

FEBRUARY 2008

OCBA Medical Legal Committee Meeting

The Oakland County Bar Association Medical Legal Committee will be having their next meeting on Thursday, February 7th at 7:30a.m. All physician members are invited to attend.

Guest speaker will be David Rogers of Rogers, Mantese and Associates who will discuss "The Legal Pros and Cons of an Independent Medical Staff". Recently, some physicians have begun to argue to medical staff leaders that hospital medical staffs should declare their independence from the hospital by separately incorporating and controlling all credentialing, peer review and quality assurance activities. Is this a trend that is helpful or damaging to hospitals, physicians, and medical staff? What are the Pros and Cons?

If you would like to attend this meeting, please RSVP to Dennise at dgac@ocba.org or 248-334-3400 x213. The OCBA office is located at 1760 S. Telegraph, Ste. 100, Bloomfield Hills.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Driver's License Policy Could Impact OCMS Members

As of January 22, a new state policy requires first-time applicants for a Michigan's driver's license or identification card to prove that they have established a permanent legal residence in the US, per a December 2007 ruling by the Michigan Attorney General. The new policy, which also applies to temporary residents who are here legally on work or student visas, potentially could affect OCMS members such as international medical graduates and other international physicians, residents, fellows, young physicians and medical students.

State Rep Daniel Acciavatti (R-Chesterfield) recently introduced House Bill 5547, which would allow individuals who are here on temporary work or students visas to obtain licenses and ID cards. The bill currently sits in the House Transportation Committee. No vote is scheduled at this time.

OCMS will continue to keep you updated on this legislation through our web site and bulletins.

Upcoming OCMS Calendar

February 6th

Executive Board of Directors Meeting, 6:00p.m, The Community House, Birmingham.

February 20th

Delegation Committee Meeting, 5:30p.m. dinner, 6:00p.m meeting, The Community House, Birmingham

March 4th

Group Managers' Meeting, 9:00-10:00a.m., The Community House, Birmingham

March 10th

Legislative Committee Meeting, 8:00-9:00a.m., The Community House, Birmingham.

OCMS Web Site -
www.ocms-mi.org

Directory Update

The 2008 OCMS Directory Update Forms will be mailed soon. Please return your form with any corrections by May 2. Directories will be mailed out to all OCMS members in July.

MSMS Presents the new Voluntary Employee's Beneficiary Association (VEBA)

On April 3, the MSMS Foundation will host a multi-stakeholder conference discussing the new Voluntary Employee's Beneficiary Association or "VEBA". VEBA is a tax-free Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) that enables employers to make tax-free contributions into a special account on their employee's behalf. The tax-free refunds can then be used to pay or reimburse eligible out-of-pocket health care costs and premiums for employees, their spouse, and qualified IRS dependants.

Guest Speakers:

Darcy Hitesman, Esq., Hayes Hitesman PC
 Mark Gaffney, Michigan State AFL-CIO
 Kristin Diczek, Center for Automotive Research (CAR)
 Thomas Simmer, MD, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
 Steven Fitton, Michigan Medicaid

The conference is being held at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi from 1:00-4:00p.m. on Thursday, April 3rd. Cost is \$125 for MSMS or MMGMA members or \$175 for non-members. Contact Kate McPherson at MSMS for more information, 517-336-5734, kmcpherson@msms.org.

Oakland County Medical Society Alliance (OCMSA)

The OCMSA will be having their next social meeting and membership drive on Tuesday, February 12th, hosted by Vara Navu Luri in Bloomfield Hills. They will be having a cooking class and a talk by a dietitian on the benefits of good eating habits.

On Tuesday, April 8th, the OCMSA will host a talk by Dennis Fairchild, Feng Shui expert and astrologer, and a lunch with an international theme at The Community House in Birmingham.

For more information about the Alliance or these events please contact Kitty Prasad at 734-658-3097.

CME CALENDAR

WEBCAST CONFERENCES

February 7th

Coding for OB/GYN
 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

February 7th

Coding for Pediatrics
 1:00-4:00p.m.

February 14th

Basic ICD-9 Coding
 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.

February 14th

Basic CPT Coding
 1:00-4:00p.m.

REGULAR CONFERENCES

March 20th

Conference on Maternal and Perinatal Health,
 The Inn at St. John's, Plymouth. 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m.

Call MSMS at 517-336-7581 for more information on these conferences.

March 12-14

MMGMA Spring Conference, Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort, Mt. Pleasant
 For more information please contact Sherry Barnhart, 517-336-7581 or sbarnhart@michmgma.org