MEDICAL COMMITTEES
J. Courtney Clyde, MD discusses committees that are working to fix our ailing healthcare system

Volunteerism & support for Project Access
By John Driscoll
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Spokane County Medical Society Message
Gary Knox, MD, Editor
A monthly newsletter published by the Spokane County Medical Society under the department of SCMS. The annual subscription rate is $21.74 (this includes the 8.7% tax rate).

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“Until he extends his circle of compassion to include all living things, man will not himself find peace.”
~DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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President’s Message: Spokane County Medical Society Committees

Summer is over and the weather is getting cooler. But the temperature of the healthcare dilemma is ratcheting up as interests are threatened and political forces come to bear on the situation. As reform is considered, the problems with the system are spotlighted and many are left with the impression that the whole system is broken. While this important national debate goes on, members of our Society continue to do their best, taking care of patients. After completing that more than full-time job, many of the members of the Society provide more service by participating on working committees that provide significant action in relevant and tangible ways. Nearly all of you have been involved in meaningless committee work and endless meetings with no apparent purpose. I assure you these committees perform difficult yet rewarding work that benefits the members and their patients in very real ways. This month I will present some of the work done by these colleagues.

A good committee has involved members with knowledge and expertise. It also has a Chairperson that has a particular commitment to make the group function well. The Chair must be prepared so the meetings are effective and don’t get distracted, and have a particular dedication to move the work of the committee forward. I praise the efforts of the committee members, but in this article will single out the efforts of the Chairs.

The Spokane County Medical Society has the following Standing Committees:
- CME
- Credentials
- Grievance
- Electronic Medical Library
- Medical Informatics
- Peer Review

There are also some task forces:
- Medical Aspects of Sports Committee
- Senior Physicians Task Force
- Spokane Medical Aid Response Team

The members of the Committees are listed on our website at http://www.spcmcs.org/NEW/memberscommittees.html and I encourage you to review it.

The Grievance Committee is probably the most effective Tort prevention tool in the County. Herschel Zellman and his committee receive complaints from patients and families about care they have received and then proceed with a thorough investigation of the complaint. This involves interviews with the complainants, the providers, and sometimes obtaining opinions from experts within the field of the disagreement. The work is time consuming and difficult in that people are angry and sometimes irascible. The committee is not timid, but proceeds with the investigation in an unbiased way. Often the process helps all involved see the perspective of others and usually diffuses the situation. Rarely the case is referred on to the Peer Review committee. Usually the efforts of the Grievance Committee satisfy the parties. This committee has two laypersons on it.

The Peer Review Committee gets the real hard work. Mike Metcalf has been chairing this committee for four years. He tries to “head off” many of these situations before the committee is forced to act. The group has the mission of maintaining the integrity of the profession and ensuring that members receive due process. Much like the Grievance Committee this requires a lot of investigative work and deliberation. Fortunately, formal action is rarely required and the process helps the member into some introspection that will facilitate change.

Lay people often have the impression that we doctors cover for each other to the detriment of the public’s safety. That may have been true in the past, but those two committees will not hesitate to recommend action when indicated and do not cover things up.

Mary Nobel and her CME Committee have suffered from their success. They have put together many programs that have educated the membership and made money for the Society that has kept dues down. Unless you have been involved in CME accreditation I think you would be surprised by how much work it takes to organize these programs. But “the times they are a-changin” (see The Message May 09). The CME Committee’s work has been beyond reproach and has followed every rule to ensure that the conduct and content of their programs...
are not influenced by the companies that donate. This committee’s role will change as the Society phases out the industry contributions and narrows the focus of our CME efforts.

The Credentials Committee functions so well that we rarely hear from it. The coordination between the four hospitals that this committee facilitates is a great service to the new and established physicians in this community.

The Electronic Medical Library and Medical Informatics Committees perform the very practical work of improving the sharing and accessibility of medical and patient information among physicians in Spokane. Don Cubberley has overseen the Electronic Medical Library move from a generous grant by an anonymous donor to the physicians of Spokane, to a fully functional portal to many important reference sources. It was organized by the Society and your access is through your Hospital Staff membership. Call George McAlister (our Cybrarian) to get signed up. Be warned, just like eBay and Facebook, you can while away many hours browsing through the offerings. The Informatics Committee has been an integral part of the unique information-sharing environment in Spokane. You certainly know that we are national leaders in this regard. These committees will continue to make sure we are in the forefront.

Finally, Project Access deserves mention. Project Access has been a successful program that has brought physicians and hospitals willing to donate their services along with money for pharmaceuticals, together with patients that do not have insurance but don’t qualify for Medicare/Medicaid. (More information regarding Project Access can be found at http://www.spcms.org/projectaccess/index.htm.) The program has struggled with limited resources and has had a difficult time prioritizing the patients for visits to specialists. Val Logsdon is a retired Ob/Gyn specialist from the University of Utah that moved to Spokane and has volunteered to be the Medical Director of Project Access. She has been working with the Therapeutics Committee to develop some guidelines that will aid the program to provide more appropriate referrals and help the more serious cases be seen first. Many specialties have waiting lists within Project Access (even insured patients have difficulty getting appointments with these specialties) and therefore those appointments should be filled by the patients who can benefit the most. This work is difficult and sometimes not appreciated by the patients and referring providers. But in the end it will result in more appropriate use of a limited resource and hopefully, community recognition of the role we physicians play in keeping our community healthy.

Despite all the talk about the failings of the healthcare system, many of our members go beyond their own practices and volunteer their time and efforts to help the profession and our patients. Their only compensation is the satisfaction inherent in service and the appreciation of their colleagues. Please thank the committee chairs and members for their efforts.

You should all plan to take some time in your career to help in this effort. It may not be feasible now, but you should make some time in the future to follow the examples of those colleagues and offer to serve your profession.

By Jon Courtney Clyde, MD, President

We hope you enjoy the updated format of The Message. We worked closely with Quisenberry Marketing & Design, and made the changes at no additional cost! If you have any suggestions or comments about the newsletter, please send them to Michelle Caird at michelle@spcms.org.
Volunteerism & Support for Project Access

We are frequently asked questions about how Project Access "supports itself." In other words – people want to know where we get our money from to help low income uninsured patients receive medical care. The strength of Project Access is not the money. Rather it is the volunteerism of physicians, allied healthcare providers, and our community hospitals that allows thousand of uninsured patients to receive medical care they otherwise may not obtain. So, here is how we respond to those questions.

On an annual basis, well over $4,000,000 in direct medical care is provided to uninsured patients at no charge. This "in-kind" donation of medical services happens because of the willingness of hundreds of physicians to donate their personal time and expertise. Physicians also donate the complete set of resources needed to care for patients. This includes the entire staff – nurses, schedulers, medical records and billing folks in their practice's employment. The in-kind donation includes not only staff, but also the overhead of office space, medical supplies and medical records type functions. Physicians do not get any payment, nor can they deduct this type of contribution from any federal, state or local taxes. As a result of this massive amount of in-kind donation of medical care, Project Access can return $8.60 in direct medical care for every dollar donated to the program. Volunteerism is clearly our greatest resource.

So where do we get that $1.00 in cash to operate the program? Roughly one-third of our annual operating budget is provided by the healthcare industry. In this category, Providence Healthcare, Sacred Heart Medical Center and Holy Family have been donors since we began in 2003. Empire Health Services traditionally has donated, but has been unable to do so recently due to financial issues. Now there is a new owner, Community Health Systems. We are trying to get them "back to the table." Additionally, Project Access receives funds from the medical insurance companies in Washington State. Premera Blue Cross, the Community Health Plan of Washington, Molina, Group Health, and Asuris all participate. The Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, a federally qualified health center operating in Spokane through the Spokane Falls Family Clinic, has supported our operation from day one.

Another third comes from public funding sources. In this category, the Cities of Airway Heights, Cheney, Deer Park, Liberty Lake, Millwood, Spokane Valley and Spokane contribute to the program, primarily to help fund the $1,000 pharmacy benefit each patient is given. Spokane County also has contributed since we began. Due to budget issues at the local government level, some of this support has gone down this current year. We have received State and Federal support over the years with the help of Washington State Senator Lisa Brown, U.S. Representative Cathy McMorris-Rodgers and U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell. In the last year, we have received federal grants totaling over $225,000 due to the direct efforts of Congresswoman McMorris-Rogers and Senator Murray.

The remaining third includes corporate donations, foundations and direct philanthropy by caring individuals and organizations. Contributors include LeMaster & Daniels, Sterling Savings Bank, Washington Trust Bank and Mike and Muffy Murphy. This year, we received a new grant from The Inland Northwest Community Foundation. We also receive support for our annual Physician Recognition Dinner with contributions from Physicians Insurance and various other healthcare businesses such as Johnson & Johnson. Space does not allow listing everyone. A complete list is published in our annual report.

We also receive in-kind donations of "administrative services" and discounts from vendors. The SPHCO donates all of our medical claims processing and provides the Pharmacy Benefit Management system used to fill and pay for prescriptions. Companies such as Norco donate medical equipment. Cycrest, our computer support company, donates a portion of their fees through a discount arrangement. Devries Records Management Company provides document-shredding services. Again, there are others, so please see our complete list in the annual report.

The bottom line is that without the volunteer physicians and all of our other providers, no amount of money would allow Project Access to provide medical care to the uninsured in our community. Please accept our thanks on behalf of all the patients you help each year. And please thank all of the other program donors as you get the chance. It really is a broad community effort. Know that the community is behind you when you are caring for the uninsured people in our County.

By John Driscoll,
Executive Director
Meetings & Events

CATEGORY I CME SEMINARS

Moderate (Conscious) Sedation and Analgesia: 3.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit, sponsored by the Spokane County Medical Society. Conference held on October 6, 2009 at the Deaconess Health and Education Center. Contact Jennifer Anderson at (509) 325-5010 or email jennifer@spcms.org for more information.

Infectious Disease Update 2009: 3.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit, sponsored by the Spokane County Medical Society. Conference held on November 3, 2009 at Deaconess Health and Education Center. Contact Jennifer Anderson at (509) 325-5010 or email jennifer@spcms.org for more information.

Rheumatology Update 2009: 3.0 Hour(s) of Category I CME credit, sponsored by the Spokane County Medical Society. Conference held on December 9, 2009 at Deaconess Health and Education Center. Contact Jennifer Anderson at (509) 325-5010 or email jennifer@spcms.org for more information.

OTHER CATEGORY I CME SEMINARS

The Columbia Basin Primary Update conference will be held on November 12 and 13 in Moses Lake at Big Bend Community College. 14 AMA Category 1 credits will be issued. For more information contact Melissa Russo at russocme@gmail.com or call 509-431-0718.


Movement Disorders Review Course: 6.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits Sponosred by the University of Alabama. For more information contact Karen Fields at 205-9342818 or karenfields@uab.edu.

OTHER MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

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 by Drs. Bob and Carol Sexton. The contact phone number is (509) 624-7320.

Spokane Society of Internal Medicine’s 61st Annual Meeting: “Update in Internal Medicine,” a review of important advances that have been made in clinical management of common disorders seen by internists, primary care practitioners and hospitalists. Spokane Convention Center, February 26 & 27, 2010. Brochures will be mailed in November. For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please email spokanesim@gmail.com.

World Affairs Council Ambassador Speaker Series – Ambassador Philip Wilcox, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. at Gonzaga Law School, Room 143. For more information contact Jeff Aultman at 208-664-6338 or Jeffrey.aultman@painehamster.com.
Stay up-to-date about 2009 H1N1 flu with the AMA
The 2009 H1N1 influenza has caused more than 8,800 hospitalizations and 556 deaths nationwide as of Aug. 27. It’s more important than ever to be informed about the latest developments regarding the 2009 H1N1 flu, and the AMA is your source for timely, concise and up-to-date clinical guidance, treatment information, resources and news. The AMA Web site is updated as news breaks, so bookmark it and check back often.

Also, sign up for e-mail updates, news and educational opportunities from the AMA about the 2009 H1N1 flu and other national health topics.

CMS issues new ICD-10 fact sheet

The CMS fact sheet says ICD-10-CM/PCS will improve the ability to measure health care services; increase sensitivity when refining grouping and reimbursement methodologies; enhance the ability to conduct public health surveillance; and decrease the need to include supporting documentation with claims.


AMA discusses FDA opioids initiative with DEA officials
Recently the AMA’s advocacy staff met with officials at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to share the AMA’s views on the recent Food and Drug Administration (FDA) initiative to develop a risk mitigation strategy for certain opioid drugs.

In a joint comment letter to the FDA on June 30, the AMA and 15 other medical societies advocated that positive incentives be used to encourage more physicians to take continuing medical education courses in pain management and related topics. One of the positive incentives recommended was that the DEA registration fee be reduced or waived for physicians completing such courses.

It became clear during the meeting that, although FDA and DEA officials are speaking with one another about these issues, it is virtually impossible for the FDA’s risk mitigation strategy on opioids and the DEA’s registration process for physicians who prescribe controlled substances to be linked in any way because of the statutory authorities governing each agency. The AMA will continue its advocacy efforts with both agencies to try and improve the regulatory environment for physicians who prescribe and patients who are treated with opioids and other controlled substances.

Ethics in Brief: A physician’s role following a breach of electronic health information
While electronic medical records (EMRs) have the potential to greatly improve clinical care and health-related research, they place sensitive personal information—such as a patient’s health history or social security number—at risk of being breached. Patients may face physical, emotional and dignitary harms as a result of a breach of this information.

Federal law now requires that patients be notified in the event of a breach of their electronic health information. This Health Breach Notification Rule, 16 CFR Part 318, was published in the Aug. 25 Federal Register.

The rule, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and its Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, mandates that a health care provider notify data subjects when the provider knows or has reason to believe an individual’s information has been inappropriately disclosed. The law provides guidance on what is considered a “breach,” outlines appropriate methods of notification and specifies the content that must be included in the notice.

The AMA recognizes that physicians have an ethical obligation to ensure that patients are promptly notified about a breach of their EMRs, though this obligation may vary based on the physician’s role within an organization. In June during the 2009 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates, the AMA adopted Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Report 3, which provides guidance on a physician’s ethical obligations in such an event. This guidance will become part of the AMA’s Code of Medical Ethics in November.
Medical Education in Spokane Update: Teaching Questionnaire

UW School of Medicine Assistant Dean for Regional Affairs & WWAMI Clinical Coordinator for Eastern & Central Washington

Why do some physicians teach medical and PA students while others don’t? I don’t know either.

Let’s find out!

Several physicians (well, really mostly Matt Hollon) have put together a questionnaire regarding clinical teaching. We want to know why docs love teaching and why docs hate teaching. We want to know about physicians who would like to teach, but need some training or support. We know we can provide that support if only we knew what physicians wanted and needed. (You can’t always get what you want, but if you need…)

The needs assessment questionnaire will be online and will take 5 – 10 minutes of your time. You will receive information on how to access it by mid-October.

AND for this short time investment, you will be placed in a raffle. The winner will receive a KINdle 2 from the Spokane County Medical Society. If you already have a Kindle 2 you will receive a gift certificate of the same value for Kindle books.

Remember that Hippocratic Oath? It included a promise to teach medical students. Now you can help Spokane physicians keep that promise.

By Deborah Harper, MD
UW School of Medicine Assistant Dean for Regional Affairs & WWAMI Clinical Coordinator for Eastern & Central Washington

Special thanks to our participating advertisers.
Making your practice a patient-centered, medical home

As a national health system, we have a fundamental flaw in the way we pay for health care. In today’s structure, doctors are reimbursed for performing procedures rather than securing good health outcomes. We throw money at Relative Value Units, even when the care results in medical errors or patients falling through the cracks. The approach isn’t sustainable—for our patients’ health or for the economy.

Instead, as a nation, we must begin paying for value rather than volume. One model delivering on its promise of value is the Medical Home. A medical home provides primary care that is personalized to the individual and focused on prevention. The physician actively involves patients in making decisions about their care, and coordinates all their care to get their health needs met. Practice is evidence-based, and standardized to a certain extent.

Some of the first hard evidence about the Medical Home was just published by the American Journal of Managed Care in September. The study was about Group Health’s pilot at Factoria Medical Center. At one year, for a population of 9,200 patients, we documented fewer emergency room visits and hospitalizations and a higher patient-satisfaction rating. Patients reported that they received better health care through medical home, and the doctors reported a 60 percent lower burnout rate.

Furthermore, we find greater job satisfaction among our physicians who provide specialty care within this new model. No longer having to provide both primary and specialty care, focusing on just the patients who really need them has been a real breath of fresh air! Specialty physicians who do not practice within Group Health, but who are aware of this model, worry that seeing fewer patients would mean less revenue, but this has not been the case—especially in areas like Spokane where specialists are very busy.

Group Health is now redesigning primary care in all of our facilities, using the medical home model.

We also want to support physicians in Spokane County as they move toward a patient-centered, medical home model in their practice. We can offer you tools that can boost your scores if you are seeking that recognition from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).
The systems and tools we can offer include our:

1. **Shared decisionmaking tools**: Many of these are available on our website to support you in evidence-based care management and patient self-management.

2. **Care managers**: who can help you with our members' care plans and patient self-management.

3. **Patient care exception report**: This will support your practice's patient tracking and registry functions. It can also assist with care management and performance reporting and improvement.

4. **Online health risk appraisal program**: The program supports patient self-management and NCQA's requirement that medical practices use advanced electronic communications.

5. **Birthday card planned-care reminder program**: We send a letter annually to Group Health members with reminders of tests and screenings they should get. This system can support your practice's patient tracking and registries. We can also generate reminders for clinical staff about preventive services and patients' self-management.

6. **Group Health clinical guidelines**: These guidelines can help you meet NCQA's requirement to adopt and deliver care that is evidence-based for three conditions.

7. **Free and Clear program for smoking cessation**: This program supports care management and is an example of using non-physician staff to manage patient care. It actively supports self-management, and can also be used to improve providers' performance.

8. **Emergency Room and Pharmacy utilization reports**: This data supports patient tracking and registry functions, including NCQA's requirement for a searchable clinical data system. Reports on pharmacy utilization may also be used to document physician performance-improvement efforts.

9. **Primary care dashboard and patient experience survey**: Data from these studies can be used to monitor and improve physician performance. Please contact me at 509-241-7370 to learn more about these tools. Group Health supports you in your commitment to provide a patient-centered medical home.

**Brad Pope, MD**, is medical director for Group Health Cooperative's Eastern Washington/North Idaho District, based in Spokane. Dr. Pope started as a family physician with Group Health in Spokane in 1983. He still practices part-time as an urgent care provider each week.

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### PPC-PCMH Content and Scoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard 1: Access and Communication</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Has written standards for patient access and patient communication**</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Uses data to show it meets its standards for patient access and communication**</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<th>Standard 2: Patient Tracking and Registry Functions</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Uses data system for basic patient information (mostly non-clinical data)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Has clinical data system with clinical data in searchable data fields</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Uses the clinical data system</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Uses paper or electronic-based charting tools to organize clinical information**</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Uses data to identify important diagnoses and conditions in practice**</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Generates lists of patients and reminds patients and clinicians of services needed (population management)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<th>Standard 3: Care Management</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Adopts and implements evidence-based guidelines for three conditions **</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Generates reminders about preventive services for clinicians</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>C. Uses non-physician staff to manage patient care</td>
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<td>D. Conduct care management, including care plans, assessing progress, addressing barriers</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Coordinates care/follow-up for patients who receive care in inpatient and outpatient facilities</td>
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<th>Standard 4: Patient-Self Management Support</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Assesses language preference and other communication barriers</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Actively supports patient self-management**</td>
<td>4</td>
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<th>Standard 5: Electronic Prescribing</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Uses electronic system to write prescriptions</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Has electronic prescription writer with safety checks</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Has electronic prescription writer with cost checks</td>
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<th>Standard 6: Test Tracking</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Tracks tests and identifies abnormal results systematically**</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Uses electronic systems to order and retrieve tests and flag duplicate tests</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<th>Standard 7: Referral Tracking</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Tracks referrals using paper-based or electronic system**</td>
<td>4</td>
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<th>Standard 8: Performance Reporting and Improvement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Measures clinical and/or service performance by physician or across the practice**</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Reports performance across the practice or by physician</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Sets goals and takes action to improve performance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Produces reports using standardized measures electronically to external entities</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Transmits reports with standardized measures electronically to external entities</td>
<td>15</td>
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<th>Standard 9: Advanced Electronic Communications</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Availability of Interactive Website</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>B. Electronic Patient Identification</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Electronic Care Management Support</td>
<td>1</td>
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**Must Pass Elements**

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**NCQA**

**Physician Practice Connections—Patient-Centered Medical Home**

October SCMS Message • 10
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

Dietrich, Sharon A., MD
*Family Medicine*
Practicing with Spokane Falls Family Clinic beginning 11/2009

Dinescu, Cristian L., MD
*Internal Medicine*
Med School: Carol Davila Institute of Medicine, Romania (1989)
Internship/Residency: Huron Hospital (1999)
Practicing with Rockwood Main Clinic, PS beginning 1/2010

Haight, Michael A., MD, MHA
*Pediatrics/Pediatric Gastroenterology*
Med School: Loyola U of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine (1983)
Fellowship: Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles (1988)
Practicing with Pediatric Gastroenterology beginning 11/2009

Rawner, Esther, MD
*Neurology*
Internship: Tulane U (2005)
Residency: Yale School of Medicine (2008)
Fellowship: U of Washington (2009)
Practicing with Rockwood Clinic Main Clinic, PS since 9/2009

Weeks, Kevin A., DO
*Internal Medicine/Medical Oncology/Hematology*
Med School: College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (1990)
Internship/Residency: William Beaumont Army Medical Center (1994)
Fellowship: Brooke Army Medical Center (1997)
Practicing with Cancer Care Northwest beginning 11/2009

NEW PHYSICIANS PRESENTED A SECOND TIME

Bala, III, Juan F., MD
*Family Medicine*
Practicing with Inland Family Medicine since 8/2009

Gardner, Freda E., MD
*Internal Medicine*
Med School: Baylor College of Medicine (1976)
Practicing with CHS Hospitalist Services (Deaconess & Valley) beginning 11/2009

Logani, Sanjay, MD
*Pathology*
Med School: Maulana Azad Medical College (1992)
Practicing with InCyte Pathology, PS beginning 9/2009

Reed, Katherine B., MD
*Dermatology*
Practicing with Dermatology Specialists of Spokane beginning 9/2009

NEW PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Rieman, Christopher G., PA-C
Practicing with Spokane Critical Care beginning 10/2009

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Spokane County Medical Society's
General Membership Meeting

October 22 – Thursday

Red Lion Hotel – River Inn
700 North Division Street
Spokane, WA

5:30 p.m. No Host Bar
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:30 p.m. meeting commences

Speaker

Harry J. Shriver, MD
Group Health Family Practice Physician
The “medical home” model and its emphasis on patient-centered care.

Watch your mailbox, in box and fax for further information and registration forms.
Proposed By-Laws Change

The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the following change to Spokane County Medical Society by-laws at the September 09, 2009 meeting. The by-laws change was subsequently reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees at the September 23, 2009 meeting. This is the first reading of the by-laws change; the second reading will occur at the next General Membership Meeting. (Underlining signifies new language and strikethrough signifies language to be deleted.)

SECTION EIGHT

8.1 State Disciplinary Action
Whenever the State of Washington (Medical Quality Assurance Commission or the Washington State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery) places a member’s license to practice medicine on probationary status, the Spokane County Medical Society will abide by the State’s ruling but reserves the right to follow the disciplinary process outlined in this Section 8.

8.2 Spokane County Medical Society Disciplinary Action

(A) A member is subject to censure, monitored membership (by SCMS Peer Review Committee), suspension or expulsion and is entitled to a hearing as described in Section 8.4 (Disciplinary Hearing Procedures) after the matter has been investigated and reviewed as provided in Section 8 whenever the conduct of said member is believed to be in violation of:

1. the Washington State Medical Association Principles of Medical Ethics,
2. any provision of the Uniform Disciplinary Act (RCW 18.130.180),
3. misrepresentation of any material fact in a member’s application for membership in the Society, or
4. failure to cooperate during an investigation of matters related to professional conduct.

Members who receive a letter of censure or who are being monitored are required to pay dues.

(b) Whenever a member commits any of the following acts, the member may be subject to monitored membership, suspension or expulsion from the Society, as determined by the Board of Trustees, and will not be entitled to the hearing described in Section 8.3, but may request and may be granted a meeting with the SCMS Peer Review Committee to review/explain charges:

- Loss of a member’s license to practice medicine in this state, or any other state, without a stay of such action by a final order of a governmental licensing body.
- Conviction of a felony in this state, or any other state, without a timely appeal of such conviction.
- Finding by MQAC that a member violated any provision of RCW 18.130.180. Violation of any provision of RCW 18.130.180 as determined by MQAC or the Washington State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.
- Members who are suspended or expelled will receive a pro-rata dues refund.

Membership Recognition
For October 2009

Thank you to the members listed below. Their contribution of time and talent has helped to make the Spokane County Medical Society the strong organization it is today.

60 YEARS
Elizabeth Welty, MD 10/13/1949

50 YEARS
Richard E. Ahlquist, Jr., MD 10/8/1959
Ian Napier, MD 10/8/1959

40 YEARS
Alan B. Mackay, MD 10/28/1969
Francis L. Van Veen, MD 10/28/1969

30 YEARS
Floyd M. McCaffree, MD 10/23/1979

10 YEARS
Kurt P. Fine, MD 10/1/1999
Mary L. Gilbert, MD 10/1/1999
Bradley C. Lind, MD 10/1/1999
Michael J. Fay, PA-C 10/6/1999
Jeremy C. Lewis, DO 10/6/1999
Kirsten B. Robinson, MD 10/6/1999
Louis Koncz, Jr., PA-C 10/7/1999
Lynn A. Kohlmeier, MD 10/18/1999

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.
Positions Available

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIANS - As a medical professional, there has never been a better time in the history of America to step up to the plate and show your American pride. Come be a part of a team that cares for our soldiers and their families! TeamStaff Government Solutions has an immediate need for Full-Time Family Practice Physicians at Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo, TX & Fairchild AFB in Spokane, WA Outpatient Clinics. Monday through Friday, NO EVENINGS, NO WEEKENDS (some on call required). Mal-practice Insurance covered under government Gonzales Act. If you or someone you know is seeking a fantastic opportunity to care for those who serve our country, please contact Ella Giles, Sr. Recruiter for more information at (866) 952-1649.

URGENT CARE POSITION – Deaconess Medical Center and Valley Hospital and Medical Center have four Urgent Care locations in Spokane, WA. We are seeking a Board Certified physician with comparable Urgent Care experience for a full-time position. Excellent salary and benefits package with flexible work schedule - 12-hour shifts and no call. Please contact Evelyn Torkelson at torkele@empirehealth.org or (509) 473-7374.

IM AMBULIST… This is an excellent opportunity for a BC/BE Internist to join a collegial and respected team of eleven internists and three non-physician providers. You can be assured that the Rockwood hospitalist team will provide superb care for your hospital patients. Rockwood Clinic, a physician owned/directed multispecialty group serving the Inland Northwest since 1930, offers a professional practice environment, substantial on-site Imaging and Laboratory services, established EMR, involvement in research projects and teaching, and an attractive Benefit/Comp Package leading to early shareholder status. For details Contact: Colleen Mooney, Physician Recruiter, Phone: 509-838-2531 Email: practice@rockwoodclinic.com Visit: www.rockwoodclinic.com

HOSPITALIST POSITION AVAILABLE IN BEAUTIFUL COEUR D’ALENE. Join Hospital Specialists at our Kootenai Medical Center site and be part of a thriving medical community. Hospital Specialists is a local, physician owned medical group focusing on quality medical care in a physician friendly environment. See our web site at www.HospitalSpecialists.com for contact information and to learn more.

Premera Blue Cross is currently recruiting for a Medical Director in the Spokane office. Serving as a member of the eastern Washington management team this position is responsible for leading the Medical Services activities for the region. This position reports to the Vice President Medical Services and Medical Director for Quality.

This position leads medical services activities supporting collaborative relationships with the provider community while achieving the initiatives and business goals of the company. The incumbent implements all medical decision-making policies and reviews criteria while ensuring consistency of application for effective utilization management. To learn more Contact: Kristen Hill, Manager, Workforce Planning via email Kristen.hill@premera.com or by phone at 425-918-4928 or visit our website www.premera.com/careers

Find your Passion Here - Family Medicine Opportunities – Group Health Permanente is currently seeking BC/BE Family Medicine or Internal Medicine Physician to join our team. Group Health is dedicated to providing comprehensive, innovative and patient-centered care to communities surrounding Washington. This commitment to quality has led to high patient satisfaction scores; in fact, we were recently ranked in the top four nationally for patient satisfaction. Generous benefits package includes:

- Full Malpractice Indemnification (including tail coverage)
- Medical/Dental/Vision Coverage
- 401(k) & Pension
- Long-Term Disability & Long-Term Care
- CME Benefit/Professional Society Dues and license reimbursement
- Life Insurance
- Partially Funded Sabbaticals

For more information or to submit your CV, please contact Cayley Crotty at 206-448-6519 or crotty.c@ghp.org
2009 Continuing Medical Education Program Schedule

Moderate (Conscious) Sedation and Analgesia
Tuesday, October 6
Deaconess Health and Education Center
5:30 – 9:15 pm
(SCMS’ annual program to satisfy JCHHO requirements and provide a refresher course to members of the medical community in order to increase patient safety.)

Infectious Disease
Tuesday, November 3
Deaconess Health and Education Center
5:30 – 9:15 pm
(Three one-hour topics will be presented.)

Rheumatology
Wednesday, December 9
Deaconess Health and Education Center
5:30 – 9:15 pm
(Three one-hour topics will be presented.)

ROCKWOOD BREAST HEALTH CENTER

Rockwood is proud to offer the most comprehensive breast health services in the community. These services include:

- Screening and diagnostic mammography
- Ultrasound guided biopsy
- Stereotactic biopsy
- MRI biopsy procedures

Bone density determination for osteoporosis is also available.

At the Breast Health Center, you'll find all the specialists you need in one convenient location. Our team of breast imaging experts and breast surgeons work closely together, using the very latest methods for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer and other breast disorders.

Call (509) 755-6566 to schedule your mammogram today!

VALLEY LOCATION
12410 E. Sinto Ave., Suite 105

DOWNTOWN LOCATION
910 W. 5th Ave., Suite 700

BREAST SURGEONS
Deborah Martinez, M.D.
Heidi Richardson, M.D.
Renu Sinha, M.D.

RADIOLOGISTS
Jeffrey Ager, M.D.
Kyle Colvin, M.D.
William Dubiel, M.D.
Robert Farner, M.D.
Daniel Fullmer, M.D.
Tom Richardson, M.D.
Medical Office for Build or Lease

**MEDICAL OFFICE FOR BUILD OR LEASE**

Discover Providence Holy Family Hospital’s newly constructed 60,000 SF Central Medical Office Building, the only on-campus, Class A MOB in the fast-growing community of North Spokane. Strategically located above the hospital’s newly renovated/expanded ambulatory care center, Central Medical Office Building allows patients to receive comprehensive care in one convenient location. With ample surface parking and a direct connection to inpatient and outpatient services, Central MOB is the ideal place to expand your practice. Generous tenant improvement allowance and competitive lease rates available. Call 509-489-0171 to inquire about limited time leasing specials.

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 Carolyn at Spokane Cardiology (509) 455-8820.

Park-like Office Space surrounded by views, trees and flowing 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 (509) 230-2353 for information.

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

**Spokane Eye Surgery Center** 5,600 sq. ft. Ambulatory Surgery Center will become available for occupancy via sale or lease in August-September 2009. Our facility has three operating rooms, two built-in prevac steam sterilizers, six pre/post-op patient bays, waiting room and administrative areas. Complies with ASC licensure requirements. Please contact Dan Simonson (509) 456-8150 for more information.

Medical Office Building at 6002 N. Mayfair (the "Logan" building) is available for lease. Up to 14,000 sq. ft. Sign a five-year lease and the first year is rent-free. Call Metcalf Financial Services (509) 232-5414 for more information.

Northpointe Medical Center Located on the North side of Spokane, the Northpointe Medical Center offers modern, accessible space in the heart of a complete medical community. If you are interested in locating your business here, please contact Tim Craig at 509-688-6708.

Basic info: $23 sq/ft annually. Full service lease. Starting lease length 5 years which includes an $8 sq/ft tenant improvement allowance. Available space: * Suite 210 - 2286 sq/ft *Suite 209 - 1650 sq/ft *Suite 205 - 1560 sq/ft *Suite 302 - 2190 sq/ft

**For Lease** 3700 sq ft of second floor space in a new 18,900 sq ft building available December 2009. It is located just a few blocks from the Valley Hospital at 1424 N. McDonald (just South of Mission). First floor tenant is Spokane Valley Ear Nose Throat & Facial Plastics. $24 NNN. Please call Geoff Julian for details 939-1486 or email giulian@spokanevalleyent.com.

**Indian Trail Professional Building** has medical space available for lease. A 11,243 sf professional medical / office building located in the growing Indian Trail Community directly across from the new Sundance Shopping Center. Address is 5011 W. Lowell Ave or the SWC of Indian Trail and Lowell Avenue, Spokane, WA. The main floor space located off of the main floor entrance consists of 4,389 sf of Class "A" General Medical Practice or Urgent Care Center space. There is also another 1566 sf of built out for a Physical Therapy office. Tenant Improvement Allowance Available. Floorplans and marketing materials can be emailed upon request. Please contact Patrick O’Rourke, CCIM with O’Rourke Realty, Inc. at (509) 624-6522 or cell (509) 999-2720. Email: psrouke@comcast.net.

North Spokane Professional Building has up to 6,307 sf of contiguous medical space available for lease. A 60,000 sf professional medical office building located at N. 5901 Lidgerwood or the NWC of Lidgerwood and Central Avenue. The Building is directly north and adjacent to Holy Family Hospital. The building has various spaces available for lease; 635, 690, 1031, 1222, 1518, 1527, 1533, 1839 usable square feet available. The building has undergone extensive remodeling, including two new elevators, lighted pylon sign, refurbished lobbies, corridors, and stairways. Other tenants in the building include, pediatricians, dermatology, dentistry, pathology, pharmacy and multiple sclerosis. Floorplans and marketing materials can be emailed upon request. Tenant Improvement Allowance Available. Please contact Patrick O’Rourke, CCIM, with O’Rourke Realty, Inc. at (509) 624-6522 or cell (509) 999-2720. Email: psrouke@comcast.net.
Dear Senior Physicians, Spouses and Honored Guests:

Come and welcome the fall season while enjoying good food, renewing old friendships and greeting colleagues you may not have seen in a while! Anyone wishing to invite the widow or widower of a physician is encouraged to do so.

The evening also includes election of the officers for 2010.

G. Thomas Miller, MD
2009 Chairman

Thursday ~ October 22
Manito Golf and Country Club
5303 South Hatch Road
Spokane, WA

No-host cocktails 5:00 p.m.
Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Manito Dinner Buffet ~ to include
Salads, Potatoes, Vegetables,
Turkey, Roast Beef and Coffee & Tea.

Dessert ~ Chocolate Sundae

Name

Spouse

Guest

$35 per person
Includes tax and GRATUITY

Credit Card Information
Visa
MasterCard

Expiry Date
Phone #

Card Holder’s Billing Address

City
State
Zip Code

Make checks payable to SCMS

TOTAL $___________

R.S.V.P.
by Monday
October 19

No refunds after this date!
REAL ESTATE


Liberty Lake Waterfront for Rent. West side, spectacular views. Furnished, fully equipped kitchen. Charming, with wood floors, French doors, gas fireplace and 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 sq. ft., 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.

Luxury Condos for Rent/Purchase near Hospitals. 2 Bedroom Luxury Condos at the City View Terrace Condominiums are available for rent or purchase. These beautiful condos are literally within walking distance to the Spokane Hospitals (1/4 mile from Sacred Heart, 1 mile from Deaconess). Security gate, covered carports, very secure and quiet. Newly Remodeled. Full appliances, including full-sized washer and dryer. Wired for cable and phone. For Rent $ 850/month. For Sale: Seller Financing Available.

Rent-to-Own Option Available: $400 of your monthly rent will credit towards your purchase price. Please Contact Dr. Taff (888) 930-3686 or dmist@inreach.com.

Home for Sale - A River Runs Through It 1.8 acres on the privately owned, but EPA protected Little Spokane River -public access not allowed - homes must be on no less than 5 acres (grandfathered in). 20-25 min to downtown. Large pump irrigated lawns (water rights), wooded trails, swimming hole w/sandy beach. 3200 sq ft of living space; 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, den/activities room, multilevel decks & patios, attached 2-car garage, detached 2-vehicle carport, 24’ x 20’ 2-story barn, mature landscaping, new septic system, public utilities. Mead school district, ¼ mile from Midway Elementary, school bus comes to home. Surrounded by woods but very close to all amenities. Located at 17122 Little Spokane Dr. between Colbert, Rd and Midway Rd. Owner financing a consideration. Would consider renting until it sells or rent to own. Call (509) 467-1347 or (509) 625-7099 if interested. For more information and a photo tour go to http://colbertriverhome.com

Never Shovel Snow or Cut Grass Again!!! A beautiful newer home in Quail Ridge, a small, gated community near Manito Golf Club on Spokane’s South Hill. Architect designed for casual elegance and ease of living. Brick, tile, glass and an open floor plan. Perfect for those who don’t want the responsibilities of a big home, while keeping all the comforts and amenities. By Owner. $796,000 Call for more information. (509) 443-1183 or (509) 981-8137 Discover Providence Holy Family Hospital’s newly constructed 60,000 SF Central Medical Office Building, the only on-campus, Class A MOB in the fast-growing community of North Spokane. Strategically located above the hospital’s newly renovated/expanded ambulatory care center, Central Medical Office Building allows patients to receive comprehensive care in one convenient location. With ample surface parking and a direct connection to inpatient and outpatient services, Central MOB is the ideal place to expand your practice. Generous tenant improvement allowance and competitive lease rates available. Call 509-489-0171 to inquire about limited time leasing specials.
Needed: North Pines Family Medicine is looking to purchase a used exam table, with stirrups. Please call (509) 926-1531 and ask for Denise.

For Sale: Office furnishings ~ 11 waiting room chairs, 2 consultation armchairs, large oak desk with return and credenza/bookshelf, 3 exam tables. Business office furniture and more. For details contact Alex Verhoogen, MD. (509) 456-8550

Ski, Tube or Snowmobile at Silver Mountain or Lookout Pass: Stay at STARS AND STRIPES, a beautiful vacation home, with hot tub, in Kellogg, Idaho. Sleeps 8-10, fully furnished with 2 bathrooms. For rent by day or week. Call Peggy Doering at (509) 230-6829.

Priest Lake Waterfront Cabin for Rent—Beautiful 2 story cedar cabin “The Water’s Edge” on the East Shore—Sleeps 8-10. Spectacular lake and mountain views. See it at www.getlostatpriestlake.com or call 1-(208)-443-2100 or 1-(208)-877-LAKE.

Rolla Desks For Sale: Designed for Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Inventory Control, Patient Charting, Conference Rooms, and Warehouse Applications that need a sturdy rolling pedestal for a laptop computer. Rolla Desks retail for $459.95. These are only two years old. We would like to sell them for $350 each or best offer. Please contact Terri at (509) 744-3750 at extension 294 if you are interested.
PLEASE JOIN US
For a magical, memorable evening.
OCTOBER 24, 2009, 5:30 pm
SPOKANE CONVENTION CENTER
www.thepumpkinball.org
Benefiting:
Vanessa Behan crisis nursery
Sacred Heart Children's Hospital

Who Should make Health Care Decisions?

Lately, you’ve heard plenty of talk about end of life issues and planning. As you know, your patients don’t have to wait until someone else makes those decisions for them. Advanced Directives leave a clear and concise road map of what kind of care they want. Free, downloadable forms are available at our web site. HorizonHospice.com. This free advanced health care directive ensures their health care wishes are known to the family and to you, their physician. Horizon Hospice is committed to providing important tools that help patients maintain control of their health care decisions. Help your patients take control and make informed decisions ahead of time.

Horizon Hospice
Call Horizon Hospice 489-4581
or visit us online at HorizonHospice.com.

YOUR PATIENT’S PICTURE HERE.