

the message

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SPOKANE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY – JEFFREY O’CONNOR, MD, SCMS PRESIDENT

Who Can We Trust If We Can’t Trust Us?



By: Jeff O’Connor, MD
SCMS President

Research has made profound changes in medical care over my own tenure as an M.D. We routinely do things now that were miracles 20 years ago. Even though evidence-based medicine can be a bit of a misused mantra, in its purest form, it is the only kind of medicine permissible. We must know three things: what works, what doesn’t and what we don’t have the answer to - yet. Anything short of that is inhumane.

I remember the “glucose” debates from medical school. In the early 70’s, there was still no hard evidence that high blood sugars caused the vascular damage seen in diabetes. The professors would stake out their pro vs con ground, arguing away over our plebian heads. The winner seemed to be the one with the biggest ego. I thought somebody knew the answer. It was only later that I realized that NOBODY knew whether controlling blood sugar made a difference in the health of diabetic patients. Both sides based their arguments on supposition more that science.

In a parallel universe, the 70’s saw the “clot or no clot” wars regarding the cause of myocardial infarctions. Speculation, not science, was the currency of the professorial debate regarding the true cause of an acute MI. Then came Spokane’s own Dr. Marcus DeWood, among others, who dared do a coronary angiogram during an acute MI. Clot won. Egos were bruised but medicine changed and we have had a significant decline in cardiovascular mortality since 1980. Science trumps speculation, supposition, and supersti-

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Project Access Seeks Volunteer Medical Director



By: John Driscoll

Recently, the Project Access Therapeutics Committee convened to discuss policies and procedures regarding medical referral, care coordination and appointment scheduling processes for Project Access. The committee is comprised of physicians of various specialties, including family practice, internal medicine, neurology, gynecology and orthopedics. The goal of Project Access is to provide prompt medical care at the appropriate level of service. Physicians on the Committee currently assist Project Access staff in case review activities and make recommendations accordingly. As an example, Dr. Mark Olson reviews requests for MRI’s for orthopedic conditions. Based on the review, he recommends work-up and treatment options. This process

has been very successful in helping the referring provider, and has focused the use of MRI exams for orthopedic conditions.

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Quote Of The Month

“Leaders have a significant role in creating the state of mind that is society.”

- JOHN GARDNER



President's Message

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Spokane County Medical Society Message

J. Courtney Clyde, MD, Editor

A monthly newsletter published by the Spokane County Medical Society under the department of SCMS. The annual subscription rate is \$21.72 (this includes the 8.6% tax rate).

Advertising Correspondence
Quisenberry Marketing & Design
Attn: Jordan Quisenberry
518 S. Maple
Spokane, WA 99204
509-325-0701
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jordan@quisenberry.net

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tion every time. Even ego has been known to crumble in the face of truth.

Alas, science cannot overcome the twin scourges of greed and deceit. The April 16, 2008 edition of JAMA chronicles two methods Merck used to misstate (lie) about the true risks of using Vioxx (rofecoxib). One approach was to have the "scientific" articles ghostwritten (akin to a novel I guess) showing the benefits of using rofecoxib but hiding the true source of authorship. These "physician authors" come from the academy and the community. All of them did little if any research but still allowed their name to be used as author – for a fee. Merck also provided incomplete data to the FDA. Data showing an increased mortality from the use of rofecoxib was left out. Merck is not alone. In the 1990's, Pfizer illegally promoted Neurontin for many illnesses. It did so by paying hefty sums to M.D.s (skills if you will) who went around the county recommending off label and unfounded uses for Neurontin. Finally, even prestigious journals have been fooled by avarice posing as science.

We may blame the pharmaceutical companies for pandering, profiteering and fraud but they can't do it without us! We think of ourselves as personally immune to such manipulation. We see ourselves as honest and unbiased dispensers of allopathic remedies. Drug companies know better and human behavior research agrees – financial inducements, big and small, provided by pharmaceutical and hardware manufacturers bias our choice of medications and products. We think those companies are stupid and we are smart. Experience and research shows the opposite is true. We are offered lunch, pens, post-it notes, thermometers, clocks, barbeque equipment, trips, fancy dinners, honoraria, research projects, operating room assistance and conversation with an attractive sales force for one reason – it works.

If medical research and medical education are tainted, who can we trust? If our data is not reliable, how do we know we are doing the right thing? The selfish ambitions of a few have contaminated the whole batch of dough we call good medical care. This is a problem that must be corrected. Like a vaccination, it might hurt just a little.

The solution starts with small steps by individuals. In many respects, I am the only one I can change. Accordingly, here is a list of things I will endeavor to do over the next year to help ensure I am not contributing to the problem.

1. I will politely, but firmly, refuse to have drug reps detail me. (This is a tough one for me because these are nice, hardworking people and my dad was a Pfizer rep.)
2. I will refuse all gifts, large and small from any source.
3. I will get my medication information from Prescriber's Letter, The Medical Letter, Facts and Comparisons or other reputable, reliable sources. (While Epocrates and the PDR are handy, the information is, for the most part, controlled by the pharmaceutical companies.)

4. I will refuse to go to any drug company dinner, period, no matter who is speaking.
5. I will maximize my use of generics.
6. I will research how to use the AMA "Opt-out" program to reduce the data mining the pharmaceutical companies do to track my prescribing habits. (Success in item 5 will help in this regard.)
7. I will closely look at the samples we have on hand to make sure there is a legitimate patient need.
8. If drug reps refuse to leave samples, I will still abide by item 7.
9. I will refuse to do any industry-sponsored research.
10. Finally, I will begin the process of finding a way our Medical Society can hold valuable educational meetings without using pharmaceutical money, even if unrestricted.

Please send in your suggestions and we will post them on the Spokane County Medical Society website. <http://www.spcms.org>

Forgive me if I see physicians as not only professionals who care, who will sacrifice many things for the well-being of our neighbors, but also as people with the fortitude to ignore the inducements of the market and do the right thing. In the end, if we can't trust us, who can we trust?

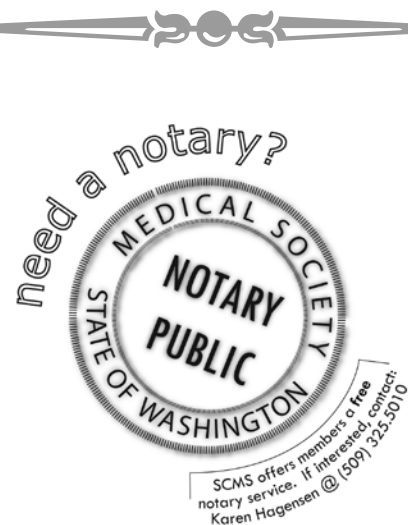
Links to the underlying data for the JAMA articles:

<http://www.biostat.washington.edu/research/Rofecoxib>

<http://dida.library.ucsf.edu>

Link to a summary of the Pfizer – Neurontin judgment:

http://www.fda.gov/fdac/features/2004/404_wl.html



Project Access Seeks Volunteer Medical Director

Project Access continued from page 1

Currently, Project Access staff receive referral and medical information from primary care clinics, and then schedule the requested consultation(s), diagnostic evaluations and/or treatment requests on a “first in/first out” basis. The Committee’s previous work has been to define the set of clinical information needed to make an appropriate specialty appointment. They also consult with Project Access staff, as needed, to review referral requests and prior medical records. Since the last meeting, there have been changes in referral patterns, case complexity and in the availability of volunteer physicians to see Project Access patients in certain specialties.

The Committee reviewed issues including referral decision-making based on the patient’s prior medical history/treatment, referrals with unclear or vague symptoms, and the use of referral guidelines. Other issues discussed included lack of physician availability in certain specialties, scheduling delays resulting from clinics reviewing cases prior to scheduling appointments, and referrals for chronic or irresolvable medical conditions.

The Committee concluded that Project Access should seek a volunteer Medical Director to assist in those areas, as needed. The Medical Director would also provide physician interface on a case-by-case basis, and help with volunteer physician recruitment and retention. The Medical Director would provide valuable assistance to patients, referrers and physicians participating in Project Access. The duties would include consulting with Project Access staff for referral and patient care issues that commonly arise, and to communicate with volunteer physicians and referring providers as needed. It was suggested that the Medical Director could help develop referral guidelines that would expedite patient care and scheduling processes. If you would like to help Project Access by providing clinical expertise and physician leadership, we want to ask for your help. For more information, please call Jan Monaco or John Driscoll to learn more about this important service you can provide to our community, our patients and our physicians.

Seniors 2008 Tourney

by Alexander (Sandy) Greer, MD
Senior Physicians Chair



The long winter came to an end for nearly thirty Senior Physicians on April 25th at the Manito Golf and County Club, when the Annual Senior Golf Tournament was held.

Twenty-eight Senior Physician members of the Spokane County Medical Society enjoyed a day of some chill and broken cloud cover while on the Manito Golf and County Club golf course – we have it on good authority that the cool weather did not dampen either the good spirits of the golfers, or their enjoyment of the tournament! Play was followed by a Mexican buffet lunch, at which trophies were awarded.

Bruce Ellingsen, MD, won the 0-16 handicap trophy with a score of 68; and with a score of 70, Neil O’Keefe, MD, won the 17+ handicap category. Richard Kleaveland, MD, with a score of 77, won the 80+ years trophy. Not to be outdone, the Team winning the “Best Ball” competition was that of Drs. Lyle Wendling, Bruce Ellingsen, Jerry Olmsted and Cliff Green.

Mark your calendars for the Senior Physicians Dinner – with spouses and guests – Thursday, October 23, 2008 at the Manito Golf and County Club. SCMS will mail registration flyers for this event to all Senior Physicians in the fall.

Medical Referral Line

One of the many benefits the Spokane County Medical Society offers to its physician-members is our **Medical Referral Line**. This service allows SCMS staff to support area medical practices by providing names of physicians accepting new patients to community members who are searching for a physician. *Our sincere thanks to those of you who are already members of our Medical Referral Line!*

We are in need of more physicians to whom we can refer patients. Wouldn’t you like to be part of this service, which assists both the physician and the patient? Is your practice able to accept new patients? If so, please let us know by calling 325-5010, and we’ll fax you a Medical Referral Update form to complete and return.

We welcome physicians in all specialties, but our greatest need is for primary care physicians – especially those who accept Medicare and/or Medicaid!



**With one person’s short prognosis—
a whole family suffers**



**Along with medical end-of-life care for your patient,
we provide families with:
Emotional Support • Spiritual Care • Grief Support
(509) 456-0438**

NPI: MAY 23, 2008 – IMPORTANT DATE FOR CLAIMS AND CASH FLOW

Pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), old legacy numbers will not be accepted on any electronic claims after May 23 - claims will only be accepted with an NPI number. It is important to note that this deadline applies to all payers both public and commercial.

Physicians are strongly urged to test sending their claims with just their NPI as soon as possible so as to avert claims processing and cash flow interruptions that could occur after May 23. Physicians should also ensure all of their information in the NPI database is up-to-date as this can affect a payer's ability to identify a physician and thus pay their claims. Physicians can make changes/updates to their information by visiting <https://npes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/> or calling 800-465-3203.

DMEPOS REQUIREMENTS FOR PHYSICIANS OPPOSED BY AMA

Physicians who supply Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) to Medicare patients need to be aware of a new requirement that was mandated under the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA). Any physician who is enrolled with Medicare to furnish such items and has a National Supplier Code (NSC) number will be required to become accredited in order to continue supplying these items to their patients. The AMA strongly opposes these requirements and continues to advocate that physicians should be deemed accredited by virtue of the fact that they are licensed health care professionals. CMS started implementing this program with new suppliers on March 1, 2008. Information on accreditation deadlines can be found: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/Downloads/DMEPOS AccreditationDeadline.pdf>.

IN JAMA: ADDING ULTRASOUND TO MAMMOGRAPHY MAY IMPROVE BREAST CANCER DETECTION IN HIGH-RISK WOMEN

The addition of an ultrasound examination to mammography for women at high risk of breast cancer resulted in a higher rate of cancer detection, but also increased the number of false-positive results, according to a study in the May 14 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*. In an accompanying editorial, an author comments on the findings of this study.

BEWARE OF RECALLED HEPARIN PRODUCTS

With the contamination of heparin becoming a significant safety issue in recent months, the AMA is working with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to spread the word about recalls of injectable heparin products and heparin flush solutions that may be contaminated with oversulfated chondroitin sulfate.

Affected heparin products have been found in medical care facilities in one state since a recall announcement was issued earlier this year. Although product recall instructions were widely distributed, they may not have been fully acted upon at all sites where heparin is used.

Health professionals and facilities are asked to review and examine all drug and device storage areas—including emergency kits, dialysis units and automated drug storage cabinets—to ensure that all recalled heparin products have been removed and are no longer available for patient use.

A number of medical devices also contain, or are coated with, heparin. All health care professionals are asked to report to the FDA any adverse reactions associated with these devices, as well as any reactions associated with heparin or heparin flush solutions.

Learn how to report these problems to the FDA and to view a summary of other types of medical devices that contain or are coated with heparin. A number of deaths related to contaminated heparin have been reported to the FDA from Jan. 1, 2007 through April 13, 2008. View a chart of the number of deaths reported.

If you have questions or would like more information, call the FDA/Center for Drug Evaluation and Research's Division of Drug Information at (301) 796-3400.

THREE ADDITIONAL BCBS PLANS AGREE TO PAY OUT \$3.5 MILLION; FILE CLAIM FORM BY JUNE 30

If you treated one or more enrollees of any Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) plan that is a primary licensee, including an enrollee through a BCBS plan from another state, at any time between Jan. 1, 1996 and March 12, 2008, the AMA encourages you to collect your share of the \$3.5 million Capital Settlement Fund.

The settling parties—including Capital BlueCross, Capital Advantage Insurance Company and Keystone Health Plan Central Inc.—have agreed to pay out approximately \$3.5 million among eligible physicians who file a claim form by June 30, 2008.

Capital Settlement forms, including the proposed settlement notice, instructions and a claim form, were mailed to physicians on April 1. If you did not receive these documents, visit the Web site to download them and learn more about the settlement. The completed claim form should be postmarked no later than June 30 and sent to:

Capital BlueCross
Settlement Administrator
P.O. Box 4390
Portland, OR 97208-4390



Have You Tried Medicor?

Medicor is an exciting new resource that brings together over 800 free and licensed health information resources, many of which can be searched simultaneously. As a member of the Spokane County Medical Society, it's yours free.

Why should you use it?

Depending upon your medical staff affiliation, you will have remote access using a standard Web browser to the electronic resources of Sacred Heart Medical Center and Empire Health Services.

- Finding patient care information is easier because all electronic journals and databases are located in one place and are searchable by a single login.
- You can query up to eight resources simultaneously using one powerful, (Google®-like) interface, but still go to the original database for expert searching.
- You can browse each library's A-Z list of electronic journals.

- In your own personalized space, you can save and organize records you found for later use, re-run searches, or create your own favorite lists of databases and e-journals.
- When you want the full-text of a journal article, simply click on the SFX® button to find it if it is available full-text online or automatically refer the request to your medical librarian.

We are continuing to add resources to Medicor and improve its features and services, so keep watching for updates. To access Medicor, go to <http://spcmsmedicor.org>. See the "Before You Begin" section if you do not have a user ID and password. If you have questions or would like to set up a personal demo or group training session, please call or email George McAlister at 325-5010 or george@spcms.org.



Medical Reserve Corps

An Emergency-Services Cadre of Volunteer Medical Professionals

By John Hancock

To leverage the effectiveness of individual volunteer practitioners, and to assure their personal safety, Medical Reserve Corps members will be called to action in teams. Each MRC member will receive training appropriate to his background and role. Basic requirements include: Medical Reserve Corps structure; Introduction to Incident Command Structure and National Incident Management System; personal and family preparedness; and Introduction to All Hazard Response (infectious diseases, natural disasters, biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents).

As of December 1, 2007, retired volunteer medical professionals in one of 54 categories can be licensed to practice when deployed and will receive immunity for official duties.

Additional members are urgently needed. The MRC will meet on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 for potential and new member welcome and orientation, and for a training update. The start time for new members is 7:00 p.m. and 7:45 for current members at the Deaconess Health Education Center, Room 268. For further information, please contact 509)209-2617 or johnh@community-minded.org.

Meet the SCMS Circle of Friends Silver Level

Sterling Savings Bank

Witherspoon Kelley Davenport & Toole



The SCMS Circle of Friends is a program designed to connect our members with valuable business resources in the community - and offers businesses exclusive opportunities to meet with our members. Contact Jan Monaco at 325-5010 for program details and an application form.

Everett B. Coulter, MD

On April 16, 2008 Dr. Everett B. Coulter passed away. Dr. Coulter graduated from Macalester College and received his medical degree from the University of Minnesota. He started his career as a general surgeon in Minneapolis. In 1947 he moved to Spokane and continued as a general surgeon until 1983. Dr. Coulter was a member of the American Board of Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons. He was involved in various community organizations, including the Lions and the Shriners. Dr. Coulter's love for the outdoors started in his youth, when he worked summers at a camp in the Rocky Mountain National Park, and continued into his later years. He is survived by his wife, Marion, his children, grandchildren and great grandchild.



**VOLUNTEER
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
NEEDED FOR PROJECT ACCESS**

- * Assist with development of policies and procedures
- * Consult with Project Access staff regarding patient care issues
- * Serve as primary liaison with Project Access physicians
- * Review utilization of medical services
- * Act as physician interface, as needed

For further information regarding the position, please contact John Driscoll, Project Access Director (john@spcms.org) or Jan Monaco, CEO (jan@spcms.org) at 509-325-5010.

Did You Know?

Did you know that one of the many benefits the Spokane County Medical Society offers to its physician-members is our **Medical Referral Line**? This service allows SCMS staff to support area medical practices by providing names of physicians who are accepting new patients to community members who are searching for a physician. Our sincere thanks to those of you who are already members of our Medical Referral Line!

We are, however, in desperate need of more physicians to whom we can refer patients. Wouldn't you like to be part of this service, which assists both the physician and the patient?

Is your practice able to accept new patients? If so, please let us know by calling 325-5010, and we'll fax you a Medical Referral Update form to complete and return.

We welcome all physicians in all specialties. HOWEVER, our greatest need is for primary care physicians – especially those who accept Medicare and/or Medicaid!

Classified Ads

REAL ESTATE

Loft Condo for Rent. 3-bedroom, 2-bath, with 2000 square feet, granite cherry wood and stainless kitchen, and a 300-square foot deck overlooking the Spokane River. This loft condo is across the street from the Museum of Art and Culture, with secure parking and elevator access. \$1350 per month. Call (509) 747-0460.

Liberty Lake Waterfront for Rent. West side, spectacular views. Furnished, fully equipped kitchen. Charming, with wood floors, French doors, gas fireplace, covered lakeside porch. 1 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 car garage. \$900/month, please call (509) 481-3142.

Spectacular views from this secluded setting overlooking the Spokane Valley. This 3288 square foot, 4 bedroom 4 bath home sits on 2.76 acres of nature with abundant wildlife. Some of the great features of this home include natural woodwork, updated wood and tile flooring, atrium off of kitchen, large entryway, large deck with spa and sauna. Each main floor bedroom has a deck and views. Located at 4708 South Schafer Branch Road in the Ponderosa area in the Central Valley School Dist. Also available for purchase with this home are an additional 17.7 acres. For more information please contact Dan Simmons at (509) 999-1462 or view this home on line at www.DanielLSimmons.com. Tomlinson Black Valley, 721 N. Pines Rd.

Waterfront Loft Condo near Gonzaga/U-District...unparalleled location mere steps from the Spokane River. Loft living in a modernized former industrial building with exposed brick & trusses and huge windows. 2 heated parking spaces, fully secure, riverfront lawn area. Rare opportunity!! www.ironbridgecondos.com or call Andrew Chester at (509) 939-7690 for more information.

Superb Southside Location – Quail Ridge Custom brick home in Quail Ridge Gated Community, easy access to Manito Golf and Country Club, architect design and premium construction (1997), community pool and tennis courts, club house and caretakers, 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, large Pella windows throughout, granite, stainless appliances, wine cellar, natural woodwork and interior brick accents. \$839,000. Call (509) 994-1708 or (509) 443-1183 for information.

designate your UNITED WAY CONTRIBUTION to PROJECT ACCESS

If you are a contributor to the United Way, don't forget that Project Access can be one of your designated agencies as a 501(c)(3) organization. *

* This would be a tax-deductible contribution.



Enjoy your very own copy.

Many physicians share their newsletter with other doctors and physician's assistants who are not SCMS members. If you are reading this and would like to become a member, please call Tammy @ 325-5010.



CATEGORY I CME SEMINARS

• **Dermatology Update:** 3.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit, sponsored by the Spokane County Medical Society. Conference to be held on June 11, 2008 at the Deaconess Health and Education Center. Contact Jennifer Anderson at (509) 325-5010 or email jennifer@spcms.org for more information.

• **Grand Rounds at Pullman Hospital:** 1.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit for each session attended, held 12/07 – 6/08. Jointly sponsored by SCMS. Contact Patty Snyder, Director of Medical Services at (509) 336-7388.

• **Urology Update:** 3.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit, sponsored by the Spokane County Medical Society. Conference to be held on September 17, 2008 at the Deaconess Health and Education Center. Contact Jennifer Anderson at (509) 325-5010 or email jennifer@spcms.org for more information.



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Institutional Review Board (IRB) – Meets the second Thursday of every month at noon at the Heart Institute, classroom B. Should you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the IRB office at (509) 358-7631.

Caduceus Recovery Group Meeting for Health Care Professionals – Meets every Thursday evening, 6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., at 626 N. Mullan Rd, Spokane. Contact (509) 928-4102 for more information. Non-smoking meeting for Health Care Providers in recovery.

Physician Family Fitness Meeting – Physician Family Fitness is a recently created meeting for physicians, physician spouses, and their adult family members to share their common problems and solutions experienced in the course of a physician's practice and family life. The meetings are on Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Providence Center for Faith and Healing Building, due east of the traffic circle near the main entrance of SHMC. Enter, turn right, go down the stairs, Room 14 is on your right. Format: 12-Step principles, confidential and anonymous personal sharing; No dues or fees. Guided for now by Drs. Bob and Carol Sexton. The contact phone number is 509-624-7320.

Physician health is important.
Eastern Washington Physician Health Committee



This committee, a fusion of the former SCMS committee and one including members of medical staffs of Empire Health Services and Providence Health Care hospitals, meets quarterly to educate ourselves about physician health issues, review utilization and satisfaction with the Wellspring Early Assistance Program (EAP), and plan activities, programs and resources to address needs in these areas. Some of the guiding principles of this committee are:

The medical profession and healthcare community should foster physician well-being.

A sense of community with one's peers is vital to personal well-being.

Changes in the healthcare environment are contributing to personal and professional challenges and new stressors for physicians.

Physicians should have resources available to them to anticipate and manage episodic personal issues.

- Jim Shaw, MD, Chair, 474-3097**
- Steve Brisbois 927-2272**
- Robert Clark 489-3879**
- Phil Delich 624-1563**
- Jim Frazier 880-0025**
- Deb Harper 443-9420**
- Mike Henneberry 448-2558**
- Michael Metcalf 928-4102**
- Michael Moore 747-5141**
- Mira Narkiewicz 889-5599**
- Sam Palpant 467-4258**
- Tad Patterson 939-7563**
- John Plastino 747-0567**
- Paul Russell 928-8585**
- Robert Sexton 624-7320**
- Patrick Shannon 509/684-7717**
- Alexandra Wardzala 448-9555**
- Hershel Zellman 747-2234**



One program that is currently available to all active medical staff of regional hospitals and their families is the Wellspring EAP (Early Assistance Program). This group offers a confidential resource for intake and referral at no cost for stress, emotional problems, marital or family problems, drug and alcohol issues, elder care, or professional practice management issues. Their 24/7 number is 1-800-553-7798.



The following physicians/physician assistants have applied for membership, and notice of application is presented. Any member who has information of a derogatory nature concerning an applicant's moral or ethical conduct, medical qualifications or such requisites shall convey this to our Credentials Committee in writing 104 S Freya St., Orange Flag Bldg #114, Spokane, Washington, 99202.

NEW PHYSICIANS

Carlson, Jonathan D., MD

Neurosurgery

Med School: Loma Linda U (2001)
Internship/Residency: Oregon Health U Science U (2008)
Practicing with Inland Neurosurgery and Spine Associates, PS beginning 7/2008

Dierks, Karina M., MD

Pediatrics

Med School: U of Nebraska (2004)
Internship/Residency: U of Nebraska-Creighton U (2008)
Practicing with Sacred Heart Children's Hospital (Pediatric Hospitalists) beginning 7/2008

Dutta, Sanjit K., MD

Internal Medicine/Geriatrics

Med School: Instit. of Postgraduate Medicine & Research, Bangladesh (1988)
Internship/Residency: North Shore U (2002)
Fellowship: Montefiore Medical Center (2003)
Practicing with Physician's Clinic of Spokane beginning 7/2008

Fischer, David W. Jr., MD

Internal Medicine

Med School: Loma Linda U (2004)
Internship/Residency: Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (2008)
Practicing with Spokane Internal Medicine beginning 7/2008

Friendshuh, Sandra MD

Internal Medicine

Med School: Johannes-Gutenberg U (1998)
Internship: Boise VA Medical Center (2001)
Residency: U of Washington (2003)
Practicing with Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (Faculty Hospitalists) beginning 9/2008

Gilman, Bryce H., DO

Family Medicine

Med School: Des Moines U (2002)
Internship/Residency: St Anthony's Family Medicine (2005)
Practicing with Gilman & Curalli, PS since 5/2008

Hewitt, Dierik K., MD

Otolaryngology

Med School: U of Utah (2003)
Internship/Residency: U of Missouri, Columbia (2008)
Practicing with Spokane Ear, Nose & Throat, PS beginning 7/2008

Hollon, Matthew F., MD, MPH

Internal Medicine

Med School: U of Washington (1994)
Internship/Residency: U of Washington (1997)
Fellowship: U of Washington (1999)
Practicing with Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (Faculty) beginning 7/2008

Mueller, Eric C., MD

Rheumatology

Med School: U of Washington (2002)
Internship/Residency: U of Arizona (2006)
Fellowship: U of Arizona (2008)
Practicing with Arthritis Northwest, PLLC beginning 9/2008

Musa, Abdeen R., MD

Internal Medicine

Med School: U of Khartoum, Sudan (1993)
Internship: Forest Park Hospital (2006)
Residency: Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (2008)
Practicing with Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (Faculty Hospitalists) beginning 7/2008

Patakoti, Ramu MD, MPH

Internal Medicine

Med School: Gandhi Medical College (2000)
Internship/Residency: Westlake Hospital (2008)
Practicing with Internal Medicine Residency Spokane (Faculty Hospitalists) beginning 6/2008

Smith, Carla S., MD, PhD

Orthopedic Surgery

Med School: Baylor college of Medicine (1997)
Internship/Residency: U of Washington (2002)
Fellowships: U of Zurich (2002) and Harborview Medical Center (2003)
Practicing with Providence Orthopedic Specialties beginning 7/2008

Wright, Byron E., MD

Surgery/Surgical Oncology

Med School: Chicago Medical School (1995)
Internship/Residency: Virginia Mason Medical Center (1998)
Residency: Hennepin County Medical Center (2002)
Fellowship: Hennepin County Medical Center (2000) & John Wayne Cancer Institute (2008)
Practicing with Cancer Care Northwest beginning 8/2008

NEW PHYSICIANS PRESENTED A SECOND TIME

DeVile, Jason M., DO

Internal Medicine/Nephrology

Med School: Arizona College of Osteo Medicine (2003)
Practicing with Rockwood Clinic, PS beginning 8/2008

Edens, Mark S., MD

Diagnostic Radiology

Med School: Medial College of Wisconsin (1989)
Practicing with Inland Imaging Associates beginning 7/2008

Edminster, Joel D., MD

Emergency Medicine

Med School: Case Western Reserve U (2005)
Practicing with Spokane Emergency Physicians beginning 7/2008

Elghannam, Hesham M. G., MD

Pulmonary & Critical Care

Med School: Ain Shams U, Egypt (1996)
Practicing with EHS Pulmonary and Critical Care, LLC beginning 7/2008

New Physicians cont'd

Fillmore, Gary L, MD*Ophthalmology*

Med School: Medical College of Wisconsin (2001)

Practicing with Eye Consultants, PS beginning 6/2008

Hagerty, R. Daniel, MD*Emergency Medicine*

Med School: U of Arizona (2004)

Practicing with Spokane Emergency Physicians beginning 7/2008

Long, Jeffery R., MD*Obstetrics & Gynecology*

Med School: U of Kentucky (1997)

Practicing with WomenHealth beginning 8/2008

Rademacher, Thomas L., DO*Anesthesiology*

Med School: Des Moines U (2004)

Practicing with Physician Anesthesia Group beginning 7/2008

Sandoval, David M., MD*Internal Medicine/Rheumatology*

Med School: San Marcos (1986)

Practicing with Rockwood Clinic, PS beginning 6/2008

Schmitz, Miguel A., MD*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Med School: U of Washington (1990)

Practicing with Spokane Orthopedics beginning 8/2008

Sestero, Bridget C., MD*Diagnostic Radiology*

Med School: Creighton U (1999)

Practicing with Inland Imaging Associates beginning 7/2008

NEW PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**Langford, Connie K., PA-C**

Med School: Medical College of Georgia (1991)

Practicing with Rockwood Clinic, PS since 4/2008

NEW PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PRESENTED A SECOND TIME**Burger, Jennifer R., PA-C, RD**

Med School: U of Washington, Medex Northwest (2001)

Practicing with Rockwood Clinic, PS since 3/2008

Judah, Leslie D., PA-C

Med School: U of Washington, Medex Northwest (2007)

Practicing with Northwest Cardiothoracic & Transplant Surgeons, PS since 4/2008

Smolinski, Ann K., PA-C

Med School: Charles R. Drew U (1998)

Practicing with Cancer Care Northwest since 4/2008

Are you plugged in?

Our website is just a point and click away ~

visit www.spcms.org for

- CME information
- newsletter articles
- membership information
- legislative updates
- SCMS shopping cart
- and so much more!

Save These Dates

2008 CME Program Schedule

Spokane County Medical Society
 Department of Continuing Medical Education

| June | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | | | | | |

DERMATOLOGY

Wednesday, June 11 ~ DHEC
 5:30 – 9:15 pm

Three one-hour topics will be presented.

| September | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

UROLOGY UPDATE

Wednesday, September 17 ~ DHEC
 5:30 – 9:15 pm

Three one-hour topics will be presented.

| October | | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

MODERATE (CONSCIOUS) SEDATION AND ANALGESIA

Wednesday, October 8 ~ SHMC
 5:30 – 9:15 pm

SCMS' Annual program to satisfy JCAHO requirements and provide a refresher course to members of the medical community in order to increase patient safety.

| November | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 22 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

RHEUMATOLOGY UPDATE

Thursday, November 13 ~ DHEC
 5:30 – 9:15 pm

Three one-hour topics will be presented.



Committee Meeting Notes

MAY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT PRESENTED BY BRIAN SEPPI, MD, CHAIRMAN:

Professional Boundaries in Medicine Brochure: The EC reviewed the brochure, made a few changes and discussed how it would be distributed. Primary Care Provider RFP: Jan reported she has spoken with three potential responders to the RFP. Once they are received, they will go to the EC for scoring and selection. Office Space: Jan distributed a spreadsheet of current office space expenses, the anticipated expenses on the Rockwood property and anticipated expenses of purchasing a building. She then distributed information regarding properties for sale. It was decided not to pursue any of the options presented and to continue to search for other opportunities, keeping in mind our current situation is working very well. Credit Card Authorization: It was resolved that the Spokane County Medical Society Executive Committee authorizes Sterling Savings Bank to issue credit cards in the amount of \$20,000 for use by officers and staff within the scope of their employment. The authorized signers on the account should be listed Janet L. Monaco, MHS, CEO and Karen L. Hagensen, Associate Director.

WORDS OF WISDOM REGARDING YOUR EMPLOYEES

Before treating your employees, either with a prescription or pharmaceutical samples, always first:

- Conduct a history & physical and
- Establish a formal patient chart and document the decision-making process.

MQAC requires that this documentation be in place.

In other words ~

You must treat them like regular patients!



NEEDED MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Help Kenya! Please donate any serviceable medical equipment, supplies and dressings you can spare or no long need. Dr. Jim Colquhoun and Small World Education Foundation are preparing a cargo container for shipment to Kenya later this summer and are in need of everything! Please call Small World Education Foundation at (509) 443-1554 or Dr. Jim Colquhoun at (509) 998-5819 for further information.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

PHYSICIANS WANTED – The Washington Division of Disability Determination Services is seeking physicians to perform medical consultative examinations for clients applying for disability benefits. Specialties being sought include cardiology, neurology, orthopedics, pulmonology and rheumatology. Interested physicians can review the contract materials at <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/ccs/procurement/RFQ0735-256.htm>.

PHYSICIAN NEEDED – The Urban Indian Health Clinic in Spokane, WA is seeking a physician to work Monday to Friday, with no evenings, weekends or on-call required. NATIVE Project/NATIVE Health of Spokane is an FQHC and serves people of all ethnicities. The position offers good salary and benefits. NATIVE is an Indian Health Services and/or a State of Washington health professionals loan repayment site. Please contact Toni Lodge at 509-325-5502 for further information.

FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN OPPORTUNITY – TerraHealth a division of THI and a health care support services company specializing in the staffing of military medical facilities is seeking a physician for Fairchild AFB, Spokane Washington. They are open to creative and unique scenarios to accommodate scheduling needs of an individual physician or Medical Group that would be interested in providing coverage. For more information contact: Ruben V. Perez - Physician Recruiter TerraHealth 5710 W. Hausman, Suite 108, San Antonio, TX 78249 Phone: (210) 475-9881 Cell: (210) 310-4290 Fax: (210) 582-0083 or email www.thi-terra.com.

MEDICAL OFFICE FOR BUILD OR LEASE

Franklin Park Medical Center. 2,039 square feet of medical office space is available for sublease the remaining two years of our lease agreement. PAML and Advanced Imaging available in the building. Please contact Carmen Green 465-3919 ext 304 for more information.

Good location and spacious suite available next to Valley Hospital on Vercler. 2,429 sq ft in building and less than 10 years old. Includes parking and maintenance of building. Please call Spokane Cardiology and ask for Carolyn 455-8820.

Park-like Office Space surrounded by views, trees and flowering shrubs. Class A office space with ample parking and janitorial services. Your office space can be 2900 square feet or may be subdivided with either 1850 or 1050 square feet. Located in the Quail Run Office Building at 2204 East 29th Avenue. Phone 230-2353 for information.

Will build to suit, prime location across from Holy Family Hospital at E. 111 Central. Call Maureen at (509) 467-4257.

SCMS is interested in assisting our members to participate more actively in key community leadership roles. If you become aware of an open board, commission or advisory committee position please notify Michelle Caird at (509) 325-5010 or by email at michelle@spcms.org.



In The News...

DSHS to hold provider workshops on Medicaid's new ProviderOne billing system

OLYMPIA – The ProviderOne Provider Readiness Team in the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is offering Medicaid doctors and their billing offices a series of free workshops to bring them up to date on a new Medicaid billing system that is under development. Registration and other details are available on-line at www.regonline.com/ProviderOne. The Web site includes class descriptions, dates, times and locations. The new Medicaid Management Information System, called ProviderOne, is scheduled for operation beginning in December. Among other topics, the workshops will cover project details, its timeline, and how providers will be able to verify client eligibility under the new system.

Workshops for the Spokane area are scheduled as follows:

June 9: **Spokane**, Sacred Heart Providence Auditorium, Mother Gamelin Center, 9 West Ninth Ave.
June 10: **Spokane**, Deaconess Health & Education Center Room 266, 910 West Fifth Ave.

WPHP Launches New Website

The Washington Physicians Health Program (WPHP), an organization that works with physicians who have a condition that could affect their ability to practice medicine, has just launched a new website: www.wphp.org. The website now offers an explanation on how the process for referral to the program works, how the state statute that governs this work is applied, and what confidentiality is protected. It also includes client stories, reference material for practitioners and family members, and a way to contact WPHP staff either by phone or email. WPHP has worked with physicians who have substance abuse or dependence, depressive disorders, bipolar mood disorder, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, and physical disorders such as multiple sclerosis and chronic pain. It is a physician-directed program with a highly competent, experienced, and dedicated staff.

