

June 2016

KCMS Bulletin
Kane County Medical Society
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President's Message
Change
by Dr. Andrew Ward



Dear Members,

It seems like the seasons change daily here in Illinois. We have a beautiful summer day in April and a cold winter day in May. Ironically, change in our lives is our only constant, especially when it comes to healthcare. Our hospitals in the area show that. We have seen hospital names changed, procedures altered and familiar faces come and go. It's our normal now.

But some changes can be good. How about using media to inform our patients of new technologies and advancements? Take the radio program, "House Calls" on WRMN 1410-AM as an example. It has featured many topics such as disease prevention and other healthcare topics. Recently, there was a show that aired where three of our member physicians were guest speakers. Dr. Christine Mueller, Dr. Humberto Lamoutte and Dr. Timothy Roth were featured. Each had the chance to speak on uses for the da Vinci robot, which is a robotic platform offering minimally invasive options in many specialties. What a great

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path for transferring information to our patients.

We've seen some changes that unfortunately are not beneficial. For example, some insurance carriers have dropped coverage in certain networks affecting many of our patients and causing much undo stress and confusion. The ISMS-backed *Network Adequacy and Transparency Act* ([House Bill 6562](#)) however, counters this negative change and would require insurers to develop networks that meet the needs of patients for plans sold in Illinois. Insurers would also be required to maintain up-to-date directories of "in-network" health professionals and facilities, and communicate with patients when there are changes to networks.

The bill would ensure continuity of care for pregnant women and for patients with certain other conditions, protecting them from being forced to transition from their physicians when networks change. This bill was introduced late in the legislative session and received significant bipartisan support. ISMS has been engaged in positive negotiations with various stakeholders and General Assembly members.

Change is here to stay. If it's a good change, let's embrace it. If it's not, let's make a difference and make it better. The Kane County and Illinois State Medical Societies provide us with the opportunity to let our voices be heard and impact medicine in positive ways for our patients.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrew Ward

KCMS President



Medical liability coverage
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When it comes to medical liability coverage, choosing ISMIE for your group could be the smartest move you ever make. ISMIE's group policyholders and their professional risk managers expect a lot from their medical liability insurance company: flexible coverage, proactive claims strategies, excellent service, and hands-on risk management. They know that ISMIE is all of those things and will always be one move ahead of the competition.

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A Note from our District Trustee

Herd Immunity

by Dr. Paul DeHaan



I want to talk about a concept that is familiar to us from our work, but also applies to the big picture view of medicine. We all understand the idea of herd immunity, in which threats to a group can be minimized if the majority of its members are protected, thereby conferring passive protection to the otherwise unprotected members. We know how important it is in an immunization program to maintain the participation of as many members of the community as possible, and that the inevitable few outliers will still benefit from the responsible behavior of the majority.

There is a striking parallel between getting your flu shot and participating in advocacy for our profession. As long as a majority of physicians support their professional organizations, those advocacy efforts can be successful, and those who choose not to participate still benefit from the good work of their peers. When resources are robust, positive legislative efforts like the Prescription Monitoring Program succeed, and bad ideas, such as periodic sweeps of the Medical Disciplinary Fund, can be resisted.

For years, you have listened to us talk about a litany of issues that are critical to the wellbeing of our patients and our profession. The details of the day change, but the message stays the same. There must be organized, effective representation from physicians, the leaders of the health care delivery system, to help direct health care policy and legislation in our state. Surely our specialty organizations play a role in this, but none have the resources, the reputation, and the scope of a statewide organization that represents all physicians, all specialties, all demographics, and all practice types. That organization is the Illinois State Medical Society, along with the great local work of the county societies.

The herd immunity we have built up provides great passive benefit to the individual doctor who chooses to withhold his or her support for this effort. As long as enough colleagues participate, the work goes on, and threats from the multitudes of other stakeholders in the world of healthcare are kept

reasonably at bay. But this only works if the resources for our advocacy remain strong.

As our profession is changing, physician participation is also changing. The majority of Illinois physicians are now employed, and their outlook and priorities have shifted. I, like most of you, have chosen to leave the onerous aspects of business management to others, in order to focus on the more attractive components of medicine.

The downside of this is that it is easy to delude ourselves into thinking that the challenges facing our profession are now someone else's problem. Our liability insurance premiums, license renewal fees, and many other thorns in our sides seem to be relieved. It feels as if we can now put in our time at work, and when our shift ends, our cares and concerns end, and somebody else can deal with those other unpleasant realities.

This is where our herd immunity concept fails. Far too many physicians have chosen not to support organized medicine. Membership and dues income are falling, and the resources to push for necessary policy changes – and to resist counterproductive initiatives – are at risk. Just recently, we prevailed when the psychologists wanted to prescribe psychotropic medications with only minimal instruction in pharmacology, and when minimally trained lay midwives wanted to offer home birth services. But both were close calls, and both groups will continue to try to work the system, to obtain by legislation what they have not achieved by education.

Our challenge, it seems, is to connect with today's physicians and their employers and communicate the value message of advocacy. Although it is impossible for all of us to agree on each and every detail of our work, we must remember that our interests are vastly more parallel than divergent, and membership dues money is an excellent investment. Our medical staff leadership has shown the foresight to support ISMS by offering us this opportunity to reach out to you at quarterly staff meetings, and by supporting our Illinois Medical PAC. We are profoundly grateful for this demonstration of leadership, and we will continue to earn their confidence.

Help me to reach out to those physicians that are not members. The work of our Society depends on the involvement of members, and on new ideas and new perspectives. Each of us has something to offer, and we need only very little of your time. Becoming involved is easy, and I have found it to be a very rewarding experience.

Welcome New Members

Aijaz Alvi, MD

Specialty Care Institute
1710 N. Randall Rd.,
Suite 210
Elgin, IL 60123

JoAnna Barclay, MD

Greater Elgin Pain
Management
1425 N. Randall Rd.
Elgin, IL 60123

Sachin Bansal, MD

Castle Orthopedics
2111 Odgen Ave.
Aurora, IL 60504

Christopher Cambic, MD

Kane Anesthesia Associates
300 Randall Rd.
Geneva, IL 60134

Sebastian Guman, MD

Greater Elgin Pain
Management
1425 N. Randall Rd.
Elgin, IL 60123

Omar Said, MD

Kane Anesthesia Associates
300 Randall Rd.
Geneva, IL 60134

Kane County Medical Managers' Summer

"Wine-Down"

Join us for a relaxing evening away from our homes and offices. Enjoy a glass of wine and some delicious appetizers. (Soft drinks available)

No speakers, no agenda.

Just relaxation and networking!

When: Thursday, July 21

Where: Charleston on the River located at

1 Illinois St., St. Charles, IL (in beautiful downtown St. Charles (on the river))

Time: 6:30 pm

Cost: Appetizers and first glass of wine (or soft drink) at no charge for our members. Any additional drinks must be purchased by you. Guests \$25

RSVP to Paula @paula@kcmsdocs.org or call 630-584-6129



Saturday, October 22nd

8:30 am — 12:30 pm

Location: Q-Center 1405 N 5th Ave. (Rt. 25) in St. Charles

Physicians' Wellness Retreat-

“Being of Sound Mind and Body”

Statistics show that 1 in 3 physicians suffer from burnout on any given day. They are burned out mentally and physically. This affects patients and home life.

Join us, with your significant other, for a morning of education, empowerment and balance.

Kane and McHenry County Medical Societies would like to invite you to a retreat in St. Charles. As a society, we see our doctors (and their significant others) becoming more and more burned out and dispirited. The society wants to make a difference in your “healthcare” life as well as your home life. Please join us, with your significant other, for our first session called ***Being of Sound Mind and Body***.

If our physicians feel this is a worthwhile cause, we will continue to offer these retreats, along with additional events in the evenings.

Watch your mail and email for registration and invitations.

Updates in Texting - DocBookMD to the Rescue

The Joint Commission has updated its policy on texting orders and KCMS's free member benefit, DocBookMD, remains the best way to ensure your practice's compliance.

The new Joint Commission policy reads:

“Licensed independent practitioners or other practitioners in accordance with professional standards of practice, law and regulation, and policies and procedures may text orders as long as a secure text messaging platform is used and the required components of an order are included.”

So what does this mean for you and your practice? It means that you can finally take advantage of the ease and efficiency of communication that mobile text messaging brings, but you need a secure platform on which to do so—the built-in messaging app on your phone just won't cut it.

A secure texting platform must include the following:

- Secure sign-on process
- Encrypted messaging
- Delivery and read receipts
- Date and time stamp
- Customized message retention time frames
- Specified contact list for individuals authorized to receive and record orders

DocBookMD meets and exceeds all of these requirements and is free to all KCMS members.

Learn more about DocBookMD and download a free app at the Apple App Store or Google Play

*NOTE: DocBookMD requires an email address in order for the application to be functional. If you currently DO NOT have an email address and would like to begin using this application for text messaging, please contact the KCMS office at 630-584-6129 or email sue@kcmsdocs.org to activate the application process.