

## Message from the President

# Let's Talk about Medicaid

Modernizing Medicaid provides the medical community the opportunity to provide principled leadership critical to our practices and our patients. The approaches to this "modernization" split along ideological lines and may pit us against each other or may provide an opportunity to unify around a set of sensible recommendations GAMA can give to the Human Services Department (HSD). My earnest hope is for the latter.

Medicaid is a joint federal and state funded program that provides medical care for low income pregnant women, children, the disabled and, increasingly, low income seniors in nursing homes. More than 550,000 New Mexicans are currently enrolled in Medicaid -about one in four citizens. The state currently spends more than \$600 million of the \$4 billion spent annually on the program (the other \$3.4 billion coming from federal dollars). NM Human Services Department (HSD) indicates that 16% of the state budget will be spent on Medicaid in 2012. By 2019 that will increase to 20% of the state budget with 750,000 enrollees and a cost of over \$1 billion dollars.

Given the downturn in the economy and intensified efforts to reduce the federal deficit, New Mexico and other states face a rapid increase in enrollment at the same time federal dollars will decrease. The state's "Medicaid Modernization" program is intended to "protect & improve services for those who depend on it most." The four principles of the Medicaid Modernization Plan are to:

1. Incorporate all services into a "second generation" of care better tailored to meet the needs of New Mexico's vulnerable population and offer a full spectrum of benefits from newborns to nursing care,
2. Increase personal responsibility by implementing sliding scale co-pays for some high-cost services, and pursuing financial incentives to reward healthy behavior,
3. Institute pay for performance targets that move us toward paying for health care outcomes rather than quantity of services provided, and
4. Increase administrative efficiencies by combining all our waivers into a single waiver so we can manage the program rather than the waivers (New Mexico Human Services Website)

This can be called the "Oh no, the state is going to go broke and will need to create a system of co-payments for patients and decreased reimbursement for providers in order to maintain sustainability" point of view.

Another point of view emphasizes the federal preponderance of dollars spent on Medicaid and the positive economic impact of Medicaid spending. Advocates emphasize that New Mexico's favorable Medicaid Federal Assistance Percentage (FMAP) means that one state dollar brings in three federal dollars. Assuming the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is not overturned by the Supreme Court, adults living below 138 percent of the federal poverty level will be eligible for Medicaid in 2014. This will expand coverage to 133,000 to 183,000 New Mexicans - increasing revenue to hospitals and physicians

Continued on page 5



Dion E. Gallant, M.D.

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**EDITORIAL POLICY**

GAMA Reports is published monthly by the Greater Albuquerque Medical Association. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent GAMA policy. Comments from members are welcome and may be mailed to GAMA, 7770 Jefferson NE, #420, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 821-4583, or e-mailed to [gama@gama-med.org](mailto:gama@gama-med.org). Material may be edited.

Guest Editorials must have prior approval of subject by the editor and should not exceed 800 words and may be edited;

The deadline for submission of final copy is the first Wednesday of the month preceding the month of publication

Please note that letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words and guest editorials as well as articles should be limited to 800 words. Subscription rates are included in dues. Advertising rates given on request. Advertisements appearing in this publication do not constitute endorsement by the Association of the product or service.  
Jeremy Gleeson, M.D. - Editor

GAMA Board meetings are held every month on the second Thursday. The meetings are held at 7770 Jefferson NE in the 4th floor conference room beginning at 7:00am. -Members are welcome to attend.

**VISIT THE GAMA WEBSITE AT:**  
<http://www.gamamed.org>

**Article and ad submission deadlines  
for the October Newsletter  
Wednesday, September 14, 2011**

## Sorting the Wheat from the Chaff

I was struck by a missed clinical opportunity described in a recent article in that well-known journal published by the Massachusetts Medical Society.

A patient with a splenectomy 10 years earlier developed pneumococcal sepsis, DIC and "barely survived." Fortunately she recovered. It turned out that she never received pneumococcal vaccination. Not surprisingly, she sued her physicians. Where did this happen? Not in one of the medically underserved counties of New Mexico, but in a Harvard affiliated system in Boston, a city that has never been shy about proclaiming its superior medical care. It is inconceivable that the patient's surgeon, primary care doctor, and others who took care of her were unaware of the recommendations for pneumococcal vaccination in this clinical setting.

So what happened? It can only be described as a system failure. The patient had received her care, including the splenectomy, in this same integrated delivery system for 10 years. Now, we might think an electronic health record with built in alerts would readily fix this oversight. Turns out that an EHR had been implemented in the patient's integrated delivery system nine years earlier. Although the system was programmed to issue alerts about recommended vaccinations, including pneumococcal vaccination every 5 years for post splenectomy patients, no such alert was generated. The patient's splenectomy was apparently not entered as a discrete data element in the record, so the system was not aware of the history. (Entering the surgical history in a narrative clinical note does not count.)

In a subsequent safety review it was noted that three times as many patients, 54% vs. 17%, where splenectomy was documented electronically received the vaccination compared to those in whom it was not in the electronic problem list. So the system worked, sometimes.

It is clear that the EHR's features have to be utilized properly for benefits, like clinically relevant alerts, to be generated. In this case such an alert could have led to an obvious major benefit for the patient. It is, however, disconcerting that only about half of patients with "splenectomy" appropriately listed on the electronic problem list, for whom alerts were presumably generated, had received the vaccination. Why do the alerts not work consistently to ensure the patient gets needed care? Not likely in this instance because the physician disagrees with the recommendation.

I don't know, but my own experience with an EHR suggests a possibility. We are bombarded with alerts. Everything from nebulous possibilities of "sulfa allergy" to useless warnings that there is "no dose range established" for whatever insulin we prescribe, to an alleged "absolute contraindication" to prescribing metformin to patients listed with stage one chronic kidney disease – who by definition have a normal GFR and in whom no such contraindication exists. Requests to have the EHR manufacturer fix these go unheeded. Anecdotal estimates of the rate of unhelpful or useless warnings ranges between 95% and 98% depending on whom you ask. What does the busy doctor do; most likely ignores all the warnings and misses those that truly matter.

This represents a missed opportunity to improve care. It's time to sort the electronic wheat from the chaff and highlight what really counts (Matthew 3). Remember the story about the boy who cried wolf. Only when we sort out the clinically important wheat from the EHR generated chaff, will the potential for improved care be realized.



Jeremy Gleeson, M.D.



Dawn Travelstead, RD, CDE; Cynthia Petersen, MA, LPCC, LADAC; Michele Zerah, MD; Ellen Kaufman, MD; Mary Wilcox, RN, CDE.  
Not pictured: Deborah Zamora-Allen, MD; Douglas Henry, MD.

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**Private office space for rent within a Clinical Research Facility** at 612 Encino Place NE across the street from the Highland Pharmacy/Medical Arts area. Contact Patti at 765-2325 for more information.

**Ultrasound for Sale :**

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**Closing orthopaedic office:** furniture, equipment, supplies, for sale. Call: 803-6565

**Seeking a board-certified psychiatrist to be Principal Investigator /subinvestigator for Phase II-IV clinical trials.** Contact Dr. Sandra Lapham at 244-3099 (slapham@bhrcs.org).

**Vascular Surgeon or General Surgeon interested in Phlebology** - The Vein Center of New Mexico, LLC, desires to establish a long-term relationship with a physician interested in Phlebology. With the advances in the treatment of venous disorders, and the application of advanced laser treatments, this newly recognized Sub-Specialty is a lifestyle friendly option for physicians. Interested individuals should contact Rita Marquez at the Vein Center of New Mexico. Her direct line is 505-314-7061.

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throughout the state. Those revenues will find their way into local economies to create new jobs. HSD projects that the federal government will pay more than 92% of this expansion during the first seven years. After that, the federal component will remain substantially larger than the state's.

Under the current ACA spending scenario, new federal Medicaid spending in NM between 2014 and 2020 will be between \$6.3 and \$8.7 billion. This will require the state to spend between \$496 and \$797 million. NM Voices for Children estimates that new tax revenues resulting from federal funding flowing into New Mexico will cover the great majority of the new state funding required from Medicaid expansion.

This can be called the "Don't worry, New Mexico will do fine" point of view.

Still another point of view holds that current Medicaid funding is akin to a Ponzi scheme where states invest a dollar to draw down two or three federal dollars. The pressures to reduce federal spending are clear to all who have been watching the national debate as we enter a presidential election year. How long the current funding mechanism can/will/should be maintained is an area of active debate.

Several studies estimate that 10 to 40% of the nation's \$466 billion Medicaid program is spent on fraud, abuse and improper payment. Medicaid block grants are proposed as way to allow fiscal incentives to promote primary care and prevention, fiscal disincentives to reduce inappropriate and over utilized services, and the freedom for individuals to have real choice in coverage options without burdensome federal regulation and a one size fits all benefit package. At the center of this is a shared accountability for both the quality and fiscal outcome. This accountability would be distributed to the insurer, payer, consumer, hospital and physician providers.

This might be called the "Get the Feds and regulations out of Medicaid and we'll be just fine" point of view.

Physicians have an unprecedented opportunity to grapple with these issues and help the state modernize Medicaid. Will increased personal responsibility (patient copays), pay for performance (for providers & MCOs), and aggressively managed care help contain costs?

GAMA needs your help. Dr Denise Aamodt will chair a subcommittee of GAMA officers and trustees who will struggle to find some sensible recommendations that we can offer the HSD and your input will help them in this important work. I would very much like to hear your opinions on how GAMA can respond to this challenge and will forward them to our subcommittee.

*Have a have a good month, take good care of your patients and take good care of yourself.*

Dion Gallant, MD  
dgallant@pfs.org

## **Meet the NM Superintendit of Insurance**

**Attend this GAMA Professional Enhancement Program  
and meet John Franchini, the NM Superintendent of In-  
surance.**

**"What if? How do I protect my  
Medical Corporation?"  
Tuesday, September 20  
5:30 PM Reception  
Sponsored by Fairway Insurance  
6:30 PM Program  
Casa Rondena  
<http://gamamemberserviceevent.eventbrite.com>**

## GAMA Congratulates PMG

The Presbyterian Medical Group is now a nationally recognized (NCQA) Level 3 Patient Centered Medical Home at its Isleta site. PMG Isleta is one of two practices in the state of New Mexico to achieve a NCQA-PCMH Level 3 recognition. The accreditation is based on the following categories:

- Access and Communication
- Patient Tracking and Registry Functions
- Care Management
- Patient Self-Management Support
- Electronic Prescribing
- Test Tracking
- Referral Tracking
- Performance Reporting and Improvement
- Advanced Electronic Communication

GAMA congratulates PMG in its efforts to improve the care of its patients.

## MINUTES - BOARD OF TRUSTEES July 14, 2011

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 12, 2011  
The minutes of the June 9, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved.
- II. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS
  - a. The following applications were unanimously approved for membership.
  - b. COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS July 2011

Name	Practice
Lane MD, Paula J.....	Lovelace Scientific Resources – General Practice
Love MD, Lily .....	Presbyterian Medical Group – Otolaryngology
McGee MD, Kevin M.....	Presbyterian Medical Group – Orthopaedic Surgery
Reeve MD, Anthony Pino.....	Industrial Rehab Clinic – Physical Med. & Rehab.
Roybal MD, Anita M. ....	Anita M. Roybal Family & Preventive Health
Sorg DO, John Cooper .....	Manzano Medical Group – Physical Med. & Rehab.
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a. Delinquent Members: New member invoices continue to cause the delinquent member list rise and fall as invoices are paid.
  - b. GAMA Quarterly Membership Professional Development/Educational meetings:
    1. "The NM Corporate Fix: What If . . . & What Are My Options?"
    2. Tuesday, September 20 at Casa Rondena
  - c. GAMA Advocacy Plan:
    1. LHHSC Reception – Wednesday, October 5 from :00 PM – 8:00 PM Los Poblanos
  - d. Facilities Committee Report – Snyder reported that meetings with the land lord, architect had taken place and work would begin shortly.
  - e. GAMA Session Advocacy – Snyder reported on the 2011 Session expenditures and presented a proposed 2012 Budget. The 2012 budget was adopted and Snyder was directed to move forward .
  - f. GAMA Future Events:
    1. GAMA Fun & Fitness Mini Events
      1. Office Managers Meeting: Tuesday, July 26
      2. Emeritus Society: Wednesday, August 3 at Eye Associates conference room
      3. Isotopes Game – Sunday, August 7
      4. UNM Cumulative Marathon or Half Marathon – Saturday, August 13
      5. "Family Fun Fiesta" – Sunday, September 18, 2011; 3:00 – 6:00 PM, NHCC
      6. GAMA EXPO 2011 – Thursday, October 27- Marriott Pyramid
        1. Preceded by a CME at 3:30 PM
      7. GAMA 2012 Annual Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2012
    2. Dr. Gallant requested that all Board members add the event dates to their calendars.
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Councilor Elections: The Councilor election results were reported and ratified. Dr. Gallant expressed appreciation for all of the candidates and congratulations to Drs. McAneny and Whisler.
  - b. GAMA Annual Board Planning Session: following discussion it was agreed that an orientation should be held, but did not require a lengthy meeting.
  - c. 2012 Dues Increase: Snyder requested that the Finance Committee review data and consider a \$15.00 per member dues increase for 2012.
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None
- VI. Next Board Meeting: Thursday, August 11, 2011.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted:  
Benjamin Q. Chan, M.D., Secretary  
Reported by H. Diane Snyder  
Approved: August 11, 2011

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# Candidates for Membership



## **Berger MD, Joel C.**

is practicing Pediatrics at After Hours Pediatrics, 9201 Montgomery Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111, 298-2505. Dr. Berger received his medical degree in 2008 from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. In 2009, he completed a one-year Pediatrics Internship at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. In 2011, he completed a three-year Pediatrics Residency at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. Dr. Berger is licensed to practice in NM.



## **Egelhoff MD Elizabeth J.**

will be practicing Internal Medicine at the PMG Rust Hospital in Rio Rancho, NM. Dr. Egelhoff received her medical degree in 2006 from the Georgetown School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. In 2007, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Internship at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver, CO. In 2009, she completed a two-year Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver, CO. Dr. Egelhoff is licensed to practice in NM and CO.



## **Friedman MD, Sara S**

is practicing Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Musello Partnership, 881 Lead Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102, 242-6899. Dr. Friedman received her medical degree in 2005 from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. In 2006, she completed a one-year Obstetrics and Gynecology Internship at the University of California, Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, CA. In 2009, she completed a three-year Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, CA. Dr. Friedman is licensed to practice in NM and CA.



## **Head MD, Kathy L.**

is practicing Occupational Medicine at Green Island Evaluations, Inc., 7510 Montgomery NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, 250-1097. Dr. Head received her medical degree in 1995 from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. In 1996, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Internship at the Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, CA. In 1998, she completed a two-year Occupational Medicine Residency at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA. American Board Certified in Occupational Medicine, Dr. Head is licensed to practice in NM and CA.



## **Mulqueen DO, Catherine T.**

is practicing Radiology at Radiology Associates of Albuquerque, 4411 The 25 Way, Albuquerque, NM 87109, 332-6900. Dr. Mulqueen received her medical degree in 1999 from the University of New England; College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, ME. In 2000, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Internship at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton, MA. In 2004, she completed a four-year Radiology Residency at Maine Medical Center in Portland, ME. In 2005, she completed a one-year Women's Imaging/Radiology Fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. American Board Certified in Radiology; Dr. Mulqueen is licensed to practice medicine in NM and MA.



## **Schechterman MD, Steven**

is practicing Oncology at Hematology Oncology Associates PC, 1001 Coal Ave. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106, 938-5858. Dr. Schechterman received his medical degree in 1999 from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. In 2002, he completed a three-year Internal Medicine Residency at the Medical College of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. In 2005, he completed a three-year Hematology/Oncology Fellowship at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. American Board Certified in Oncology and Internal Medicine, Dr. Schechterman is licensed to practice in NM, OR and WA.

Candidates for membership continued on page 9

# CME

**September 10, 2011**

Congestive Heart Failure: System Solutions for Preventable Readmissions  
El Dorado Hotel & Spa, Santa Fe, NM  
Contact: Ericka Contreras at (505) 913-5602 or ericka.contreras@stvin.org

**September 10, 2011**

Diabetes Day for the Primary Care Physicians - NM Chapter of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology  
Embassy Suites, Albuquerque, NM  
Contact: Janelle Johnson (904) 353-7878 ext. 119 or <http://aes.aace.com>

**September 14 – 16, 2011**

2nd International Meeting On Indigenous Women's Health  
Hotel Albuquerque At Old Town, Albuquerque, Nm  
Contact: Kathy Breckenridge At 505-272-3942 Or [Http://Hsc.Unm.Edu/Cme](http://Hsc.Unm.Edu/Cme)

**September 16-17, 2011**

NM Health Information Technology Conference  
College of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM  
Contact: (505) 938-9900 or [www.nmhitrec.org](http://www.nmhitrec.org)

**September 30, 2011**

John N. Wilson MD Lectureship - Cardiovascular Diseases Update  
Marriott Pyramid North Hotel, Albuquerque, NM  
Contact: Presbyterian Medical Education Department at (505) 841-1225

**October 16 – 21, 2011**

Update And Review Of Internal Medicine 2011  
La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, Nm  
Contact: Kathy Breckenridge At 505-272-3942 Or [Http://Hsc.Unm.Edu/Cme](http://Hsc.Unm.Edu/Cme)

**October 21, 2011**

Advocacy for Cancer Patients Seminar  
Pecos River Village Conference Center, Carlsbad, NM  
Contact: UNM Office of CME (505)272-3942 or <http://www.wlis-tentoyourmom.org>

**October 27, 2011**

Risky Business: Avoiding Common Medical Malpractice Concerns in a Busy Office, Marriott Pyramid from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., <http://gamariskybusiness.eventbrite.com>

**October 27-29, 2011**

New Mexico Chapter American College of Physicians Annual Scientific Meeting  
Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel, Albuquerque, NM  
To register: [www.acponline.org/chapters/nm](http://www.acponline.org/chapters/nm)

**October 29, 2011**

Bioethics Conference: End of Life Decision Making: Ethics and Practical Applications  
El Dorado Hotel & Spa, Santa Fe, NM  
Contact: Ericka Contreras at (505) 913-5602 or ericka.contreras@stvin.org

**November 4, 2011**

James W. Wiggins MD Lectureship - Obstetrics & Gynecology Update  
Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel, Albuquerque, NM  
Contact: Presbyterian Medical Education Department (505) 923-1225

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# Candidates for Membership

Candidates for membership continued from page 7



## **Shah MD, Amish**

is practicing Radiation Oncology at New Mexico Oncology Hematology Consultants, Ltd., 4901 Lang Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, 842-8171. Dr. Shah received his medical degree in 2006 from Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. In 2007, he completed a one-year Internship at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. In 2011, he completed a four-year Radiation Oncology Residency at Columbia University – NY Presbyterian in New York, NY. Dr. Shah is licensed to practice in NM and NY.



## **Sharma MD, Marigene S.**

is practicing Internal Medicine at Rio Grande Family Medicine, 801 Encino Pl. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102, 224-7400. Dr. Sharma received her medical degree in 1997 from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine in Albuquerque, NM. In 1998, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Internship at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. In 1999, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Residency from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. In 2000, she completed a one-year Internal Medicine Residency from the University of Las Vegas at Nevada School of Medicine in Las Vegas, NV. American Board Certified in Internal Medicine; Dr. Sharma is licensed to practice medicine in NM and NV.



## **Tran DO, Minhnga**

is practicing Family Practice at Southwest Medical Associates, 4420 Irving Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87114, 823-1010. Dr. Tran received her degree in 2007 from Midwestern University – Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in Downer's Grove, IL. In 2010, she completed a three-year Family Practice Internship & Residency at MacNeal Memorial Hospital in Berwyn, IL. American Board Certified in Family Practice; Dr. Tran is licensed in NM and IL.

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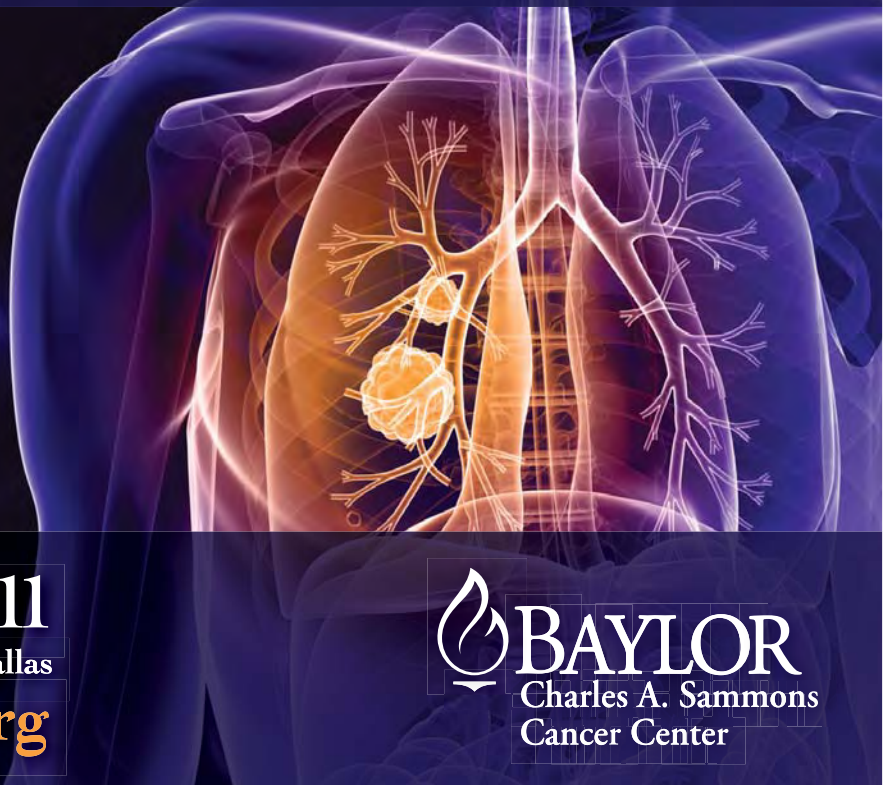


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# NORTH TEXAS MULTIDISCIPLINARY LUNG CANCER SYMPOSIUM


A Continuing Medical  
Education event designed  
for Medical, Radiologic  
& Surgical Oncologists,  
Pulmonologists,  
Cardiothoracic Surgeons,  
and Diagnostic Radiologists.



## OCTOBER 1, 2011

Baylor Sammons Cancer Center, Dallas

[www.cmebaylor.org](http://www.cmebaylor.org)

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## Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) Announces NEW MEXICO NURSES JOIN EFFORT TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE

Eight New Mexico hospitals participating in nurse-led effort to improve patient care

The Albuquerque Coalition for Healthcare Quality and the New Mexico Medical Review Association (NMMRA) announced today that eight hospitals across New Mexico are participating in the Regional Aligning Forces for Quality Transforming Care at the Bedside (AF4Q TCAB) initiative. Regional AF4Q TCAB is part of an innovative nationwide program led by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated to improving the health and health care of Americans. AF4Q TCAB engages nurses and other frontline staff to identify areas where care can be enhanced and test ways to improve it.

Across New Mexico, nine teams in eight hospitals are working to identify, pilot and adopt new procedures over an 18-month period. Participating nurses will then share their successes learned with other hospital staff across the state and country.

"Hospitals across New Mexico are looking for models of reform, initiatives that help local communities get high-quality care and make the system work better for everyone," said Patricia Montoya, project director for the Albuquerque Coalition for Healthcare Quality at NMMRA, which is leading the AF4Q TCAB program. "The work of the nurses and other hospital staff participating in this program will result in proven methods for improving patient care. That means better quality and more satisfaction for everyone."

Regional AF4Q TCAB is not a traditional quality improvement program. One primary characteristic that sets it apart is its focus on engaging frontline nursing staff and unit managers. This regional approach is an innovative way for hospitals to efficiently use their resources without the expense of traveling out of state for training. Other states involved in the Regional AF4Q TCAB initiative include Wisconsin, Minnesota, Western New York and Oregon.

"When patients and their families enter hospitals, they should have confidence that they will receive high-quality care that is responsive to their needs," said John R. Lumpkin, MD, MPH, senior vice president and director of the health care group at RWJF. "Since nurses work closest to the patient, they have the unique vantage point of knowing how to improve the system in order to provide safer, better quality care. Engaging nurses directly in quality improvement is a step in the right direction."

Since its inception nearly 10 years ago, select hospitals in communities across the country have been participating in TCAB collaboratives to create and test new concepts, develop exemplary care models within their units, and demonstrate institutional commitment and resources to support and sustain these innovations.

In 2009, Lovelace Medical Center and Lovelace Westside Hospital joined a separate three-year national AF4Q TCAB initiative, which will be concluding in 2012.

Unlike traditional TCAB collaboratives that have focused on medical and surgical units, Regional AF4Q TCAB encourages inpatient and outpatient areas to participate as well. Hospitals that have implemented the TCAB program consistently report positive outcomes on the participating units, such as decreased falls and pressure ulcers, increased time spent by nurses in direct patient care, and increased patient and nursing satisfaction.

Hospitals participating in the Regional AF4Q TCAB program are:

- Dr. Dan C. Trigg Memorial Hospital (Tucumcari)
- Lincoln County Medical Center (Ruidoso)
- Lovelace Women's Hospital (Albuquerque)
- Plains Regional Medical Center (Clovis)
- Presbyterian Espanola Hospital (Espanola)
- Presbyterian Hospital (Albuquerque)
- Presbyterian Kaseman Hospital (Albuquerque)
- Socorro General Hospital (Socorro)

Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) is RWJF's signature effort to lift the overall quality of health care, as well as reduce racial and ethnic disparities and provide models for national reform, in 16 targeted communities across the country. Since 2009, Albuquerque has been a designated AF4Q community working to improve health care in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. The local RWJF grant funded effort is being led by the Albuquerque Coalition for Healthcare Quality, a collaborative comprised of local employers, health plans, hospitals, health care providers and consumers working together to improve the quality of health and health care in the community. The Coalition is located at and is a partner with the New Mexico Medical Review Association (NMMRA), the state's federally qualified Quality Improvement Organization, which is the grant holder on behalf of the community.

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The Doctors Company built its reputation on the aggressive defense of our member physicians' good names and livelihoods. And we do it well: Over 82 percent of all malpractice cases against our members are won without a settlement or trial, and we win 87 percent of the cases that do go to court. So what do you get for your money? More than a fighting chance, for starters. Our medical professional liability program is exclusively endorsed by the New Mexico Medical Society. To learn more about our benefits for NMMS members, call (800) 880-9485 or visit us at [www.thedoctors.com](http://www.thedoctors.com).



[www.thedoctors.com](http://www.thedoctors.com)

# GAMA EXPO

## What is it? Why Should I go?

The GAMA Expo, is Thursday October 27 from 5 to 8:00 p.m. at the Marriott Pyramid. <http://gamaexpo2011.eventbrite.com> to register

The Expo is a yearly event that allows GAMA members to network and learn new trends that will help you keep your practice up-to-date.

Last year, we had over 75 vendors and around 150 attendees.

Here's the top 10 reasons to attend this year's Expo:

10. Meet your colleagues
9. Learn something new to improve your medical practice.
8. Learn something new to create life balance.
7. Win a FABULOUS door prize (must preregister and be present to WIN!)
6. Free food!
5. Buy a raffle ticket and a chance for a GREAT prize to help some one less fortunate. (This year's nonprofit partner is the Barrett Foundation.)
4. Make new friends.
3. IT'S FREE
2. Support your professional membership organization.
1. Did we mention, it's free to GAMA members!

### GAMA FAMILY FUN FIESTA "CELEBRATE THE HISPANIC CARIBBEAN"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Where: National Hispanic Cultural  
Center

Time: 3:00 PM — 6:00 PM

Fun, Food, Festivities

Bring the family!!

Don't Miss this Family Fun Event!!

Free, but Reservations Required.

Call GAMA at 505.821-4583 or email  
[gama@gamamed.org](mailto:gama@gamamed.org)

Sponsored by:



Register online at <http://gamafamilyfun.eventbrite.com/>

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## ***Metastatic Melanoma Therapeutics Learning***

By

### **Charles Cowey, MD and Dan McCoy, MD**

A. Sammons Cancer Center,  
Baylor University Medical Center,  
Tx Oncology, PA

Texas Dermatology Associates  
Dallas, TX

#### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be better able to:

- Define the current landscape of melanoma therapeutics.
- Evaluate the clinical application of ipilimumab in metastatic melanoma.
- Review the role of vemurafenib for BRAF V600 mutants.

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

CME Program at 12:00 p.m.

Savage Auditorium- Presbyterian Hospital

\*Please contact [Lmccade@phs.org](mailto:Lmccade@phs.org) if you would like to take part in the web streaming of this program.

#### **Sponsored by Presbyterian Healthcare Services**

**AMA:** Presbyterian Healthcare Services is accredited by the New Mexico Society (NMMS) to provide Continuing Medical Education for physicians.

Presbyterian Healthcare Services designates this live activity for a **maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**AAFP:** This activity has been reviewed and is acceptable for up to 1.0 Prescribed credit hours by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

**Pharmacists:** CME credit is recognized by the NM Board of Pharmacy and will be awarded to all pharmacists in attendance (NM Board of Pharmacy Regulation 16.19.4.10 B (1))

**Nursing:** CME credit is recognized by the NM State Board of Nursing and will be awarded to all nurses in attendance.



**SUSANA MARTINEZ**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 31, 2011**

**Contact: Scott Darnell**  
**(505) 819-1398**  
[scott.darnell@state.nm.us](mailto:scott.darnell@state.nm.us)

## **GOVERNOR SUSANA MARTINEZ ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF HEALTHCARE REFORM**

**SANTA FE** – Governor Susana Martinez announced today that she has appointed Dr. Dan Derksen, M.D. to head the New Mexico Office of Healthcare Reform. Dr. Derksen is a family physician, a Senior Fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Center for Health Policy, and joins the administration from the University of New Mexico where he was a professor in the Department of Family & Community Medicine.

“Dr. Derksen has a long career in healthcare and health policy,” said Governor Martinez. “As New Mexico moves to implement healthcare reforms, the experience he has at the state and national level will be very valuable.”

Derksen graduated from the University of Arizona College of Medicine in 1984 and completed his family medicine residency at the University of New Mexico in 1987, joining the faculty in 1988. In 2008 he completed the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship and worked in Washington, D.C., where he researched and drafted federal legislation to improve the nation’s supply and distribution of the health workforce.

Upon returning to New Mexico from Washington, D.C., Dr. Derksen was elected to serve as the President of the New Mexico Medical Society in 2009. In that role, he worked to draft and pass legislation for the state’s Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP). He has also served in various other leadership roles, including five years as the Director of the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, Office of Health Services.

The Office of Healthcare Reform is located within the Human Services Department. The office is charged with identifying and rapidly responding to opportunities at the state and federal levels to develop practical solutions for New Mexico’s health system in order to improve health outcomes and delivery as the state develops its implementation strategy for healthcare reform. Priorities include developing a health insurance exchange and working to develop New Mexico’s health workforce.

###

## GAMA Calendar of Events

### **GAMA Family Fun Fiesta GAMA Members and their Families**

Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011

from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

<http://gamafamilyfun.eventbrite.com> to register

### **GAMA Member Service**

#### **What if? How do I protect my Medical Corporation**

Tuesday, Sept 20, 2011

from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Casa Rondena - take the shuttle from Taft Middle School

<http://gamamemberserviceevent.eventbrite.com>

### **CME for GAMA MEMBERS and their Practice Managers BEFORE the GAMA EXPO**

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Physician Networking Event

Marriott Pyramid

3-5:00 p.m.

#### ***Risky Business: Avoiding Common Medical Malpractice Concerns in a Busy Office***

to register:

<http://gamariskybusiness.eventbrite.com>

### **GAMA Expo**

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Physician Networking Event

Marriott Pyramid

5-8 p.m.

This year our nonprofit partner will be Barrett Foundation

to register:

<http://gamaexpo2011.eventbrite.com>

### **GAMA Emeritus - to be determined**

## **SAVE THE DATE! – PLAN TO ATTEND**

### **GAMA Annual Meeting**

Tuesday, January 10, 2012

Marriott Pyramid

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

## NM Medical Group Management Association Calendar of Events

### **Wednesday, September 14**

At NMMS office

Noon to 1:30

Performance Evaluations by Teresa Marie w/Positive Results Consulting

### **CME for GAMA Practice Managers and NM MGMA Office Staff Members only (not open to NM MGMA Vendor Members)**

#### **BEFORE the GAMA EXPO**

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Physician Networking Event

Marriott Pyramid

3-5:00 p.m.

#### ***Risky Business: Avoiding Common Medical Malpractice Concerns in a Busy Office***

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### **GAMA Expo**

Thursday, October 27, 2011

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5-8 p.m.

This year our nonprofit partner will be Barrett Foundation

to register:

<http://gamaexpo2011.eventbrite.com>

### **SAVE THE DATE! – PLAN TO ATTEND**

November 17-18, 2011 Healthcare Financial Management Association NM Chapter And NM Medical Group Management Association

This joint conference between NMMGMA & NM HFMA is scheduled

for November 17-18, 2011

at the Sheraton Uptown in Albuquerque.

The program agenda is being finalized and will feature such topics and speakers as:

\* Washington Update presented by Jennifer Martin, Government Affairs Representative, MGMA

\* How to Build a Better You presented by Bryan Dodge. Dodge Development

*As more sessions are finalized, additional information will be forthcoming.*