

What's going on with the Kane County Medical Society?
Check the newsletter below for pertinent information.



April/May, 2017

KCMS E-Newsletter of the Kane County Medical Society
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KCMS Featured Member

The Kane County Medical Society physician members are making a difference in medicine.

[Click here](#) and visit our website to see our featured member for January.

If you'd like to be next month's featured physician click [here](#).

News from ISMS

We recently received a dose of good news related to ISMS' work in regulatory advocacy. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it would "pause" its home health pre-claim review demonstration project. The demonstration project was rooted in a CMS effort to decrease fraud in the home health industry, which accounts for a significant volume of deceptive billing. Unfortunately, the pre-certification protocol placed significant burden on doctors.

Despite plans to launch the project in multiple states using a phased approach, Illinois was the only state where the controversial initiative was actually implemented. In acknowledgement of the program's flawed design, and in response to concerns raised by vocal stakeholders affected by the Illinois launch, CMS has suspended the program while it gathers additional feedback and identifies improvements to be made before restarting the initiative.

CMS's action means the project will be shelved for now while they attempt to develop a less onerous manner for home health oversight.

ISMS' advocacy against the pilot was significant. In addition to outreach to CMS, we also voiced our opposition to the Illinois congressional delegation and issued a "call to action" to our members requesting individual outreach to CMS and Congress. While this type of advocacy affects a select segment of our members, it's a clear win for ISMS and a great example of the unique ways ISMS stands for doctors.

ISMS stands for patients as well. By far our most significant legislative initiative this year is a bill to curtail the insurance industry practice of narrowing networks.

Our best estimates are that more than 300,000 patients have purchased health insurance plans that put them in narrow networks, which cover only a few health care professionals and institutions. Often, they've done their homework and checked that their doctor is in-network. But when they show up to their appointment, it turns out the insurance company website was out-of-date, and they won't get the coverage they were promised.

ISMS is working to pass the Network Adequacy and Transparency Act, a law which would provide significant protections for patients, particularly at a time when many people are concerned about losing their health insurance altogether.

Among other provisions, the NAT Act establishes standards for the ratio of healthcare professionals (including specialists) in the network to the number of insureds; requires health insurers to provide notice to patients when their healthcare professional is no longer in a network, and allows patients to change plans if this occurs; allows patients with serious health conditions or who are pregnant to stay with their healthcare professional if the network changes; and ensures that network directories are accurate and kept up-to-date.

The NAT Act is a true bipartisan effort, and the response has been extremely positive; we have more than fifty sponsors in the House from both sides of the aisle. **This bill is very important to our patients, and as physicians we need to call our legislators and urge them to support it – phone calls from constituents are extremely effective.**

If you aren't sure who represents you, you can visit our website www.isms.org. There is a legislator lookup tool under the "governmental affairs" resource tab.

"Pubs and Politics"

We would like to invite you all to a new program called "Pubs and Politics". Our first one-hour program will feature U.S. Representative Randy Hultgren. He will be discussing his take on the changes with the healthcare law.

When: Thursday, April 20th

Where: Old Towne Pub and Eatery in Geneva, (201 W. State St.)

Time: Appetizers and Cocktails (cash bar): 6:30 p.m.

Presentation with Q&A: 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

RSVP to sue@kcmsdocs.org, call 630-584-6129 or go directly to the reservation link below. All member physicians, non-member physicians and guests are welcome. Only guests that have an rsvp reservation will be allowed entry due to the featured speaker and topic. [Register for Pubs and Politics here](#)

KCMS/MCMS May Learning Event:

“Shoulder Injuries: Evaluation and Treatment”

Dr. Michael Kogan, MD with Midwest Bone & Joint Institute

Sponsored by ATI Physical Therapy

When: Thursday, May 17

Where: Biaggi’s Restaurante Italiano

1524 North Randall Road, Algonquin

Time: 6:15 p.m. for Cocktails

6:45 p.m. Dinner and Presentation

Per our sponsor, active healthcare professionals only.

[Register here](#) or call Sue at 630-584-6129



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another triumph.

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Welcome New Member(s)

Kenneth Melchionna, DO
Simpson Eye Associates
650 Springhill Ring Road
West Dundee, IL 60118



QUALITY CARE THAT'S
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Kane County Medical Manager News

The Ever-Changing Face of Fraud



Join us for our next KCMM manager's meeting. We welcome representatives from Citibank who travel the country speaking on business and personal fraud.

Speakers: Korin Walters, Citibank, Vice President and Treasury Consultant

Amine Lahlou, Citibank, Senior Vice President Commercial Bank,
Healthcare Practice Financing Group

Date: Wednesday, May 3rd

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Where: Oscar Swan Country Inn

1800 W. State St., Geneva

- No cost for members
- \$30 for non-members
- RSVP to Paula at paula@kcmsdocs.org or call 630-584-6129 or [Register Here online](#)

Check out the [MARKETPLACE](#) section on the KCMS website for
job postings and classified ads.

Thank you to all our member physicians that are volunteering their time to be delegates at the Illinois State Medical Society's House of Delegates meeting April 21-23.

Delegates: Susan Acuna, MD, Brad Epstein, MD, Andrew Ward, MD

Alt. Delegates: Wayne Polek, MD, Ronald Simone, MD

Special reference committee speaker: Louis Camras, MD

Visit the [ISMS website](#) so you can look at this year's resolutions and make your thoughts known via virtual testimony.

