



ACUMEN

The Official Newsletter of the
Ada Canyon Medical Education Consortium

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News

January 2013 News

Are You Ready for the Sunshine Act?

As we quietly wait for the final regulations to implement the Physician Payment Sunshine Act which we expect could be released by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) any day now. The American Medical Association (AMA) recently published an editorial in *amednews* concerned about the potential implementation of these regulations.

The Sunshine Act, part of the Affordable Care Act, requires manufacturers to submit a list of physicians and teaching hospitals who received from them a transfer of value of \$10 or more, or multiple transfers of less than \$10 that cumulatively exceeds \$100. It also requires manufacturers to list any physicians, or their immediate family members, who hold ownership stakes in their companies. Some items, such as drug samples and educational materials intended for patients, are exempt from being reported.

According to the American Medical Association "The Sunshine Act, as written, could give physicians and their patients the chance to have an open conversation about why those relationships exist. For example, in many cases they are related to physicians' participation in clinical trials. Such disclosure is in line with positions the American Medical Association has put forth calling for informed judgment for patients and a focus on their benefit, all the while requiring meaningful independence from industry for doctors."

An October survey of some 50,000 physicians showed:

- 47% of the respondents were not aware of the requirements of the Physician Payment Sunshine Act.
- 67% of the respondents were not aware that the information collected would be reported to HHS and made available in the public domain.
- 56% of the respondents are concerned about the implications of the Physician Payment Sunshine Act.
- 54% of the respondents are "somewhat" or "very" concerned about the public availability of the information disclosed in the public domain.

The final rules will likely be out in February. ACMEC hopes to get a Grand Rounds speaker to reflect on its impact. Meanwhile a review of the ACT may be useful to your practice.

Upcoming Conferences

1/17-20/2013 36th Annual Hindson Winter Conference (Previously VA Winter Retreat) McCall
Contact: Sandi Denson allisandra.denson@va.gov

2/21-24/2013 ACMS Winter Clinics, McCall
Contact: Linda Jackson director@adamedicalsociety.org

5/17-19/2013 IAFP Conference, Boise
Contact: Neva Santos idahoafp@aol.com

7/26-28/2013 IMA Annual Meeting, Sun Valley
Contact: Erin Trimble erin@idmed.org

Regularly Scheduled Conferences

Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. - Anderson Center

Wednesday, 12:15 p.m. - Winter Room

Friday, 8:00 a.m. - McCleary Auditorium

Other Regularly Scheduled Conferences

St Luke's RMC

Thoracic Tumor Board - 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 a.m

Tumor Board - Tuesday, 12:00 noon

Breast Tumor Board - Thursday, 7 a.m.

MSTI Pediatric Tumor Board - 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 12 noon

CHEERS (Children's Hospital Education Enrichment Review) - 1st Thursday, 8 am

Anderson Center - Ada -2; MATCH 2nd Thursday, 8 am

Saint Alphonsus RMC - Nampa

Tumor Board- Tuesday, 12 noon

West Valley Medical Center

Tumor Board - Monday, 12:30 pm

Saint Alphonsus RMC - Boise

Tumor Board - Thursday, 12 noon

Breast Care Panel, Tuesday, 7:00 am

ACMS Society News

MEMBERSHIP:

No new members this month

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 21-24, 2013 - ACMS Winter Clinics, McCall, Contact: Linda Jackson - director@adamedicalsociety.org

On The Lighter Side

Questions that Andy Rooney would ask!

- What disease did cured ham actually have?
- Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours.
- Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money binoculars to look at things on the ground?
- Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway...
- If corn oil is made from corn and vegetable oil is made from vegetables what is baby oil made from?
- Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?
- Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
- Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?
- Is there ever a day when mattresses aren't on sale?

What's Ahead

February 2013

TBA

March 2013

TBA

(Wednesday, 8:00am/St. Luke's RMC; Wednesday, 12:15pm/Mercy Medical Center; Friday, 8:00am/Saint Alphonsus RMC)

Mohr's Musings...

Physicians as Patients

As a young, healthy woman of 27, I had not anticipated needing medical intervention and, in fact, had planned to evade medical care indefinitely. And yet there I sat at my routine ophthalmology exam being told that both retinas contained tears and required lasering in order to scar them down to prevent detachment. I have known of my significant family history of retinal lattice degeneration for many years and I have been followed regularly by retinal specialists but it was not until now that intervention was recommended.

I did not like being a patient. As I sat in the room hearing bits and pieces of what the procedure entailed, fear crept over my skin and tears flooded my eyes. These were the only eyes I had, what if something went wrong? How could I function with vision loss? I wanted someone to be at my side, to hold my hand and support me. I, a physician, suddenly deeply felt both my lack of ophthalmologic knowledge and my utter humanness.

My parents, boyfriend, and friends all hastened to assist me. My dad, having had the procedure before, reassured me all would be well. My mom offered the comfort that only moms can, and my friends were my family away from home. There are few memories I have of feeling such relief as seeing my best friend seated in the waiting room after my procedure.

How different this experience would have been had I lacked such support. I was grateful for my familiarity

with the medical jargon of retinas, lattices, and lasers, which, to a layperson, may seem like references to The Matrix.

We physicians rush through the same verbose iterations on a daily basis, often to patients who are elderly, hard of hearing, have little to no social support, or who simply do not understand our language. Do we think about what we are saying? Do we take the time to explain procedures, answer questions, and discuss concerns or fears? Do we respond to the emotional needs of our patients? Do we even have the time in our busy schedules to do so?

I can tell you that my physician did, and it meant the world to me. He came across confident in his skill set and knowledge, offered time and options to discuss the situation with my family, and did not make me feel ashamed for my tears or concern. He epitomized empathy. I do not feign to think that each and every one of us has this kind of time or patience. I do ask that you consider for a moment the last time you or a loved one sat on the exam table and received news that was less than desirable.

Those of you who have followed Mohr's Musings know that my father has stated in the past that he believes a certain persona is attracted to medicine: those who fear their own mortalities. Did I face my own mortality at the ophthalmologist? No. Did I face a future with potential loss of vision? Yes. Did it remind me that I, too, am fragile and human just like my patients? I think you know.

I enjoy caring for patients but I have no desire to be a patient. I do not like the loss of control that comes with placing one's wellbeing in the hands of another. I do not like to think that my machine is anything but invincible to disease and may require tinkering; and yet, someday, know it will.

Catie Mohr, MD, HO2
UNMC
Dept of Internal Medicine

Weekly Conferences

January 2013 Conferences

Anderson Center, St. Luke's RMC, Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

- 2 Idaho Epidemiology Update, Chris Hahn, MD
- 9 Alzheimer's Update, Troy Rohn, PhD
- 16 St. Luke's Children's Hospital, Grand Rounds, Arginase Deficiency: A Tale of Two Siblings, Jennifer Taylor, RD, Rachel Westman, MS, CGC
- 23 Old Blood vs New Blood, Paul Eastvold, MD
- 30 Articles that Have Changed My Practice of Inpatient Medicine, Melissa Hagman, M.D.

Winter Room, Saint Alphonsus RMC - Nampa, Wednesday 12:15 p.m.

- 2 Idaho Epidemiology Update, Chris Hahn, MD
- 9 Alzheimer's Update, Troy Rohn, PhD
- 16 Arginase Deficiency: A Tale of Two Siblings, Jennifer Taylor, RD, Rachel Westman, MS, CGC
- 23 Old Blood vs New Blood, Paul Eastvold, MD
- 30 Articles that Have Changed My Practice of Inpatient Medicine, Melissa Hagman, M.D.

AW Horsley, VA Medical Center, Thursday 8:00 a.m.

- 3 Diabetic Foot Fractures, Chris Hirose, MD
- 10 Idaho Epidemiology Update, Chris Hahn, MD
- 17 NO CONFERENCE
- 24 TBA

31 Red Flags in the Spine, Timothy Floyd, MD

McCleary Auditorium, Saint Alphonsus RMC, Friday 8:00 a.m.

4 Idaho Epidemiology Update, Chris Hahn, MD

11 Trauma 2013, Bill Morgan, MD

18 Pulmonary Nodules: The Good, The Bad, The Unforgiven, Cary Jackson, MD

25 Old Blood vs New Blood, Paul Eastvold, MD

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