
edited by



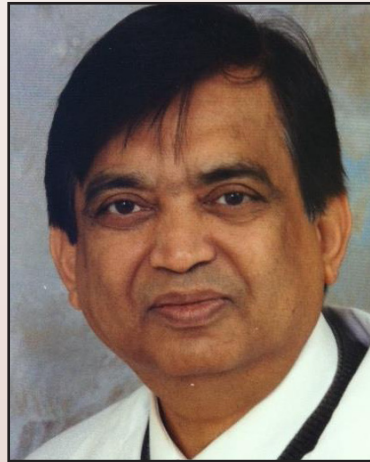
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HUMAN TRAFFICKING WE HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY!!! COME ON 2/6

There are more slaves in the world today than any other point in human history. An estimated 27 million people are in bondage across the globe. It is estimated that there are 100,000 children in the sex trade in the United States. Human trafficking is now the second largest crime syndicate second only to drug trafficking and is the fastest growing. The crime is here and now and in our community.

Victims of "human trafficking" in the United States include U.S. citizens or foreign nationals, adults or minors, men or women. Foreign-born victims are documented and undocumented. The recent arrest of a Chicago area man, accused of holding a 20-year-old local woman against her will is proof that it is happening in our own backyard.

According to United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) the most common form of human trafficking (79%) is sexual exploitation. 20% of all trafficking victims are children. Although trafficking seems to imply people moving across countries, most exploitation takes place close to home. Michigan is high



Shafi Ahmed, MD

on the list for both as the source and destination for this horrific crime. It is also reported to be an important transit point due to our international border to Canada.

Awareness is slowly building. Genesee County and the state of Michigan are taking a leading role in enacting new laws to crack down on trafficking and support its victims. Recently, President Obama proclaimed January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Awareness is the first step. Next step is to identify those victims and their proper restoration back in the society. Health care providers play a pivotal role in the identification and the reporting of victims.

The Genesee County Medical Society is taking a leading role in raising the awareness and providing local health care providers with tools to identify and treat the victims. The February Business meeting of GCMS at Flint Golf Club on Feb. 6, 2014 is going to be very informative in combating this horrible crime. I sincerely hope you will be able to join me to work together to eradicate this modern day slavery from our backyard.



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DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION; PHYSICIANS ARE NOT IMMUNE

Addiction is the disease of our age. It grows fat from the chronic quashing of our inner life.
—Erica Jong (1942-)

What would you do if you became aware that a physician colleague's alcohol and/or drug abuse, or a physical or mental illness, were adversely affecting their job performance or judgment?

The American Medical Association (AMA) defines an impaired physician as one who is unable to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety to patients because of physical or mental illness, including deterioration through the aging process or loss of motor skill, or excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol.

Substance abuse among physicians is certainly not a phenomenon of the modern era. In the late 1800s, Dr. William Halsted, one of the founders of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and an innovative surgeon, administered cocaine to his patients as a skin anesthetic to relieve pain during procedures. He tried injections of cocaine on himself and became addicted. He also became addicted to morphine. Sigmund Freud studied the use of cocaine as a treatment for morphine addiction and became a proponent of the "speed ball," the combination of intravenous opiates and cocaine. Before these drugs were controlled by laws, physicians prescribed their use as a treatment for fatigue and a variety of other ailments. Patients became addicted, as did their doctors.

Members of certain occupational groups whose dysfunctional job performance could endanger the safety and well-being of the public is, and should be, under special scrutiny for evidence of breakdowns in physical and mental functioning. These groups include operators of public conveyance (pilots and bus drivers) and heavy equipment, truck drivers, and, of course, health care workers.

Conservative estimates show that 8-12% of physicians will develop a substance abuse problem at some point



Daniel Ryan, MD

in their career. This is about the same percentage as in the general population. At any given time, about 7% of doctors are actively abusing drugs and alcohol. Physicians as a group have higher rates of depression, higher rates of prescription drug abuse, and more suicides than age- and gender-matched professionals. Physicians tend not to hang out with drug and alcohol abusing peers, but often use these substances when alone, or as an aid to stay awake or to sleep.

Common warning signs that may manifest in an impaired colleague include a deterioration in personal hygiene, absence from professional functions and neglect of duties, frequent mood swings, and the appearance of sleep deprivation. Impaired physicians often exhibit a decrease concern for patient welfare and patient complaints about the quality of care increase. Marital and family conflicts are also frequently associated with drug and alcohol abuse.

Recognition and treatment of impaired physicians are serious concerns of state medical societies and all 50 states have procedures and protocols in place to address this problem. The good news is that rehabilitative efforts on behalf of impaired physicians, when complemented by close follow-up care, are very successful. Up to 85% of physicians that enter treatment are eventually able to return to their practice.

It is every physician's ethical responsibility to report a colleague who

is believed to be impaired as a duty to the public, colleagues, and the impaired physicians themselves.

If you need to refer a colleague who may be impaired to a confidential peer-based state-approved process, please contact Peter Levine at GCMS plevine@gcms.org, or contact MSMS at 517-337-1351.

“As physicians, we have so many unknowns coming our way...

One thing I am certain about is my malpractice protection.”

Medicine is feeling the effects of regulatory and legislative changes, increasing risk, and profitability demands—all contributing to an atmosphere of uncertainty and lack of control.

What we do control as physicians:
our choice of a liability partner.

I selected ProAssurance because they stand behind my good medicine and understand my business decisions. In spite of the maelstrom of change, I am protected, respected, and heard.

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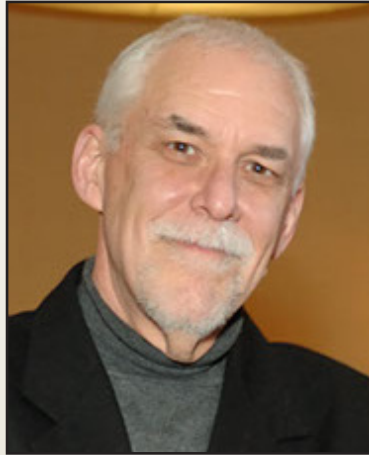
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SCOPE IS A CONSTANT THREAT SUPPORT THE SOCIETY VIA FARMRAISER

There is a constant flurry of activity on your behalf on many fronts: Legislative initiatives to impinge on the practice of medicine. Efforts via the Health Coalition to advance our strategic community and environmental health focus in the Genesee County. Peer review based resolution issues between patients and doctors, and the normal day-to-day administrative tasks associated with maintaining a Medical Society.

Perhaps the most critical thing for you to be aware of in the next few weeks will be an effort to defeat Senate Bill 2 which would allow nursing scope to expand into the realm of physician practice in significant ways. This legislation passed the Senate at the end of 2013, and is now in the House. Although both of our senators voted in opposition to this legislation,



Peter Levine, MPH

we now need to spend time convincing the members of the House to reject it as well. Please keep your eyes open for correspondence from GCMS and MSMS asking for your help in this critical matter.

This month, we have a chance to participate in a fundraiser for GCMS and to help Michigan farmers and producers. As you know we have not had a dues increase since the late 1980s. Please consider ordering treats for Valentine's Day and other purposes via the FarmRaiser advertisement in this issue of *The Bulletin*. This will be the first in a series of such fundraisers, which will bring

each of us together with Michigan farmers and producers to purchase healthy and fresh products while providing residual to the Medical Society, thus allowing it to serve you better.

HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY UNIT

Coordinated Care, Close to Home

KH was a 12-year-old girl living in Ontario, Canada with her father. Her parents were divorced and her mother moved to Pinconning, Michigan. KH was diagnosed with cerebellar Medulloblastoma in 2011. She received her brain radiation at Victoria Children's Hospital and needed to start chemotherapy. It was agreed that her mother in Michigan could provide the most supportive care throughout her treatment so KH moved to Pinconning. She was registered on the Children's Oncology Group (COG) Protocol and that is how she came to be treated at Hurley Medical Center and counseled periodically by a child psychologist. KH received the same level of quality care much closer to her new home.

hurleychildrens.com

HURLEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

buy one of these local gifts to support GCMS efforts

Valentine's Day Gifts for GCMS

In need of office gifts for Valentine's Day? Interested in supporting Michigan businesses and a great cause in the process? All the below products are available for purchase through the website below -- with 45% of all sales going to support the efforts of The Genesee County Medical Society.

www.farmraiser.seeyourimpact.org/office

Orders must be placed by Thursday, February 6th.



Chocolate Puddles

Michigan's best from Grocer's Daughter Chocolates in Empire.



Fresh Dried Pasta & Sauce

Fresh dried pasta from Al Dente in Whitmore Lake.



Spring Inspired Soap Trio

Handmade by Piece of Pisces here in Flint.



Sweet Energy

Higher Grounds coffee, Chocolate Puddles, and Whithers Mountain Honey.



Coffee & Chocolate

Higher Grounds Coffee and Grocer's Daughter Chocolate Puddles.



This fundraiser is brought to you by FarmRaiser - creating local, healthy fundraising opportunities.

HELPING YOUR PRACTICE IN MANY WAYS

Hello Membership!

I hope you are tolerating the LONG winter days with the snow and cold better than I am. I look forward to being able to see the grass again.

As usual, there are many ongoing changes and challenges that we face as physicians in the dynamic health care landscape today. Implementation of ACA, ICD-10, BCBS PGIP uplifts, potential SGR repeal, etc. all require our attention and vigilance to be incorporated properly in our practice.

As usual, the MSMS has been following all of these with great attention and has been in discussion with everyone from AMA lobbyists regarding SGR, to state officials regarding Medicaid enrollees, to BCBSM representatives regarding the nuances of PGIP uplifts now that they have a direct impact on 24 specialty groups for 2014.

I point this out because I, like you, spend as much time as I can to maintain my practice. I, like you, have a pile of journals on my desk that I try to read when there is a break in the action at the office. Thus, there is little time for anything more than a cursory review of developments relating to the list above. Much of the review of things like fee uplifts and ICD-10 falls on the shoulders of key office staff members.



S. Bobby Mukkamala, MD
District VI Director

Fortunately, for us as members, our office staff has a great resource for these issues available through both the GCMS practice managers' meetings and the resources of MSMS.

That being said, it is still important for us to have an understanding of what impact these issues can have on our practice.

If you have not been on it recently, the MSMS website, www.msms.org, has been revamped to make information more available and make the resources of MSMS more apparent. Take a moment in your busy day to visit it and forward it to your office staff so that the resources of MSMS are just a mouse click or email away.

Announcement

GCMS members now entitled to 15% discount on automobile and homeowners insurance.

For details, contact:

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Providers of insurance for the GCMS
& its members for 50 years.

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Genesee County Medical Society
General Membership Meeting

February 6, 2014

A Town Hall Meeting on

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: What a Doctor Needs to Know!!!

Human trafficking is a serious public health threat and a major human rights issue.

Genesee County is not immune to it, nor is the rest of Michigan. This will augment the November session, but if you did not come in November, you will want to attend this session as an introduction. Human trafficking will be broached from legal, medical and social perspectives. Reserve ASAP. The November session had 170 in attendance.

SPEAKERS:

Andy Soper is an advocate for some of the most vulnerable people in the world. After working for 10 years with severely traumatized youth, he founded the first shelter in Michigan for minor Human Trafficking victims. He works with multiple projects around the world to protect children. David Leyton, Genesee County Prosecuting Attorney will be providing an overview on Human Trafficking and its impact in Genesee County.

Prosecutor Leyton and Mr. Soper both serve on the Attorney General Commission on Human Trafficking.

LOCATION:

Flint Golf Club, 3100 Lakewood Dr, Flint, MI 48507

COST:

\$35 GCMS Members, Spouses and their Practice Managers and their guests
\$25 Residents and Students
\$50 Non-Member and Non-Member Practice Managers

All physicians, spouses, and family members of GCMS and GCMISA and other interested professionals are invited. Please invite your friends and colleagues from the Dental and Osteopathic Societies, and the medical staff at Owosso Memorial and Lapeer Regional Medical Center.

6 p.m. Registration & Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Meeting
7:15 p.m. Presentations

Please mail check with reservations to:
Genesee County Medical Society
4438 Oak Bridge Dr., Ste. B
Flint, MI 48532



Email or call Sherry at ssmith@gcms.org or
810-733-9923 for reservations or for more information.

Spectacular Photos by John Love, MD



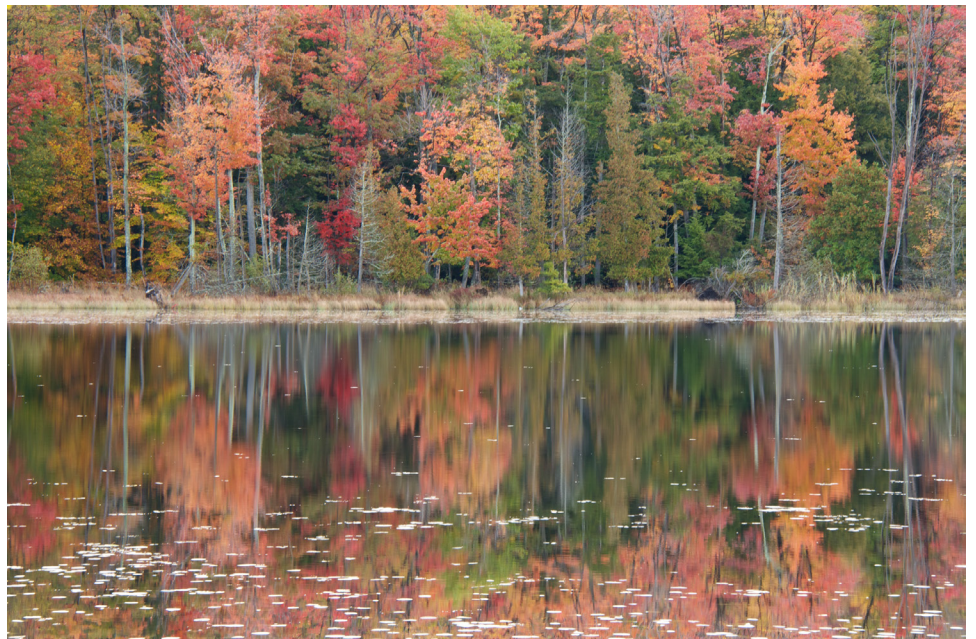
EDITORS NOTE: This group of photos represents the second in a series featuring photos by GCMS and GCMSA members. The first in this series was by Cyrus Farrahi, MD. Next month we will feature the photos of Dr. Robert Soderstrom, Dr. Ed Christy and Dr. Dan Ryan, Editor.





FEBRUARY GCMS PHOTO ALBUM

by John Love, MD







PRACTICE MANAGERS

Secured Messaging: Practice Managers Learn About Pitfalls and Solutions

In late January, Robert Bader Operations Director Of PPI Communications provided a riveting review of problems which medical practices face relating to secured messaging as required under the HIPPA laws. He also provided concrete ways to make sure that practices have secured medical information to avoid violating HIPPA requirements. A later issue of The Bulletin will provide more information from this presentation.

The February Practice Mangers Session will focus on HIPPA Security Issues in the office setting. The March Session will focus on ICD-10. Members are encouraged to have practice mangers attend these meetings, which are held on the 4th Thursday of most months from 8-10 a.m.

PRACTICE MANAGERS MEETINGS

(4th Thursday of each month) 8-10 a.m.

Genesee County Medical Society
Rapport Conference Room
4438 Oak Bridge Drive, Suite B, Flint, MI 48532

*Light breakfast available.
(coffee, tea, yogurt, fruit cups, granola bars)*

ISSUES OF SERIOUS CONCERN FOR MEDICAL PRACTICES!

Don't let your practice manager miss these
important meetings!

February Topic: HIPPA Security:

The Latest and Greatest!
*Presenter: Joe Dylewski, CHP, CHSS, ITIL
Health Care Management*

March Topic: ICD-10:

What Every Practice Really, Really Needs to Know!
*Presenter: Laura Lovett, CPC, CPMA, CEMC
Data Integrity & Compliance Consultant*



SECURED MESSAGING Take Home Points

Texting Orders:

http://www.jointcommission.org/mobile/standards_information/jcfaqdetails.aspx?StandardsFAQId=401&StandardsFAQChapterId=79

Encryption:

<http://www.howtogeek.com/howto/33949/htg-explains-what-is-encryption-and-how-does-it-work/>

Bad Passwords:

<http://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2014/01/internet-users-ditch-password-as-password-upgrade-to-123456/>

Good Passwords:

<https://itservices.uchicago.edu/page/good-password-practices>

Security versus Convenience:

<http://37prime.com/news/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Security-vs-Convenience-Curved.png>

Email Headers:

<https://support.google.com/mail/answer/29436?hl=en>

Securing Mobile Devices:

http://reviews.cnet.com/8301-6452_7-57611425/essential-steps-for-securing-your-phone-and-what-else-can-be-done-to-foil-thieves/

Staying Updated:

Ars Technica - www.arstechnica.com

CNET - www.cnet.com

Electronic Frontier Foundation - www.eff.org

Engadget Mobile – mobile.engadget.com

Google – www.google.com

PPI Communications – www.ppicom.com

Tool Sites:

Down Detector – www.downdetector.com

Mx Toolbox – www.mxtoolbox.com

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- Audiology
- Nutrition Education
- Teen Wellness Center

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Valentine's Day Gifts for GCMS

In need of office gifts for Valentine's Day? Interested in supporting Michigan businesses and a great cause in the process? All the below products are available for purchase through the website below -- with 45% of all sales going to support the efforts of The Genesee County Medical Society.

www.farmraiser.seeyourimpact.org/office

Orders must be placed by Thursday, February 6th.



Chocolate Puddles

Michigan's best from Grocer's Daughter Chocolates in Empire.



Fresh Dried Pasta & Sauce

Fresh dried pasta from Al Dente in Whitmore Lake.



Spring Inspired Soap Trio

Handmade by Piece of Pisces here in Flint.



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Higher Grounds coffee, Chocolate Puddles, and Whithers Mountain Honey.



Coffee & Chocolate

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- Back Area Clerical Work Station
- 6 Exam Rooms, Fully Plumbed
- 3 Restrooms
- Break Room
- 4 General Offices
- X-Ray Area



SUITE A - MEDICAL AREA 2,786 SQ. FT.

- Patient Seating Area
- Reception/Clerical Work Area
- Patient File/Storage (Sideways Sliding System)
- 6 Operatories, Fully Plumbed
- 3 Restrooms
- Break Room
- Lab Room
- 1 General Office
- X-Ray Area



Contact: James Wascha or
Renee Waswick (810) 695-6153

e-mail: jw@waschalaw.com
or rwaswick@comcast.net

DR. JIBALY AMONG MSMS LEADERS AT GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Several officers of the MSMS IMG Section Governing Council met with Governor Snyder's staff in early January regarding barriers to immigration for IMGs. This meeting was held to bolster the Governor's comprehensive campaign to increase immigration to Michigan of the world's "best and brightest". Specifically they talked about increasing J-1 and H-1B visas, increasing GME funding for residency training slots, and improving state processing for Conrad 30 J-1 visas, among other issues. The Governor announced their plans during his State of the State Address later the same week.





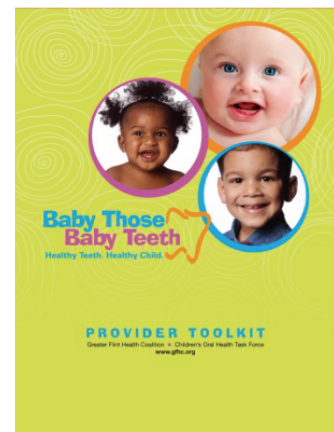
February is National Children’s Dental Health Month – Patient Education & Promotion Resources Available FREE to Genesee County Physicians



Cavities, also known as dental caries, are the number one preventable chronic disease affecting young children today. Caring for a child’s baby teeth is important, as baby teeth are essential for chewing, speech development, and holding spaces for adult teeth. In an effort to connect families with young children in Flint and Genesee County to a dental home that will provide consistent care for every child’s teeth, the Greater Flint Health Coalition’s Children’s Oral Health Task Force has developed resources for healthcare providers and families in Genesee County to educate and engage families in establishing good oral health behaviors and a dental home. These resources are available free for Genesee County residents and healthcare providers and may be ordered by contacting the Greater Flint Health Coalition at gfhc@flint.org or 810-232-2228.

Baby Those Baby Teeth Provider Toolkit

- For Genesee County providers’ use in engaging families in establishing good oral health behaviors and a dental home
- Toolkit includes:
 - Children’s Oral Health Wheel
 - “Tips for Brushing Your Child’s Teeth” Handout
 - Baby Those Baby Teeth Brochure
 - 5 Sheets of the Dentist Referral Guide for Infants & Toddlers
 - Provider Resources List



Details on some of the resources included in the toolkit are outlined below:

Children’s Oral Health Wheel

- Interactive, educational tool for parents and caregivers
 - Outlines proper care of children’s teeth from birth to age 5 years
- Over 83,000 Wheels distributed to date
- English & Spanish versions available



Baby Those Baby Teeth Brochure

- Engaging, fun reminder to caregivers in provider offices and waiting rooms
- Passively engage families in children’s oral health education via a colorful brochure





SUNDAY
May 4, 2014

2ND ANNUAL



5K RUN/WALK

Early Registration

January 1 - April 18

Run/Walk - \$30

Includes Dri-Fit T-Shirt

REGISTER FOR FREE ONLINE or

DOWNLOAD FORMS at:

Flintstonechallenge.org/registration



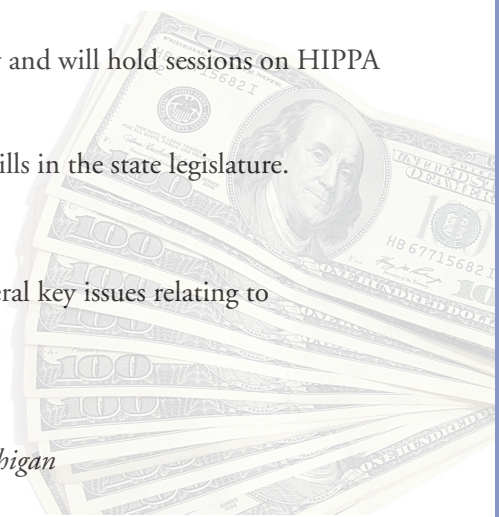
The Flintstone Challenge

@FLINTSTONERUN



YOUR \$\$\$ AT WORK

- S** GCMS hosted practice managers meeting on Telemessaging Security and will hold sessions on HIPPA Security, and ICD-10, What offices need to know ASAP
- S** GCMS along with MSMS worked hard to defeat scope of practice bills in the state legislature.
- S** GCMS worked with two practices on major billing problems
- S** GCMS worked with MSMS on relationships with legislators on several key issues relating to constituent problems
- S** GCMS provided information to several journalists on stories
- S** GCMS leaders have had their editorials published in *Healthcare Michigan*



PHYSICIANS NEEDED AT THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL CENTER OF FLINT

Various shifts are available for part-time.

Full time may be an opportunity as well.

Must be willing to do minor stitches, infants & children, splinting,
and minor eye & ear procedures.

This is a classic urgent care, much like family practice.

Hours of operation:

12-9 pm, 7 days a week, closed on major holidays

Located at 2284 S. Ballenger Hwy., Suite 2, Flint, 48503.

Contact Joyce Ash at 810-232-2710 or Pete Levine at 810-733-9925.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE LITIGATION UPDATE

The Importance of Documentation

By: Jonathan M. Hartman, Esq., Cline, Cline & Griffin, P.C.

Most claims filed in today's medical malpractice arena include an allegation that complains of incomplete, insufficient, and/or altogether absent documentation within the claimant's medical chart. Documentation is the story of a patient's experience across the continuum of care. Documentation is meant to provide a record of a patient's care, a patient's medical history, the basis for billing and reimbursement, quality of care indicators, and in some instances provide clinical data for research and education.

It is often quoted by medical school professors (not to mention Plaintiff's attorneys) that: if it wasn't documented, it wasn't done. In that regard, in some instances the medical record can be the physician's best friend, at others his or her worst enemy in defending a case. Notwithstanding, and perhaps to the surprise of many readers, the long-standing law in Michigan is that a medical care provider's failure to keep adequate records and notations of a patient's care and treatment is not in and of itself actionable as an

independent theory of recovery in a malpractice case. *Boyd v. City of Wyandotte*, 402 Mich 98 (Mich 1977). In *Boyd*, the question presented was whether the care rendered was negligent. In that regard, the Court reasoned that while the presence or absence of medical documentation might have bearing on the Plaintiff patient's burden of proof or persuasion, it would have no bearing on whether the physician was negligent. In other words, the patient's complaints of physical condition could not be attributed to an alleged failure of the treating physicians to keep adequate records. The claim for inadequate record keeping was therefore disallowed from the lawsuit.

Yet, new challenges to legal and accurate medical record keeping exist and are constantly evolving with the implementation of electronic medical records, and the increased utilization of smart phone communications. Text messages and/or emails between on-call physicians providing verbal orders via the nursing staff or resident physician are just a few examples. HIPAA privacy concerns

are implicated as well. Drop down menus and the ability to cut and paste can and do lead to errors due to the documentation of information not germane to a particular patient encounter. Whatever the circumstance, and by whatever method, handwritten or electronic, your documentation is the evidence of your assessment and care of your patients.

In sum, accurate and timely record keeping certainly assist the defense of any claim challenging the efficacy of treatment. Inaccurate, untimely or absent documentation definitely tilt the playing field in favor of the party investigating a claim against a physician. Consequently, the next time you are documenting the care of a patient, keep in mind that someone outside of the hospital or office – an attorney for the patient, the Attorney General, a surveyor for the board of medical licensing, or the experts for both sides in a lawsuit – may someday read your entry. Never hesitate to seek legal counsel when a medical documentation issue arises in your practice. Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014!



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Your gift is greatly appreciated!

Through the fundraising efforts of Genesee County Medical Society Alliance members like you and your spouses in 2013, a total of \$700.00 was contributed to the AMA Alliance Honor Fund.

Our own Michigan born, AMA Foundation Director and an MSMSA past president, Jean Howard is advocating the AMA Alliance Honor Fund. This Fund will offer \$10,000 annually to any medical student entering their 4th year who has an interest in women & children's health. It must reach \$250,000 and according to Jean Howard, we are almost there at \$222,000.

There are two additional options that our members can designate their future contributions to the AMAF, The Fund for the Better Health and the Development Fund.

*Thank you for your generosity,
Kee Ja Kang*

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Maximizing Reimbursement with Group Visits for Chronic Disease

Paul Lazar, M.D.,
Co-Chair, Greater Flint Health Coalition Group Visit Project

Medical group visits, also known as shared medical appointments, are a great way for physicians to overcome the limitations of traditional medical office visits. Group visits have been demonstrated to improve the health of the population, enhance the patient experience of care and increase physician satisfaction while controlling costs.

Group visits typically involve 8-12 patients with a common diagnosis meeting for a 1½ to 2 hour medical appointment with a physician and medical staff. Just as in a typical office appointment, patients are provided a one-on-one medical exam, an individual diagnosis is confirmed and the opportunity to ask questions in private is provided. Patients may invite adult family members to attend the group visit with them. Guest experts may be scheduled to present on topics such as nutrition, diet, exercise, and specialty services.

Some physicians are reluctant to offer group visits because they are concerned about reimbursement. Group visits are reimbursed utilizing the same evaluation and management (E & M) codes as traditional office visits. The same industry-standard coding rules and standards of medical record documentation apply.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (as well as Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, HealthPlus of Michigan, and the Genesee Health Plan locally) have identified CPT codes 99212 through 99215 as the appropriate level office visit codes to utilize for group visits. 99213 and 99214 are the CPT codes most commonly assigned to diabetes group visit encounters.

In order for a Level 4 CPT code to be billed, three general components must be addressed with the patient:

1. HISTORY – documentation of the chief complaint is needed along with four or more descriptive elements: location, quality, severity, duration, timing, context, modifying factors, and/or associated symptoms
2. EXAM – as part of a group visit, patients are examined for various symptoms and conditions associated with their condition/disease. In the case of diabetes, these include examination of the feet and eyes in addition to HbA1c and LDL screenings.
3. MEDICAL DECISION MAKING – For this component two of three of the following three areas must be satisfied: (a) diagnosis including management options for the patient, (b) data required to make a clinical recommendation for condition

THE IMPORTANCE OF ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

Advance Care Planning Task Force of the Greater Flint Health Coalition

In 1990, the United States Congress passed the Patient Self-Determination Act (PSDA), which requires health care facilities receiving Medicare and Medicaid funding to provide written information that specifically addresses a patient's legal rights concerning medical care, including the right to refuse treatment, advance directive options, and any relevant written policies of the institution. One drawback of the law was that it imposed a minimal standard of service that in many cases has become the maximum standard performed. It is all too common for patients to be informed of their legal rights and handed an advance directive form to complete if they state they do not have one.

The practice of having patients merely complete an advance directive document has been shown to do them little good if they skip the process of advance care planning. Advance care planning is an organized process of communication to help individuals understand, reflect upon, and discuss goals for future healthcare decisions in the context of their values and beliefs. Advance care planning recognizes that preferences for care are not fixed. The process requires a continuing conversation as an individual's views change as they age and/or encounter serious illness. Advance care planning focuses on the goals of care rather than on a checklist of consent for specific treatments that typically does not meet an individual patient's needs. When done well, advance care planning results in the end product of a well written advance directive and more importantly, families and providers prepared to make health care decisions for an individual consistent with the individual's preferences when they are unable to do so themselves.

A community-wide process for advance care planning in Genesee County is being developed under the leadership of the Greater Flint Health Coalition. This advance care planning initiative, also known as Your Health Your Choice, will establish advance care planning as a routine standard of care in our community. It is based on the best practice advance care model Respecting Choices®

from Gundersen Health System in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Currently, ten Your Health Your Choice advance care planning pilots are underway in all three Genesee County hospital systems as well as several other healthcare organizations.

As physicians, members of the Genesee County Medical Society need to recognize the importance of advance care planning and how it leads to the completion of a more informative, effective advance directive. Throughout the upcoming year, you will be provided updates on the progress of the Your Health Your Choice advance care planning initiative and how you can support its implementation in your practices and affiliated institutions. In the meantime, to learn more please visit the Greater Flint Health Coalition's website at http://www.gfhc.org/cp_advanced_care.html.

**If you would like
to recognize
a colleague or
loved one
by giving a gift in
his or her honor
or memory
to the
Medical Society
Foundation,
please contact
Peter Levine,
GCMS Executive Director,
at 810-733-9925 or
plevine@gcms.org.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOCTOR

FEBRUARY

Kurk Kralovich	3	Hameem Changezi	14	Charles Safley	22
Athear Alrawi	3	Pino Colone	15	Rabbi Salimi	22
Jonathan Arbogast	4	Jami Foreback	15	Nelson Schafer	22
Murugusundaram Veeramani	4	Gregory Fortin	16	Dianne Trudell	22
John Damm	4	Edward Gomez-Seoane	16	Mark Weiss	24
Sharon Dowd	5	Richar Hennig, Jr.	16	David Wiese	24
Evelyn Alumit	5	Jay Holmes	16	Shawn Wiggins	24
Mark Anderson	5	Virgil Hooper	17	Amy Yanmin Wu	26
Frederick Armenti	6	Gregorio Imperial	18	Raymond Rudoni	26
Daniel Bernstein	8	Avery Jackson, III	19	Samuel Richard DeNardo	27
Kumbla Bhakta	9	Kiran Kinra	20	Ahmed Akl	27
Steven Boskovich	12	Naresh Kinra	20	Nada Abdelbasit	27
Frederick Lim	12	Marvin Latchana	20	Bradford Murphy	28
Ali Esfahani	12	Ramesh Misra	20	Thomas Wright	28
Donald Canada	12	Sunil Nagpal	20	Nanci Mercer	28
Laura Carravallah	12	Rajeevi Pandyan	21	Shavell Karel	28
		Wilfredo Rivera	21	Mohammad Tabbah	28

CLASSIFIEDS

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Small office located by front door of Genesee County Medical Society suite. Great exposure for businesses seeking visibility with physicians. Conference room availability possible. Office size 100 sq. ft. at \$12 per sq. ft. triple-net. Additional office space available. Contact Pete Levine at (810) 733-9925 for details.

PHYSICIANS NEEDED

at the Emergency Medical Center of Flint Various shifts available for part-time, as well. Must be willing to do minor stitches, infants & children, splinting, and minor eye & ear procedures. This is a classic urgent care much like family practice. Hours of operation 9:30am – 9pm, 7 days a week, closed on major holidays. Located at 2284 S. Ballenger Hwy., Suite 2, Flint, 48503. Contact Pete Levine at 810-733-9925.

Check Out Our Website
www.gcms.org

GCMS MEETINGS

– FEBRUARY 2014 –

Legislative Liaison Committee 2/3

8am, GCMS Office

Bulletin Committee 2/5

7:30am, GCMS Office

Dinner Business Meeting 2/6

6pm Registration & Social Hour
7pm Meeting, 7:15pm Presentations
Flint Golf Club

Membership Committee 2/17

12pm, GCMS Office

Finance Committee 2/25

5:30pm, GCMS Office

Board of Directors 2/25

6pm, GCMS Office

Community & Environmental Health Committee 2/26

12:30pm, GCMS Office

Practice Managers 2/27

8am, GCMS Office



**MICHIGAN STATE
MEDICAL SOCIETY**
120 W. Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48823
msms@msms.org • www.msms.org
517-336-5762

**State and County Medical Society
Membership Application**

**GENESEE COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY**
4438 Oak Bridge Dr., Suite B
Flint, MI 48532
810-733-9923



Please PRINT or TYPE

FULL NAME _____ MD or DO (Circle One)
Last First Middle Initial

HOME ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP _____
Area Code & Telephone Number

OFFICE ADDRESS, CITY & ZIP _____
Area Code & Telephone Number

PRACTICE NAME _____
Office Fax Number

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ For mailing, please use (check one): Office address Home address

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA Sex: Male Female Birth Place _____ Date of Birth _____
Month Day Year

Maiden Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Languages Spoken _____

Government Service (check one): Military National Health Service Beginning Date _____ Completion Date _____

EDUCATION (please complete or attach CV)

INSTITUTION	LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR GRADUATED	
			Beginning	Ending
College/University _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Medical School _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
INTERNSHIP, RESIDENCY, AND FELLOWSHIPS	SPECIALTY	COMPLETION DATE		
_____	_____	_____		
_____	_____	_____		

License: MI # _____ Date Issued _____ ECFMG # _____

License held in other states/countries (list states or countries) _____

PROFESSIONAL DATA

Present Type of Practice (check appropriately):

OFFICE BASED: Solo Hospital Based Teaching Research Government
 Group Practice Name _____ Other (specify) _____

Specialty(ies) _____

Board Certifications (list specialties & dates) _____

Present Hospital Appointments (list dates) _____

Practice History _____

Previous Medical Society Membership (list dates) _____

Specialty Society Memberships _____

Within the last five years, have you been convicted of a felony crime?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

Within the last five years, has your license to practice medicine in any jurisdiction been limited, suspended or revoked?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

Within the last five years, have you been the subject of any disciplinary action by any medical society or hospital staff?..... Yes No If YES, please provide full information.

I agree to support the GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY Constitution and Bylaws, the MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY Constitution and Bylaws, and the Principles of Ethics of the American Medical Association as applied by the AMA and the MSMS Judicial Commission.

Signature _____ Date _____



WHEN COMPLETED, please mail to MSMS or Genesee County Medical Society, or FAX to 517-336-5797. THANK YOU!