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THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

Currently, Anthem’s pay for performance program through the QHF program includes physicians in the specialties of Family Practice, General Practice, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Obstetrics-Gynecology who are located in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby counties. But, this is just the beginning. Efforts are underway to increase physician and other health insurer participation, include other specialties and expand the program throughout Indiana.

Improving the health of Hoosiers. That’s the goal of the Quality Health First® (QHF) program. This program provides physicians with information that can help them monitor — and hopefully improve — the health of their patients.

Anthem is proud to participate in this program, which is run by the non-profit Indiana Health Information Exchange. In addition to bringing the health care community together, this program allows us to provide meaningful incentives to physicians. The following physicians and practices are already a part of Anthem’s pay for performance program through the QHF program. Anthem applauds their leadership, recognizing that quality health does come first.

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Community Physicians of Indiana
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Wellcare Family Medicine, PC

For more information about the QHF program, visit www.qualityhealthfirst.org or call 317-644-1752 or 877-435-7343. If you’re a physician interested in Anthem’s pay for performance through the QHF program and your specialty and practice location are in the eligible areas, please contact your Anthem Network Representative.
in this issue

Special Features

President's Page
John P. McGoff, MD ........................................... 7

IMS Foundation
Paula A. Hall, MD ............................................. 8

Docs RockFest .................................................. 8

Preventive Health: Real-World Tools to Help
Gregory N. Larkin, MD......................................... 12

Help! My family doesn’t trust doctors and I am one!
Theresa M. Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD ................. 14

Christmas Stockings for Our Soldiers ................. 18

Project Health/Project Diabetes
Thank you, Andrew E. Moore, MD
Carrie Jackson Logsdon, Director .................. 22

Scholarship Request
Nathan Wren ...................................................... 26

2008 In Memoriam .............................................. 30

IMS Artsy – Craftsy ............................................. 34

IMS Sound Bites
The Antidote to Inefficiency
Nancy Mathe, Paper-Lite Presenting ................ 36

Departments

About Our Cover ................................................. 5

Advertisers’ Index .............................................. 38

Bulletin Board .................................................... 11

Classified Advertising ....................................... 38

CME & Conferences ......................................... 28

IMS Leadership ................................................ 32

In Summary ..................................................... 20

about our cover

Season’s Greetings from the staffs of
The Indianapolis Medical Society,
Medical Society Exchange and
Project Health ... This lovely photograph
was taken with a 13.1 megapixel Canon Rebel
camera in December 2007 by Lori Naanes,
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ATTENTION SOCIETY MEMBERS

We like to feature photographs or other artwork
shared by IMS members on the cover of The
Bulletin. Submit photographs, artwork, etc., to
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The Bulletin is your magazine. Share your
views by submitting reprints of your published
articles; articles written expressly for The Bulletin;
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Greetings

Season’s

President

IMS Foundation

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The leaves are mostly gone from the trees and the days are getting shorter and shorter. There’s a nip in the air and it gets harder to roll out of bed onto a cold floor. But these last few days of autumn are some of the best times to lean back and reflect on the previous year.

To say that 2008 has been a wild ride would be an understatement. From the election primaries: Hillary vs. Obama vs. Edwards and Romney vs. Huckabee vs. McCain all coming together after many agonizing months of commercials, mailers and phone calls to the Big Kahoona general election on November 4th. It turned into a nonstop political campaign with the first billion dollars, that’s right billion with a “B,” being spent to elect our president. Indiana, the proverbial ‘red’ state, was hotly contested with commercials and candidate visits too numerous too count.

On top of that, we have had the largest melt down of the stock market since its inception. Due to a diminishing value of our 401K’s, many of our retirement plans have been inexorably altered. Perhaps that new car or vacation we’ve been thinking about can wait ‘til next year. America is a consumer driven society, which unfortunately usually has to borrow to consume. If there’s no credit available and if Americans don’t consume, then how do we resurrect the economy? It’s a downward spiral that gives me a headache just thinking about it.

As physicians, we have been blessed with a great career and a good living. It is easy to become despondent with all the current news. However, there are many others who are much worse off. There are a number of charitable organizations and causes that are in need of support. If you haven’t given yet this year, consider a gift to the Indianapolis Medical Foundation or if your credit card is already maxed out, consider donating your talents to Project Health. Year to date, your fellow colleagues have donated over $10.5 million in services since its inception.

The economic downturn has other significant ramifications for us as well. According to a survey by the Rockefeller Foundation released last summer, the number of Americans who skipped a visit to a doctor because of cost rose from 18 percent to 25 percent in just the last year. Obviously, this can only get worse over the coming months as more and more Hoosiers lose their jobs. As these folks skip appointments, they will get sicker and end up seeing me in the emergency department. But, at what cost to the individual’s health and society as a whole?

As physicians, we need to encourage everyone to take responsibility for their health. That does not just mean getting an annual physical or cholesterol check. We need to emphasize those preventive measures that truly make a difference; including smoking cessation, diet and exercise. With that being said, though, speaking of overindulging, let me tell you that Thanksgiving is my favorite Holiday. Not a lot of pomp and circumstance or big preparations, usually smooth sailing, as long as the turkey comes out on time and it’s not too dry.

I come from a large family, having grown up in the 60’s. Even with afterschool sports and activities, it was my father’s goal to have everyone home by dinnertime. There weren’t many opportunities to eat out and home cooked meals were the norm. We sat around a large dining room table and discussed the day’s activities, current events, family crises, whatever. He was a firm believer that this family bonding time was integral to healthy development. This tradition has continued, and every Saturday he provides lunch to anyone who is in town if they so desire.

It is impossible to turn the clock back. Perhaps my memories are a bit foggy, it wasn’t at all like Ward and June Cleaver’s household. But in this day and age of multitasking, text messaging, e-mail, etc., maybe at least for the next few weeks, we can throttle back and spend some quality time with our families. Nothing fancy, just a nice home cooked meal (or carryout, if absolutely necessary) and some good old-fashioned dialogue.

So take this time to kick back, reflect and enjoy a good meal with the family. Tell old stories, argue about politics, whatever it takes. A dysfunctional family is better than no family, right? Well, at least you won’t have to deal with ‘crazy Uncle Larry’ again until next year.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Holidays!
Have Talent? Wanna’ Rock?

Your IMS is planning a
Docs RockFest

We need all musically-gifted IMS physicians and Alliance members to participate.
Are you a Stand-up Comic in another life? We want you, too. If you are an entertaining talent (or think you are), please call the IMS at 639-3406, email ims@imsonline.org or fax your information to 262-5609.
The first Docs RockFest will be in 2009!

IMS Foundation
Paula A. Hall, MD, IMS Foundation President and IMS Past President

Your Indianapolis Medical Society Foundation did a fun thing the other night! You gave away $9,420.00 to three young, bright, eager kids. And the best thing about the kids is each of them actually sent thank you notes. The IMS Foundation has periodically given scholarship money to deserving medical students. This year we decided to officially give away $5,000.00 to a deserving medical student. Now, before you decide that your IMS Foundation does funny math like the government, you should realize that we had more than $5,000 to give away but we just decided that $5,000 sounded like a good number with which to start. Obviously, more than one student spoke to our heart. So, who would have thought that it would have been difficult to give money away? Alas, we did not meet the deadline that IUSOM has for giving money to students. So we took matters into our own hands and sent a mass email to all of the medical students. Our email said we have $5000 to give away to a deserving student. All you have to do is tell us, by a certain date, in 200 words or less why you deserve the money and then you have to show up to a dinner to receive it.

We received 76 essays. It was fun reading through them. If this is a snapshot of the next generation of Hoosier physicians then just like Allstate we are in good hands. It was a little distressing that some medical students had not learned to follow directions and some essays were over the 200 word limit. Sadly, we did not consider these when making our choice. I am sure that by the time IUSOM graduates these students they will be better at following directions. No doubt, those that were a little verbose were freshmen.

There is a wide variety of backgrounds, interests and needs in our medical students. The average IUSOM student is $200,000.00 in debt by graduation. Unfortunately, student loans are harder to come by and much more complicated than when we were in school. You will be glad to know that our medical school has a seminar to discuss the ins and outs of debt. But the amount of debt these kids have is ASTOUNDING!

Please enjoy these essays. If, as you read them, you are moved; PLEASE, PLEASE, contact Beverly Hurt, EVP, at 639-3406 or bhurt@imsonline.org and we will give your donation directly to the student of your choice. There is no overhead taken out; so, the student will get whatever you give and it will be a tax deduction for you. The first three essays are the students to whom we gave the scholarships. Jim received first place and $5,000. Laura received $2,000 and through the generosity of Dr. David C. Hall and Dr. Heidi M. Dunnaway, a brand new Littmann Cardiology Stethoscope and a Welch Allyn Diagnostic kit. Kimberly received $2000. Dr. John E. Pless gave her a $50 gas card because she drove down from Gary to receive her scholarship. As you read her essay, if you have a car you were getting ready to trade in, wouldn’t it be GREAT if she could be the benefactor of your generosity. Yes, you can donate that car to your Indianapolis Medical Society Foundation. It will be tax deductible and Kimberly’s mother and father will sleep more soundly. Please enjoy the essays and please take a special interest in the docs who are going to be caring for us in our old age!!!

Continued on page 24.
The Art of Personal Service

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IMS Bulletin, December 2008
Types of Pain Treated:
• Back pain
• Disc pain
• Radiculopathy/pinched nerves
• Sciatica
• Pain after surgery or trauma
• Post Laminectomy Syndrome
• Spinal stenosis
• Neck pain
• Headache
• Diabetic neuropathy
• Shingles
• Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy
• Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
• Post amputation pain
• Neuralgia
• Foot pain
• Osteo & rheumatoid arthritis
• Pelvic and abdominal pain
• Chronic pain syndromes associated with depression and anxiety
• Cancer related pain

Interventional Procedures:
• Fluoroscopic selective nerve blocks
• Epidural steroid injections
• Facet joint injections
• Spinal cord stimulation
• Rhizotomy
• Neuroablative procedures
• Discography
• Nucleoplasty/coblation
• Spinal delivery systems
• Sympathetic nerve blocks
• Trigger point injections

Services:
• Assessment & treatment of the psychological impact of pain & suffering
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• Medication management
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A medical practice dedicated to treating acute and chronic pain sufferers

Steven K. Ahlfeld, MD, received the ISMA’s Commission on Sports Medicine 11th Annual Team Physician of the Year Award. An orthopaedic surgeon, Dr. Ahlfeld provides care and consultation to athletes throughout the state for both universities and high schools.

Eric M. Horn, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery and Director of Spinal Neurosurgery at IUSOM, was the lead author of a study appearing in the August issue of Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine, “Transfacet screw placement for posterior fixation of C7.” Dr. Horn was honored as a Visiting Professor for the Department of Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering at Purdue University in October, where he lectured on “Biomedical Engineering Aspects of Spinal Column and Spinal Cord Injury”. In September, Dr. Horn also co-authored four research studies presented at the annual Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Stephen W. Perkins, MD, was recently the Teacher of Honour at the 15th Jubilee International Course in Modern Rhinoplasty Techniques in The Netherlands, held in affiliation with the European Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery at the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam. Dr. Perkins was asked to present the “Lecture of Honour” and was the sole American on the Board of Teachers. Supplemental to the “Lecture of Honour,” Dr. Perkins performed a live Rhinoplasty surgery as part the program. In addition to sharing his techniques through presentations to the international community of Facial Plastic Surgeons, he also performed Rhinoplasty and Blepharoplasty procedures over two days of live surgery at the University of Lieden.

Cynthia K. McGarvey, MD, Josephson-Wallack-Munshawer Neurology, co-authored a book chapter on the topic of Neurotoxicology that was included in the recently published Practical Neurology, 3rd Edition.

Richard K. Freeman, MD, has been appointed medical director of the St. Vincent Center for Cancer Care.

Steven F. Isenberg, MD, won the grand prize in the “Human Race” section of Runner’s World magazine’s October, 2008, edition. Dr. Isenberg’s nationwide charity, Medals4Mettle, collects finishers’ medals from donors completing endurance events such as marathons and triathlons, cleans them, places Medals4Mettle ribbons on them, and then awards them to patients and others who are running their own “marathons” as they battle disease and other obstacles in their lives.

Tod C. Huntley, MD, The Center for Ear, Nose, Throat & Allergy, published “Pillar Implants: A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blinded study for obstructive sleep apnea” in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, which was also presented at the American Academy of Otolaryngology annual meeting in Chicago in September, 2008. Dr. Huntley, who is also principle investigator for an upcoming FDA feasibility trial of an implantable hypoglossal nerve stimulator for obstructive sleep apnea, recently presented a lecture on the latest trends in the treatment of snoring and sleep apnea at ENT Update for the Primary Care Physician in Indianapolis in October, 2008.”


News from The Indianapolis Neurosurgery Group...

Aaron Cohen-Gadol, MD, presented at Grand Rounds at Methodist Hospital October 15, 2008. He described the indications and techniques for hemispherotomy and reviewed a case study of a recent surgery he performed on a 20-month-old boy with intractable seizures.

Michael Turner, MD, was among invited faculty at the Midwest Spasticity Conference at the Cleveland Clinic September 26-27; and a faculty member in the Advanced Course on Spasticity Management in Las Vegas October 18, 2008.

Joint Venture ...

Indiana’s first colon and rectal surgical training program has been established by St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers and the Indiana University School of Medicine. The program will be based at St. Vincent Center for Cancer Care.

News from The Indiana Orthopaedic Center ...

Richard W. Eaton, MD, and Philip C. Sailer, MD, are the Medical Directors of the new Total Joint & Spine Health Services program at Hancock Regional Hospital in Greenfield, Indiana.

IMS Bulletin, December 2008
Preventive Health:
Real-World Tools to Help
Gregory N. Larkin, MD, IMS Past President

Real-World Healthcare:
This month, I wanted to provide Bulletin readers with a sneak peek at some of the interesting findings that we’ve uncovered from the Indiana Health Information Exchange’s Quality Health First (QHF) program, along with a call to join the program at no cost. The program recently went ‘live’ by delivering reports to Indianapolis area primary care physicians.

As I’ve previously discussed in these pages, the QHF program provides a unique opportunity to transform healthcare by focusing on proactive, rather than reactive, healthcare. The program provides physicians with an actionable report containing up-to-date clinical and claims information that can be used to help improve their patients’ health.

We all know that primary care faces a crisis in this country. According to a recent University of Missouri study, generalist physicians are a third of the U.S. physician workforce and are responsible for more than half of all patient visits at doctors’ offices.

With shrinking ranks of medical students joining primary care, it is putting more pressure on primary care physicians to see more patients, who have increasingly complex cases, in less time.

Another concerning dynamic, a recent study from The New England Journal of Medicine analyzed the providers who treat Medicare beneficiaries. The startling finding was that the average Medicare patient saw a total of seven doctors — two primary care physicians and five specialists — in a given year.

With patient information scattered across the community, it is difficult to provide the best care for patients.

The key to the QHF program is that information follows the patient, not the doctor nor a specific health system. By combining all this information, physicians can have a much more accurate view of their patients’ health and wellness needs. And, it can reward physicians for spending time with patients to optimally manage their diseases and practice evidence-based medicine.

Early Results:
With 700 physicians in the nine county area participating in the Quality Health First program either at a group or individual level, IHIE has a baseline measurement of several interesting chronic disease and preventive health measures that can give us insights into the health of our community.

For example, Indianapolis’ benchmark for diabetic management, as measured by the percentage of diabetic patients who have received an A1C test in the past 12 months, stands at 71%. That means that 29 out of 100 patients of participating health plans are not receiving timely A1C tests.

Another example is breast cancer screening rates. In our community, the percentage of female patients 41 to 69 years old who receive a mammogram every 24 months was 64%. This would suggest a considerable percentage of women are not accessing this life saving screening service.

All this information is insightful, but until we can provide doctors with information on how they compare to these specific figures – and tell them exactly who needs these preventive and disease-specific tests – we’ll do no better than we are today.

Local Support:
That’s exactly what the Quality Health First program provides: patient-specific and disease-based summaries based on the physician’s patient population. The bottom line with this program is that physicians will know what their patients need to improve their health and maintain their wellness.

More specifically, the QHF program:
• Provides reminders of patients who need

Continued on page 34.
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Stunning waterfront home in private, lushly landscaped setting on Eagle Creek w/spectacular views from almost every room! Extensive moldings, elegant archways, gleaming hwds, dramatic great rm, turret-style sunroom, fab w/o lwr lvl. (2835499)

8230 DEAN ROAD • $899,900
Vacation paradise on Lake Clearwater w/new Trek deck, private courtyard w/pergola, boat dock & spectacular views! Renovated kit, new stacked stone fplc, remodeled bathrooms, new custom bilt-ins & bar; too many updates to list! (2819510)

15479 HIDDEN OAKS • $1,524,900
Stunning, newly constructed home in exclusive, gated Bridgewater! Expansive moldings, elegant archways, gourmet kit leading to covered veranda, main lvl master, dynamite w/o lwr lvl. (2856481)

10550 HUSSEY LANE • $1,995,000
Private, gated 7.3-ac estate tucked away on quiet country lane w/pool, spa, new carriage house & 6-car garage! Beautifully remodeled gourmet kit, dynamite sunroom, study w/bilt-ins, bonus & ex rm on main, enormous bdrm suites, awesome wine cellar, theater & more! (2857639)

1106 LAURELWOOD • $1,799,900
Magnificent estate home in a lush, 1.34-ac setting in gated Laurelwood! Grand 2-story entry, generous room sizes, custom ceilings, elaborate moldings, numerous bilt-ins, entertainer’s kit, mega closets & storage! (2845106)

10756 CLUB CHASE • $789,900
Magnificent home w/tiered brick paver patio overlooking the golf course at the Hawthorns. State-of-the-art kitchen w/all the bells & whistles, handsome study, elegant mstr retreat, outstanding lwr lvl w/media center, ex rm, bonus rm & more! (2845111)

3557 SEDGMOOR CIRCLE • $1,750,000
Breathtaking 1.26-ac estate overlooking pond in Bridlebourne. Dramatic 2-story great rm, gorgeous hwds, spectacular sunroom, fabulous new spa mstr bath, 6 large bdrm suites, awesome wine cellar, theater & more! (2860695)

10609 WALNUT CREEK • $774,900
Impressive home by Pate tucked away in a private, 1-acre setting w/5pks, elaborate crown moldings, beautifully updated kit open to sunroom, sumptuous master retreat w/spa bath, spacious lower level & more! (2858593)

11445 STURGEN BAY LANE • $787,500
Wonderful Lakefront home in a quiet cul-de-sac setting w/multi-lvl decks! Soaring clngs, expansive moldings, walls of windows w/great lake views, main lvl master w/private deck, dynamite w/o lwr lvl & more! (2860781)

1111 KESSLER BLVD W. DR. • $624,900
Sately brick Colonial in a 1.6-ac. park-like setting w/mature trees, lush landscaping & complete privacy! Loads of character & charm w/many updates, hwds & glass French doors thru-out, awesome fam rm, new mstr bath & more! (2842137)

3555 SEDGMOOR CIRCLE • $4,500,000
Extraordinary Bridlebourne estate on nearly 3 breathtaking acres w/dazzling fountain, infinity pool, pool house, tennis court, 6-car gar w/apt, state-of-the-art kit, floor to ceiling glass walls, unbeliev-able mstr retreat & every amenity imaginable! (2866342)

12921 QUEENS TROOP CLOSE • $649,900
Absolutely gorgeous Dale Woodall home nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac in Village of West Clay! Stunning 2-story entry, 10ft ceilings, elegant archways, gleaming hwds, attractive molding, dynamite kit & fam rm, lwr lvl theatre. (2840129)

1106 LAURELWOOD • $1,799,900
Magnificent estate home in a hush, 1.34-ac setting in gated Laurelwood! Grand 2-story entry, generous room sizes, custom ceilings, elaborate moldings, numerous bilt-ins, entertainer’s kit, mega closets & storage! (2845106)
“Help! My family doesn’t trust doctors and I am one!”

Theresa M. Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD

Growing up as one of eight children, money was tight and though we got our yearly checkups, we didn’t run to the doctor for minor things. We tried various home remedies whenever possible. My father treated our ear infections by smoking a cigar and blowing smoke in our ears. My mother would go in the backyard, pick some plant, and brew it in a tea to allay our stomachache or, use rice water to fix our diarrhea.

Neither of my parents had gone to college, but they worked hard and encouraged us to study and succeed. It was not until I was in college that I began to realize how much my family distrusts the medical profession. Maybe I should have “had a clue” when my father tried to talk me out of medical school. Receiving letters from home inquiring how I was getting along at Johns Hopkins, Columbia, Harvard, should have been another clue. It took a year or two before my West Coast family remembered that I was at Cornell.

My father had his first heart attack while I was in the middle of my third year of medical school. Having just finished my Surgery, OB/GYN, and Pediatric clerkships I was ill-equipped to handle his question in the middle of the night; “Theresa, how does a heart attack feel?” Before undergoing his bypass surgery, he requested that I be in the OR to watch so that I could make sure the surgeons were doing the right thing and that they weren’t “drunk”. I declined his request, feeling somehow proud that as a third year medical student with two weeks of a cardiothoracic surgery rotation under my belt, he felt I would be able to lead the team of surgeons if they started to stray. That should have been another clue.

After medical school graduation, I gradually became “one of them”. Years had passed when I noticed a melanoma on my father’s lower back. Pointing it out, I made him promise he would call his doctor. Months went by and my repeated phone calls from 2000 + miles away were met with “Yeah, yeah, soon as I can”. Finally, on the advice of his dentist, he eventually saw a dermatologist and the melanoma was removed.

After a pulmonary embolism landed him in the hospital yet again, it took about two weeks before he complained that the doctors couldn’t get the dose of his coumadin correct and therefore were poisoning him. He abruptly

Continued on page 30.
Available Treatments

- Fluoroscopic Epidural Steroid Injections (Cervical, Thoracic & Lumbar)
- Nerve Blocks (Diagnostic and Therapeutic)
  - Sympathetic Nerve Blocks
  - Fluoroscopic Selective Nerve Blocks
- Facet Joint Injections
- Sacroiliac Joint Injections
- Radiofrequency Lesioning
  - Facet Denervation
  - Rhizotomy
  - Sympathectomy
- Nucleoplasty
- Neuroplasty
- Discography
- Selective Endoscopic Discectomy (SED)
- IntraDiscal ElectroThermal Annuloplasty (IDET)
- Spinal Cord Stimulation

Types of Pain Treated

- Acute & Chronic Back Pain
- Cervical Spine (Neck) Pain & Related Headaches
- Herniated Discs
- Degenerative Disc Disease
- Sciatica / Radiculopathy
- Spinal Facet Syndrome
- Spinal Stenosis (Lumbar & Cervical)
- Spondylosis (Spinal Arthritis)
- Work & Sports Related Injuries

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fax 317.815.8951
toll free 866.815.8950
New Members

Bashall, Anthony J., MD
Indiana Heart Physicians, Inc.
5330 E. Stop 11 Rd.
46237-6345
Ofc – 893-1900*
Fax – 893-1901
Web – www.ihpmd.com
Internal Medicine, 2005
Cardiovascular Disease
Indiana University, 2001

Callahan, James D., MD
Indpls. Neurosurgical Group
1801 N. Senate Blvd., #610
46202-1259
Ofc – 396-1300
Email – jcallahan@ing.md
Neurological Surgery, 1997
Indiana University, 1988

Doyle, Danielle M., MD
Central IN Cancer Centers
1346 E. County Line Rd.
46227-0962
Ofc – 859-5500
Fax – 859-4310
Internal Medicine, 2005
Medical Oncology
Indiana University, 2002

Kraemer, Paul E., MD
IN Spine Group
8040 Clearvista Pkwy., #440
46256-4673
Fax – 577-0619
8402 Harcourt Rd., #400
46260-2074
Ofc – 228-7000
Fax – 228-2321
Web – www.indianaspinegroup.com
Orthopaedic Surgery
Orthopaedic Surgery of the Spine
University of Iowa, 2002

LeGrand, Daniel R., MD
(Reactivation)
St. Vincent Hospital
8402 Harcourt Rd., #200
46226-2051
Fax – 338-3938
Surgery, 1979
St. Louis University, 1973

Lord, Bryce C., DO
Central IN Cancer Centers
1346 E. County Line Rd.
46227-0962
Ofc – 859-5500
Fax – 859-4310
Web – www.indianacancer.com
Radiation Oncology
University of Osteopathic Medicine, 2001

Maar, Dean C., MD
(Reactivation)
OrthoIndy
1801 N. Senate Blvd., #200
46202-1230
Fax – 917-4190
Email – dmaar@orthoindy.com
Orthopaedic Surgery, 1995
Indiana University, 1985

Maxfield, Daniel M., MD
Premier Surgical
701 E. County Line Rd., #201
Greenwood, 46143-1071
Fax – 865-8012
Surgery, 2005
University of Oklahoma, 1999

Moore, John W., III, MD
Indiana Heart Physicians, Inc.
5330 E. Stop 11 Rd.
46237-6345
Ofc – 893-1900*
Fax – 893-1901
Web – www.ihpmd.com
Internal Medicine, 2003
Cardiovascular Disease, 2007
Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology
Indiana University, 1978

Moore, Polly A., MD
Indiana Heart Physicians, Inc.
5330 E. Stop 11 Rd.
46237-6345
Ofc – 893-1900*
Fax – 893-1901
Web – www.ihpmd.com
Internal Medicine, 2005
Cardiovascular Disease
Indiana University, 2001

Muller, Robert F. B., MD
Resident – St. Vincent Hospital
Family Medicine
Indiana University, 2008

Murty, Murali, MD
Central IN Cancer Centers
6845 Rama Dr.
46219-1707
Ofc – 964-5200
Fax – 964-5300
Radiation Oncology
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, 2003

Revtyak, George E., MD
(Reactivation)
Methodist Cardiology Physicians
1801 N. Senate Blvd., #310
46202-1196
Ofc – 962-2500
Fax – 962-2500
Internal Medicine, 1982
Cardiovascular Disease, 1985
Interventional Cardiology, 2003
Indiana University, 1978

Sgroi, Madelaine M., DO
Central IN Cancer Centers
1346 E. County Line Rd.
46227-0962
Ofc – 859-5500
Fax – 859-4310
Internal Medicine, 2005
Midwestern Univ. College of Osteopathic Medicine, Arizona, 2002

Bulletin Board (Continued from page 11)

University School of Medicine. The teaching staff will include surgeons with Kendrick Regional Center for Colon and Rectal Care based at St. Francis Hospital-Mooresville and assistant clinical professors from the school’s Department of Surgery. Program Director Olaf B. Johansen, MD, and the faculty: Bridget M. Sanders, MD (associate director); Frederick R. Lane, MD; Ronald Barry Melbert, MD and Dipen C. Maun, MD. Applications for the training program are now being accepted with training beginning in July 2009. More information about the fellowship is available by calling 317-834-9618.

From IU School of Medicine Physicians ...

John J. Coleman, III, MD, (plastic surgery); Robert J. Goulet, Jr., MD, (surgery); Valerie P. Jackson, MD, (diagnostic radiation); Patrick J. Loehrer, Sr., MD (medical oncology); Scott A. Shapiro, MD, (neurological surgery) were included in the most recent edition of American’s Top Doctors for Cancer. The guide identifies the nation’s most outstanding physicians for diagnosis and treatment of cancers.
The surgeon in question is Dr. Robert Robison. And the fingers in question belong to the da Vinci® robotic surgery system. Dr. Robison is one of the only surgeons in Indiana using this breakthrough to perform delicate heart procedures. And he’s performing them only at St.Vincent Heart Center of Indiana. More ways to perform more procedures makes us best. Period.

The Best Heart Care in Indiana. Period.

What if you took one of the Midwest’s best heart surgeons and gave him tiny fingers?

St.Vincent HEART CENTER OF INDIANA

106th & North Meridian - 86th Street
THE SPIRIT OF CARING*

heartcenter.stvincent.org
Christmas Stockings for Our Soldiers!

On November 3 and 10, 2008, IMS Staffers, Becky Collis, Ann Knight, Tyna McCauley and her daughter, Lindsay, along with Project Health Case Managers Laura Gonzalez and Carol Stansifer held a “sewing” evening. The IMS/PH group made the Christmas Stockings for Our Soldiers serving in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. The stockings were completed in conjunction with Hillcrest Guardian Angels.

We hope that our own IMS President, Dr. John P. McGoff, currently deployed in Iraq, has the opportunity to distribute these IMS/Project Health Christmas Stockings as well as our best wishes and prayers!
TOP 5% IN THE NATION
Joint Replacement Surgery

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In Summary

IMS Senior/Inactives
Wednesday, December 3, 12:00 noon
IMS Conference Center
Jan Ramer, DVM, “Medical & Surgical Care of the Animals at The Indianapolis Zoo,” Dr. Ramer received her B.S. in Biology from Purdue University and her D.V.M. from the University of Wisconsin. She is the Secretary of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians. She also directs Project Iguana, a Zoo research and conservation initiative to preserve the Rock Iguanas of the Caribbean.

The IMS Senior/Inactives quarterly meetings occur on the first Wednesday every three months and are chaired by Drs. William Dick and Gerald Kurlander and presented with the assistance of Beverly Hurt, EVP and IMS Staffers Becky Collis and Tyna McCauley. For information on the program or other activities call the Society office at 639-3406. Mark your calendar to attend the IMS Senior/Inactives meetings in 2009 – renew friends and enjoy an informative presentation!

Pri-Med Midwest Conference & Exhibition
March 4-7, 2009, taking place at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, provides a diverse spectrum of learning opportunities from national experts in one place, offering up to 30 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. You’re welcome to attend one day or multiple days as your schedule allows. For full program information or to visit www.pri-med.com/midwest09.

Accepting Orders NOW!
The 2009 IMS Pictorial Roster members’ copies will be delivered in January 2009. To make sure you have all the copies you need for your offices, staffs and facilities, start ordering your additional copies now by calling the Society at 639-3406. Have your Visa or MasterCard information ready and we’ll ship your additional copies in January without a processing delay. Individual copies are $30.00/copy for members & hospitals and $40.00/copy for non-members. Two to five copies are $29.50/copy for members & hospitals and $39.50/copy for non-members. Six copies are $29.00/copy for members & hospitals and $39.00/copy for non-members. For seven or more copies, contact the Society office.

2009 IMS Pictorial Roster Ready for January Delivery!

Take Advantage of Your Membership

The group purchasing power of the ISMA can help satisfy your insurance needs - at a price you can afford.

Call the ISMA Insurance Agency at (317) 471-4229 or (877) 647-2242.

The ISMA Insurance Agency offers the following insurance programs exclusively for ISMA members:

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<thead>
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<th>Insurance Program</th>
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<td>Health - PPO &amp; Traditional plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>from $250 to $5,000 deductibles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Savings Account Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicare Carve-out</td>
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<td>Dental</td>
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<td>Long Term Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voluntary Employee Benefit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan Dental, short term</td>
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<tr>
<td>disability, term life, universal</td>
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<tr>
<td>life, cancer plan, Section 125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Premium Only Plan (P.O.P.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Owners Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worker’s Compensation</td>
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<td>Malpractice Liability*</td>
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These insurance plans have been specifically designed for ISMA members and their employees to provide the highest quality coverage at the lowest possible cost.

*Access is available through Medical Assurance of Indiana - ISMA’s endorsed professional liability carrier.
Your patients want the best value for their money without any hassles.

You want same-day appointments and quick, accurate reports.

Meridian North Imaging Center provides them all. We offer competitively-priced diagnostic imaging that utilizes the latest technology.

Your patients will receive their testing in a safe, professional, friendly atmosphere without the hassles of tedious paperwork, long wait times and limited parking.

You’ll receive quick reports from local radiologists you’ve come to know and trust at Northwest Radiology Network. They’re board certified, fellowship trained and meet the continuing experience and education requirements of the American College of Radiology.

Our services include:

- High-performance PET/CT
- High-field strength MRI and MRA
- CT and CTA scanning
- Ultrasound

TO REFER A PATIENT CALL 317-XRAY-NOW (972-9669)

Same-day appointments available

What our patients are saying —

“I really appreciated the thorough manner in which they explained each step of the scans to me. That was very reassuring to me, as that was the first time I ever had a PET/CT scan.”

— Darcy

“I arrived ahead of schedule, exam done ahead of schedule, out ahead of schedule! Very nice.”

— Anonymous

“I appreciated the gentle, considerate treatment I received from everyone.”

— Caroline
Do you know the face of your uninsured patient?

Let IMS Foundation’s Project Health help you ... help them.

Many people in Marion County could greatly benefit from IMSF’s Project Health. These people work each day to provide for their families, and often it takes at least two jobs – jobs without medical benefits. These are the “working poor,” living paycheck to paycheck. An urgent health situation can send them “over the brink.” Project Health can provide specialty care, labs, diagnostic testing and even surgery for them.

You already treat them ... Let Project Health help you ... help them.

For a referral form, call 262-5626.

Thank you,
Andrew E. Moore, MD

Andrew E. Moore, MD, Urology of Indiana, is Project Health’s Volunteer of the Month for December. He was born and raised in a modest household on the south side of Indianapolis. He attended what was then Harry E. Wood High School, which he said was one of the first high schools to be downsized and eventually closed. “We had little neighborhood schools where we walked to and from school and all our practices,” said Dr. Moore. “That, and the fact that I came from a stable, two-parent, very disciplined home, are probably the biggest factors in my success.” He played football, baseball and ran track throughout high school. He played basketball in college, too, and is very proud of the fact that his team was inducted into the University of Indianapolis’s Hall of Fame!

Dr. Moore graduated from the University of Indianapolis with a B.S. in biology and went on to teach general science in the 7th and 8th grades in the IPS system. He really wanted to be a teacher, but many others thought he would be a great candidate for medical school, so he enrolled at the Indiana University School of Medicine and completed his general surgery internship and urology residency there as well. “The Aesculapian Medical Society was a big factor in helping me develop as a physician. I saw people there who were the same as I was, coming from a non-privileged background, who became successful and passionate about what they were doing.” He has a daughter who is in her residency in radiology and a son who is in pharmaceutical sales.

Dr. Moore is certified by the American Board of Urology. He is also a member of the American Urological Association, the Indianapolis Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Association and the National Medical Association. He has done clinical research on treatment of the prostate, voiding problems and problems of female incontinence. He is especially interested in minimally invasive treatment of prostate enlargement, prostate cancer, impotence and incontinence. One of the Project Health patients, with interstitial cystitis, he treated said, “Dr. Moore is the greatest. He is the first doctor who didn’t think I was crazy. He really listened, planned a course of action with me, and that alone gave me great comfort.” Dr. Moore also urges men who have voiding problems or frequency to get checked out. “If you are a prisoner to the bathroom, you are probably a very unhappy person and it doesn’t have to be that way. The sooner you get it taken care of, the better off the rest of your life will be.”

Dr. Moore says Urology of Indiana attempts to have multiple urologic specialties participating in Project Health so no one person gets overloaded. He feels it is a doctor’s responsibility to step in and help people. “Make it a part of what you do, at least for a while. It helps you feel like part of the solution to this problem. You can make a huge difference, so try it for a while. All of us should volunteer for Project Health – giving back is a great motivator. Solving a person’s problems makes you feel so wonderful.”

Project Health heartily agrees, and wishes everyone happy, healthy and safe holidays!
It's About Life...  ...It's About You!

Established in 1984, The Columbus Organization has been recognized as the nation's leading provider of the highest quality of on-site healthcare staffing to facilities and programs that serve individuals with mental and developmental challenges. Columbus goes one step further by providing comprehensive consulting services from the most highly regarded and respected consultants in the field. Columbus' reputation for staffing and retaining the highest quality of physicians and other related healthcare professionals is unmatched nationally.

When considering a career move, consider Columbus as your employer of choice for both your professional and personal needs. Enjoy industry leading salaries balanced with generous paid time off! Columbus eliminates the hassle of long tedious hours or the challenges of managed care.

Columbus' philosophy is a simple one.....It's About Life...It's About You! To find out about our Indiana-based opportunities, as well as openings nationwide, call 800-229-5116 or email recruit@columbusorg.com.

Not looking for a change, but know someone who is? The Columbus Organization offers a $2,500 referral bonus!

www.columbusorg.com
**IMS Foundation (Continued from page 8.)**

**IMSF Scholarship – James Taggart – 1**

Why do I deserve $5000? That is an interesting question; a little cut throat if you ask me. With the astronomical cost of a medical education trapping many young doctors in debt, I think all of my peers could equally use $5000. In fact, I cannot think of a reason why I deserve $5000 more then the fellow sitting next to me in pathology. We may not all come from the same background, but we all feel the same financial pressure when it comes debt. However, since I still do want $5000, I will make my case.

It is not the actual lack of money that bothers me; it is the debt that limits my choices when I eventually leave school. We must work to pay off debt, and not for the simple joy of treating patients. When I leave medical school I want the choice to say “no,” when I have to, and the pleasure of saying “yes,” when I can. I do not want my choices to be dictated by the need to pay-off debt. That is why I want $5000 and why my peers deserve it as well.

**IMSF Scholarship – Laura Benjamin - 2**

Asking medical students why they need money is sort of like asking starving people why they need food. Without significant parental contributions or scholarships, we are all in debt and will be for a very long time. I think the only difference is how we choose to allocate the money and view the debt. I am not a person who thinks of my loans as “free money.” Over the past two years I have budgeted and borrowed the least amount possible. Even so, I find myself constantly worrying about how I will ever pay it all back.

If I receive this scholarship, I will use the money not only to ease the burden of tuition for next semester, but also to buy an otoscope, an ophthalmoscope, and a cardiology stethoscope. I viewed the instruments as a luxury rather than an essential when the option to purchase them was offered second year because it is possible for us to borrow them from our preceptors, but after four months in the hospital I know it will be beneficial for the rest of my career.

**Continued on page 26.**

---

**Great Opportunity**

**Part-Time Physician Needed**

**Circle City Evaluation Center**

on Indy’s Northeast Side

is looking for

a **Part-Time Orthopaedic Surgeon** and **Internal Medicine Specialist**.

*Must Be Board Certified.*

Long Established Firm (Opened in 1980)

for the Purpose of Independent Medical Exams and Second Opinions,

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For further information, please contact The Clinic at

317-845-1900
Our exceptional approach to diabetes care: The best kept secret in town.

We all know that managing diabetes is a daily ritual. So how do you ensure your patients are making disease management a priority? The Diabetes Care Center at Community Health Network offers the education and tools your patients need to self-manage their care in between visits to your office. Our experienced staff supports the full range of diabetes care, from insulin pump management to pregnancy monitoring to pediatric services and cardiac risk assessment and prevention. It all comes with the exceptional care you expect from Community. To make a referral, contact us at 317-621-2677.
To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nathan Wren. I am a junior at Pendleton Heights High School and have been nominated by Ms. Lori Ave, my high school anatomy teacher, to go to a National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. Ms. Ave believes this is a valuable and worthy program. This forum will allow me to learn many medical procedures taught by real doctors. I am planning on pursuing a profession in medicine. I would love to go to this forum and feel that I am well qualified. I began laying the foundation in pursuing a medical profession through my high school courses. I have successfully completed courses in biology, chemistry, anatomy, and mathematics. My long term goal is to complete my undergraduate degree at Indiana University and then attend medical school. Upon the completion of my post graduate education, I intend to utilize my medical expertise to help the citizens of Indiana. Whether this is as a doctor or surgeon; I believe that I will make a great professional and give back to society. Many students from across the nation have participated and benefited from this educational experience. The Youth Leadership Forum will be held in Chicago, IL during the summer of 2009. The tuition for this opportunity is $2,515. Any monetary support that Indianapolis Medical Society could provide will help influence my future. To experience the world of medicine first hand would be life changing.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Nathan Wren

Scholarship Request

The IMS Foundation has received the following request for tuition assistance. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Beverly Hurt, EVP, IMS Foundation.

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nathan Wren. I am a junior at Pendleton Heights High School and have been nominated by Ms. Lori Ave, my high school anatomy teacher, to go to a National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine. Ms. Ave believes this is a valuable and worthy program. This forum will allow me to learn many medical procedures taught by real doctors. I am planning on pursuing a profession in medicine. I would love to go to this forum and feel that I am well qualified. I began laying the foundation in pursuing a medical profession through my high school courses. I have successfully completed courses in biology, chemistry, anatomy, and mathematics. My long term goal is to complete my undergraduate degree at Indiana University and then attend medical school. Upon the completion of my post graduate education, I intend to utilize my medical expertise to help the citizens of Indiana. Whether this is as a doctor or surgeon; I believe that I will make a great professional and give back to society. Many students from across the nation have participated and benefited from this educational experience. The Youth Leadership Forum will be held in Chicago, IL during the summer of 2009. The tuition for this opportunity is $2,515. Any monetary support that Indianapolis Medical Society could provide will help influence my future. To experience the world of medicine first hand would be life changing.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Nathan Wren
Patients experiencing dizziness or balance problems can be the most puzzling of cases. With so many causes and complicating factors, these patients can be difficult to treat.

Dr. Benjamin Copeland, one of the state’s few neurotologists, as well as our highly trained physical therapists and audiologists, specialize in determining the multiple causes and best solutions for balance problems and dizziness. Their services to your patients include evaluation, testing and solutions that may include vestibular rehabilitation, lifestyle modification, or even medication or surgical procedures.

At Balance Point, our team can help you point your patients in the right direction, allowing them to achieve a real sense of balance in their lives.

"Because life requires balance."

For more information or to make a referral, call 317-803-3084 or 877-218-9721.
Continued next page.

Community Hospitals Indianapolis

Community Hospital East
2nd & 4th Chest Conference (Case Presentations)
Wednesdays Room 3436, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
Every Tumor Board (Case Presentations)
Tuesday Medical Staff Conf. Room, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
First Critical Care Conference
Wednesday Medical Staff Conf. Room, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Second Medical Grand Rounds
Wednesday Medical Staff Conf. Room, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Community Hospital South
Fourth Medical Grand Rounds
Thursday Conf. Rooms A & B, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
3rd Tumor Board (Case Presentations)
Wednesday Conference Room A, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

Community Hospital North
Second Tumor Board (Case Presentations)
Wednesday Board Room, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
First North Forum
Friday Board Room; 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

North Cancer Pavilion
3rd Case Presentations
Wednesday Melanoma Conference, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

For more information, contact Valerie Brown, (317) 355-5381.

The Care Group, LLC

Visit www.cardiofoundation.org for program details and to register online. For more information, contact Suzanne Brown, (317) 338-6089.

Friday, December 5, 2008
Update in Cardiology and Richter Lecture
The Renaissance, Carmel, Indiana

27th Annual Winter Conference

The Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati
January 24-31, 2009, Paradisus Palma Real, Punta Cana

The Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati and Prestige Travel Inc. are proud to present the 2009 Winter Conference. This year we will be visiting the award-winning all-inclusive Paradisus Palma Real located on legendary Bávaro Beach in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Paradisus Palma Real Resort combines all-inclusive amenities, world-class facilities and unsurpassed service with the finest in cuisine, all-suites accommodations and endless entertainment opportunities to truly create a new standard of luxury, extravagance, indulgence and fun.

From $2,840 per person double occupancy, CME Seminar Presented by the Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati through joint sponsorship of The Christ Hospital.

Overall Seminar Objective: After completing this educational activity, participants should be able to discuss the latest advancements and developments on a wide range of current medical and medical practice issues concerning many specialties. This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas, Elements & Policies of the Ohio State Medical Association through the joint sponsorship of The Christ Hospital and the Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati. The Christ Hospital is accredited by the OSMA to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Christ Hospital designates this educational activity for a maximum of 18 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Prestige Travel representatives familiar with the resort and the Academy of Medicine Trip are available now to answer all of your questions and take your reservations at 513.793.6586. Or contact Sally Franzen, Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati at 513.421.7010 x 323. For more information on the Paradisus Palma Real visit http://www.paradisusspalmareal.travel/resort.php

Clarian Health Partners

IU – Methodist – Riley
Dec. 2-3 Building a Comprehensive, Thriving Home Dialysis Program
Westin Hotel, Downtown Indianapolis, Indiana

Dec. 5 6th Annual Christian Sarkine Autism Treatment Center Conference
Ritz Charles Banquet Facility, Carmel, Indiana

Jan. 31 Review of the 2008 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium
University Place Conference Center, Indianapolis

Feb. 16-18 Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Disease: The IU Multidisciplinary Approach
The Westin Kierland Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona

Feb. 21 Annual Meeting of the Indiana Society of Anesthesiologists and Anesthesia Update
University Place Conference Center, Indianapolis

April 24 Diabetes Update
University Place Conference Center, Indianapolis

May 27-31 American Society of Gene Therapy
San Diego Convention Center
San Diego, California

Aug. 21-22 Pleuroscopy Workshop for Pulmonary Physicians
University Place Conference Center, Indianapolis

The Indiana University School of Medicine is accredited by the AC-CME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

We have more than 100 recurring meetings available. For a listing or more information, please visit http://cme.medicine.iu.edu or call 317-274-8353.

Community Hospitals Indianapolis

Community Hospital East
2nd & 4th Chest Conference (Case Presentations)
Wednesdays Room 3436, 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers

Beech Grove Campus
Every Thurs. Tumor Board – 7:00 a.m.
For more information, call 317-783-8136.

Healthy to the Bone

Sessions begin December 19, 8:30 a.m.
Riverview Rehab & Fitness, Noblesville, Indiana

Healthy to the Bone is an exercise class designed for people with, or concerned about osteoporosis. This class emphasizes activities to promote improved posture, flexibility, trunk strength and education about osteoporosis.

Sessions are held on Friday mornings at 8:30 a.m. The cost is $50 for the 8-week session. The class is held at Riverview Rehab & Fitness – Noblesville, 601 Westfield Rd.

The participant must be able to get up and down from floor independently.

Registration is required. To register or for more information, call 776-7225.

Please submit CME & Conferences information to ims@imsonline.org or mhadley@imsonline.org by the first of the month preceding publication.
St. Vincent Hospital & Health Services

Dec. 2, 19 Pediatric Grand Rounds
Credit: 1.0 Contact: Patty Chin, 338-8861
Schaefer Rooms A&B
St. Vincent Hospital Indianapolis

Dec. 5 Update in Cardiology and Richter Lecture
Credit: 5.25 Contact: Suzanne Brown, 338-6089
The Renaissance Hotel
Carmel, Indiana

Dec. 10 OB/GYN Grand Rounds
Credit: 1.0 Contact: Robin Nance, 415-7528
Classroom B
St. Vincent Women's Hospital

Dec. 23 Obstetrics Morbidity & Mortality
Credit: 1.0 Contact: Robin Nance, 415-7528
Classroom B
St. Vincent Women's Hospital

You seek the best treatments for your patients.

You know what’s best for your patients
IU specialists share your commitment to provide the best possible care. Colleague-to-colleague, we’re here when you need to consult or refer your patient for additional treatment.

Partner with the only physician group staffed by Indiana University School of Medicine faculty.

IU Medical Group and You.
Partners for a healthier life.

The Indianapolis Medical Society

December
2  IMS Board, Society, 6:00 PM; 6:30 PM, Dnr/Mtg.
3  Senior/Inactive Luncheon Meeting, Noon,
Jan Ramer, DVM, “Medical & Surgical Care of the Animals at The Indianapolis Zoo”
16 Executive Committee, Dinner, with Spouses/Guests

January 2009
20 Executive Committee, Society, 6:30 PM, Sandwiches
28 IMS Sound Bites, 5:30-7:30 PM,
IMS Conference Center, Nancy Mathes, Paper-Lite,™
“The Antidote to Inefficiency”

February
3  IMS Board, Society, 6:00 PM, Social; 6:30 PM, Dnr/Mtg.
17 Executive Committee, Society, 6:30 PM, Sandwiches; Activate Nominating Committee.

March
4  Senior/Inactive Luncheon Meeting, Noon,
Society, Speaker TBD
9  AMA President’s Forum Grand Hyatt, Washington, DC
(Pres & Pres-Elect) precedes Advocacy Conf.
10-11 National Advocacy Conference, Washington, DC
17 Executive Committee, Society, 6:00 PM, Sandwiches.
Nominating Committee following EC.
30 Happy Doctor’s Day!

April
7  IMS Board, Society, 6:00 PM, Social; 6:30 PM, Dnr/Mtg.
20 Alliance Delivery of Spring Bouquets & Truffles –
Staff Appreciation Week
21 Executive Committee, Society, 6:00 PM, Sandwiches.

IMS Bulletin, December 2008
stopped his coumadin and said he would rely on herbs to get him through.

So far, he is the cat with nine lives. He has survived two heart attacks, cardiothoracic surgery, pulmonary embolism, and arrhythmia, all after stopping all medical care soon after release from the hospital.

While I have come to understand I cannot reason with him or explain the physiology adequately, I still keep trying.

Now, the same type of distrust comes from some of my siblings. Recently, my sister, with a history of miscarriage became pregnant. This time, she carried the child to term. She didn’t call too often for advice so I didn’t push. On delivery, the child had severe meconium aspiration and is now on a ventilator in the NICU.

Unbeknownst to the rest of us, she and her husband had decided to have a home birth. Of the 8 kids and 23 grandchildren, we have had multiple pregnancy related complications including urgent c-sections, meconium aspiration, fetal hydrops, and transient tachypnea of the newborn, jaundice, and death. Somehow the problems that the rest of us have had went unheeded as she and her husband, elected to have the child at home. Not being monitored during the home delivery, the baby became stressed, stuck and my sister was transported to the hospital where she eventually delivered a little girl who remains on a ventilator with severe meconium aspiration. It is too early to tell what permanent neurological damage there will be.

Where did I go wrong? I review lab and x-ray reports, talk to their physicians, and generally interpret for them whenever asked. I try to describe things in simple language, and go over medications, diagnoses, and tests. Why then, even with a physician in the family, is there such distrust? Am I not the daughter and sister they have always known? Have I not encouraged healthy living over drugs? Haven’t we sat at the table and discussed medicine, alternative therapies, the hassle of medical insurance? Haven’t we shared the trials and tribulations of being a patient and physician? Why then is there the sense that the old, “natural” way is better?

My 14 year old daughter said it best when, on hearing of her aunt’s attempt at home birth and it’s complications, noted that while many women did give birth at home in the past, the infant and maternal mortality rate was higher then as well.

I am always open to new ideas and hope that alternative therapies will be found to have merit. I applaud the work of the NIH in its funding of research into folk medicines and alternative therapies.

What can I learn from all this? That despite our best efforts, there are many who distrust our profession. Hopefully I can provide comfort, information, and guidance while recognizing that my family, like some of my patients, will still have distrust and misunderstanding. In the end, they have the right to make their own decisions even if I disagree.
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(Continued from page 12.)
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Agency Associates, Inc.................................................. 26
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield............................. 4
Center for Pain Management...................................... 10
Central Indiana Cancer Centers.................................. 18
Circle City Evaluation Center..................................... 24
The Columbus Organization....................................... 23
Community Health Network...................................... 25
Correctional Medical Services................................... 30
Diamond Capital Management.................................. 37
Fifth Third Private Bank............................................. 31
Hearing Center Inc.................................................... 39
Heartland Neurology............................................... 33
ISMA Insurance Agency............................................ 20
IU Medical Group..................................................... 29
Sonnie Laviolette, F. C. Tucker Co., Inc....................... 6
The Marina Limited Partnership.................................. 3
Medical Society Exchange......................................... 37
Meridian North Imaging Center.................................. 21
Midwest Pain Institute.............................................. 15
The National Bank of Indianapolis............................ 9
netmed Transcription............................................... 2
Northwest Radiology Network................................... 40
OrthoIndy................................................................... 19
Otolaryngology Associates........................................ 27
Practice Billing, LLC................................................... 34
St. Vincent Heart Center of Indiana........................... 17
Superior Linen Service.............................................. 12
Urology of Indiana.................................................... 35
VeinSolutions............................................................ 14
Bif Ward, F. C. Tucker Co., Inc................................. 13

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