



Updated: 14 May 2009

# The Speakers' Letter

**2009 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates  
June 13–17, 2009  
Hyatt Regency Chicago**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The following information is provided to aid your planning for the upcoming Annual Meeting in Chicago. **Please take special note of three items: council notes on resolutions (page 3), a new caucus for community-based, private practice physicians (page 6) and an education session on using the eHandbook (page 6).**

Please call (312) 464-4463, send an e-mail to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) or visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009) if you have questions regarding any of the following items or questions on American Medical Association (AMA) policy.

Jeremy A. Lazarus, MD, Speaker  
Andrew W. Gurman, MD, Vice Speaker

## House of Delegates schedule

The 2009 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) will meet June 13–17 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The AMA-HOD will convene at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in the Grand Ballroom. Your Speakers ask that delegates arrive and be seated by 2:50 p.m., as we intend to convene promptly at 3 p.m. The Opening Session is scheduled to conclude by 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, June 14, the “Second Opening” of the AMA-HOD will be in session 8–8:30 a.m. to receive items of business, consider acceptance of late resolutions, and extract informational reports and items from the reaffirmation consent calendar. Although subject to change, depending on the volume of business in each committee, we are currently planning for the following reference committees to convene their open hearings at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, after the Second Opening:

Reference Committee B (Legislation)	Regency Ballroom B
Reference Committee E (Science and Technology)	Regency Ballroom A
Reference Committee F (AMA Finance and Governance)	Grand Ballroom
Reference Committee G (Medical Practice)	Regency Ballroom C

The following reference committees will convene open hearings from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday:

Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws	Regency Ballroom B
Reference Committee A (Medical Service)	Regency Ballroom A
Reference Committee C (Medical Education)	Regency Ballroom C
Reference Committee D (Public Health)	Regency Ballroom D

The AMA-HOD will reconvene at 2 p.m. Monday, June 15, and 9 a.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, June 16 and 17. The AMA-HOD will adjourn by noon on Wednesday. Your Speakers strongly urge delegates to schedule departures for the afternoon of Wednesday so that they can give full consideration to the business debated that day.

**Note: All events are at the Hyatt Regency Chicago unless otherwise indicated.**

**Items preceded by an asterisk (\*) are designated for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.**

## Meeting details and reminders

### Handbook distribution

Handbooks will be mailed to those who requested paper copies on or about May 22, with the Handbook Addendum (aka supplemental mailing) scheduled to go out on or about June 2. Primary distribution of the electronic Handbook will be by download from the AMA Web site, with CD-ROMs available on request. Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009) to download the eHandbook. Members of the House are encouraged to “go green” and download meeting materials from the AMA Web site. We would also note that the eHandbook will have been available for several days before you received this Speakers' Letter and for as much as 2 weeks before the Handbook can be delivered in any physical format. Requests for CD-ROMs can be emailed to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org).

### Registration

Registration for the AMA-HOD will be located in the Grand Foyer, which adjoins the Grand Ballroom. For security purposes, all attendees will be required to provide photo identification at the AMA Registration Desk in order to receive their credentials and other materials. Registration will open daily at 7 a.m., and run from Friday, June 12 through Wednesday, June 17.

### Distribution of nonbusiness items

The “Not for Official Business” bag contains campaign literature, small gifts and other informational material approved by the Speakers. It is distributed at the Opening Session. Material for distribution to the AMA-HOD in the not-for-official-business bag should be delivered to the AMA Headquarters Office at the Hyatt Regency Chicago by 5 p.m. Thursday, June 11. As a general rule, at least 1200 copies of items are required for distribution throughout the AMA-HOD to delegates, alternate delegates and guests such as AMA Alliance members, AMA Board of Trustees members and official observers. For campaign gifts, at least 700 items are required for distribution in the delegates' seating area; broader distribution will require 1200 gifts. The decision as to the number of gifts is up to the candidate, but the \$2172 cap on campaign memorabilia applies regardless.

### Nominations

Candidates for positions on the AMA Board of Trustees will give their own two-minute nominating speeches near the end of business during the Opening Session Saturday, June 13. If there is no contest for the office of president-elect, a delegate will give the nominating speech for the unopposed candidate, who will then be elected by acclamation. The order of speeches for contested races will be determined by lot.

### Elections

AMA elections will be held 7:30–8:45 a.m. Tuesday, June 16, in Columbus K-L. The elections are conducted under the supervision of the chief teller, the assistant election tellers and the Committee on Rules and Credentials. Since we are closing the polls 15 minutes before convening the AMA-HOD, we hope to have the initial election results shortly after the AMA-HOD opens. For any runoff elections, paper ballots will be distributed to the delegates seated in the House. **Only duly credentialed delegates are permitted to cast a ballot.** Alternate delegates who are seated for delegates must report to the AMA Registration Desk to be properly credentialed and receive a delegate's ribbon.

The 2009 Election Manual can be accessed online at [www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009) by clicking the link.

Please note that Patricia L. Austin, MD, has withdrawn from the race for a seat on the Council on Constitution and Bylaws. Her bio appears in the printed Election Manual, although it has been removed from the online version; her name will not appear on the ballot.

### Inauguration

The inaugural ceremony for incoming President J. James Rohack, MD, will begin at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, in the Crystal Ballroom. A reception and dance will follow the ceremony, starting about 6 p.m. in the Regency Ballroom. Tickets are not required for either the reception or the dance, and there is no charge for either event. Festivities will conclude about 8 p.m.

**Proceedings for the 2008 Interim Meeting**

The Proceedings of the House of Delegates for the 2008 Interim Meeting (I-08) have been posted in downloadable format at [www.ama-assn.org/ama/no-index/about-ama/i08proceedings.shtml](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/no-index/about-ama/i08proceedings.shtml) on the AMA Web site and are available upon request on CD-ROM; e-mail [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) to obtain a CD-ROM version of the I-08 Proceedings. Approval of the minutes from I-08 is an action item at the “Second Opening” session of the AMA-HOD on Sunday morning.

**PolicyFinder**

The online version of PolicyFinder is not currently available on the AMA Web site for technical reasons. The standalone version can be downloaded for offline use ([www.ama-assn.org/go/policyfinder](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/policyfinder)). PolicyFinder is updated after each meeting of the House of Delegates, so the current version is complete through I-08.

**Council notes on resolutions**

Again at this meeting, some resolutions will include a note from an AMA council to the effect that the proposal is currently under study. The intent is not to preclude debate. Rather, this implements a policy adopted by the AMA-HOD a few years ago and is meant to ensure that all are aware of ongoing AMA activities (see Policy D-600.992).

**Citations in resolutions**

Your Speakers wish to remind you of Policy G-600.061 (paragraph 5), which was adopted at the 2007 Annual Meeting and encourages the inclusion of citations for facts and supporting statements found in resolutions whenever possible. This is intended to facilitate review and discussion of resolutions by members of the AMA-HOD. Citations will be distributed with the resolution.

**Reports of the Board of Trustees and AMA councils**

In accord with Policy D-600.992, Board and council reports were posted to the AMA Web site for “review by all physicians and the public and comment by AMA members.” The reports will be posted until the Handbook is available, at which time they will be replaced by a digital version of the Handbook containing all items of business—resolutions and reports—along with other information such as the Official Call, hotel maps and the seating chart.

By AMA-HOD action, reports from the Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA) and the Council on Science and Public Health (CSAPH) that are intended for publication are not posted on the AMA Web site, because reports cannot be submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals if they are widely distributed prior to submission. For this meeting all CEJA reports are posted as are CSAPH reports 1, 3, 5, 6 and 8 [Use of Tasers by Law Enforcement Agencies (Res 401, A-08); The Use of Hormones for “Anti-aging”: A Review of Safety and Efficacy (Res 501, A-08); Disparities in Maternal Mortality (Res 511, A-08); Sunset Review of 1999 House Directives and Policies; and Sustainable Food (Res 405, A-08)]. Send an e-mail to [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) to request electronic copies of other reports, or access them on the members-only pages of the Web. To protect possible future publication, reports transmitted to members of the AMA-HOD must not be redistributed.

**Updating the Pictorial Directory**

Photographs of a substantial number of delegates and alternate delegates are missing from the Pictorial Directory. To remedy this situation, the AMA photographer will be taking pictures from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., on both Friday, June 12, and Saturday, June 13, and again on Monday, June 15 from 1 to 6 p.m. He will be located just outside the House of Delegates ballroom, near the escalators that lead to the Headquarters Office. Please use this opportunity to have your picture taken and help maintain the integrity of the Pictorial Directory.

**Wireless capability at the Annual Meeting**

Wireless Internet access will be available again at this Annual Meeting in the Grand Ballroom, Sunday through Wednesday. Wireless Internet access will also be available in the Regency Ballrooms on Sunday for reference committee hearings. This service is intended to provide meeting attendees with access to the AMA Web site to download materials, including reference committee reports. Only a limited number of concurrent users will be able to access the Internet at any given time, but based on previous usage patterns, we should be able to

accommodate delegates' needs. **Please use this service only for reasons related to AMA-HOD business—downloading materials from the AMA Web site, accessing reference committee reports and the like.**

Details on accessing the wireless network will be available at the delegate and alternate delegate registration desk or in the not-for-official-business bag.

Because reference committee reports are not actions of the AMA-HOD, they will be on the members-only section of the AMA Web site. Accessing the members-only Web site requires a user name and password, which you should set up and test before arriving in Chicago. If you encounter any difficulty in setting up or testing your members-only access, you may contact AMA Member Relations by e-mail at [mosupport@ama-assn.org](mailto:mosupport@ama-assn.org) or by calling (800) 262-3211, 8:30 a.m.–4:45 p.m. CDT. Please contact AMA Member Relations before the Annual Meeting gets underway for better service. Only limited support will be available in the AMA staff area during the meeting.

### **Conflict-of-interest policy**

Sponsors of resolutions are reminded that the AMA-HOD has established policy (G-600.060) calling on delegates introducing an item of business for consideration by the AMA-HOD to declare any commercial or financial conflict of interest at the time the resolution is submitted and that any such conflict of interest be noted on the printed resolution.

The Speakers have determined that this policy also applies to resolutions introduced by delegations. The sponsoring delegation must disclose the identity of any delegate or alternate delegate who has a commercial or financial interest with respect to matters addressed in the resolution. If a conflict is disclosed, the notation on the resolution will not contain an individual delegate's name, but will state in substance that, "In accordance with House policy regarding disclosure of conflicts of interest, the delegation has notified the Speaker that one or more delegates has a commercial or financial conflict of interest with respect to the matters addressed in this resolution." For resolutions already submitted, please notify the AMA Office of House of Delegates Affairs. A revised resolution containing the conflict-of-interest statement will be printed and distributed.

### **On-site medical emergencies**

The AMA provides standby paramedics and an ambulance during the hours that the AMA-HOD and the reference committees are in session, as well as during the inaugural ceremony and the president's reception and dance. The paramedics are stationed outside the Grand Ballroom. They also can be contacted by a hotel extension that will be available at the meeting at the AMA Registration Desk or from the AMA Headquarters Office in the AMA staff area. After hours, call the hotel operator, hotel security or 911. Should the need for non-emergent medical care arise, the AMA Staff Office can direct you to the "doctor-on-call," or you may ask your Speakers for options. We can most easily be reached through the AMA Headquarters Office.

### **Procedures of the House of Delegates**

Meeting attendees are reminded that information on AMA-HOD meetings and procedures is available on the AMA Web site. The "House of Delegates Reference Manual," which was prepared by the Council on Constitution and Bylaws and adopted at the 2008 Interim Meeting, is accessible at either the Annual Meeting Web site, [www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/annual2009), or the AMA-HOD Web site, [www.ama-assn.org/go/hod](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/hod). This information may be particularly helpful to new members of the AMA-HOD.

### **AMA-Medical College of Wisconsin online fellowship in physician ethics and professionalism**

For the sixth year in a row, the Annual Meeting of the AMA-HOD will welcome a group of physicians who are taking part in the AMA-Medical College of Wisconsin online fellowship in physician ethics and professionalism. Participants in this program will be attending seminars on medical ethics and professionalism, observing HOD reference committee hearings and educational sessions, and learning more about AMA's Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA). Most participants have never attended an HOD meeting and will be witnessing for the first time the AMA process for debating and establishing national ethics policy through CEJA and the AMA-HOD. If you have the opportunity to meet any of these physicians, please welcome them to Chicago.

### **Child care at Annual Meeting**

Most of you are aware that child care services were offered at I-08 and that the same service had been planned for the 2009 Annual Meeting as part of a two-meeting pilot program. Unfortunately, there was insufficient interest in the program, and the service has been cancelled. We apologize to those members who had registered a child for the service.

### **2009 Interim Meeting planning**

The 2009 Interim Meeting is planned for Houston, Nov. 7–10. Delegates and alternate delegates who are willing to serve on a reference committee at the Interim Meeting are asked to please contact the Office of House of Delegates Affairs by stopping in the Staff Office or e-mailing [hod@ama-assn.org](mailto:hod@ama-assn.org) to let us know about your preferences for a reference committee assignment. Five reference committees meet at the Interim Meeting:

- Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws: Ethics, bylaws
- Reference Committee B: Legislative advocacy
- Reference Committee F: AMA governance and finance
- Reference Committee J: Advocacy related to medical service, medical practice, insurance and related topics
- Reference Committee K: Advocacy related to medical education, science and public health

### **Meetings and caucuses**

#### **OSMAP**

The Organization of State Medical Association Presidents (OSMAP) will hold its general session meeting from 2 to 5 p.m. Friday, June 12, in Crystal A (West Tower). The session will consist primarily of open discussion on items identified by the OSMAP Steering Committee; however, the Committee would very much appreciate your input on the agenda. Some time will be allowed for new business, and additionally, Congressman Tom Price, MD (R-Georgia), plans to address OSMAP about 4 p.m. on health care initiatives in the new administration and Congress.

No pre-registration is required, and presidents-elect are especially encouraged to attend. Please email Brian Foy, OSMAP Executive Director at [bfoy@leadingstar.com](mailto:bfoy@leadingstar.com). There will not be an OSMAP reception following this meeting.

#### **Section on Medical Schools, Medical Student Section, and Resident and Fellow Section, House of Delegates candidate forum**

The AMA Section on Medical Schools, the AMA Medical Student Section, and the AMA Resident and Fellow Section will jointly interview candidates for the AMA Board of Trustees and the AMA Council on Medical Education from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, June 12, in the Wrigley Room. The forum will give the sections' members an opportunity to hear from the candidates and ascertain their views on medical education issues that affect medical students, resident physicians and academic physicians. The interviews are open to anyone interested in attending. Please contact Sharyn Grose at (312) 464-4978 or [sharyn.grose@ama-assn.org](mailto:sharyn.grose@ama-assn.org) for more information.

#### **Surgical Caucus of the AMA**

The Surgical Caucus of the AMA (SCAMA) will meet from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus E-F (East Tower, Gold Level). A short business session will focus on SCAMA officer reports. An educational session will be sponsored on health care reform and the surgeon, with an update of current federal activity on the subject.

Review of handbook materials and identification of the SCAMA position will be held from 6:30 to 9 a.m. Saturday, June 13, in the Toronto Room (West Tower, Gold Level). Surgical Caucus participants interested in shaping SCAMA positions related to handbook items are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Disaster medicine caucus**

Join the AMA Center for Public Health Preparedness and Disaster Response (CPHPDR) for the Disaster Medicine Caucus, which will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday, June 14, in Columbus G (East Tower, Gold Level). The Caucus, moderated by John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS, will provide a timely, interactive forum for delegates to come together in a multi-specialty setting to deliberate on topics of common concern. This meeting of the Caucus will feature a brief presentation, "Fear factor: Pandemics & organized medicine," and review reports and resolutions relevant to disaster medicine. There will be updates about the National Disaster Life Support™ (NDLS) Program, the journal *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, and the Third National Congress on Health System Readiness. For further information, please contact James James, MD, at [james.james@ama-assn.org](mailto:james.james@ama-assn.org) or Dr Armstrong at [john.armstrong@surgery.ufl.edu](mailto:john.armstrong@surgery.ufl.edu).

**Action Team on Alcohol and Tobacco Task Force joint meeting**

There will be a joint meeting of the AMA Action Team on Alcohol and the Tobacco Task Force 8:30–10 a.m. Monday, June 15, in the New Orleans Room. J. James Rohack, MD, AMA president elect, will address the group from 8:30 to 9 a.m. The meeting is open to anyone interested in public health and alcohol and tobacco control public policy issues. The meeting will address physicians' involvement in community-based initiatives.

**Caucus for community-based, private practice physicians**

A new caucus is being formed for community-based, private practice physicians. Community-based, private practice physicians have historically been the backbone of medical care in this country, and this caucus is meant to give them a voice in the house of medicine. This first meeting of the caucus will discuss the unique interests and concerns of non-salaried, solo and small group practice physicians and how they might work together and better ensure that their voices and interests are heard in the AMA.

The caucus will meet 10–11 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Columbus K-L. Please e-mail M. Zuhdi Jasser, MD, at [zuhdi@jasserim.com](mailto:zuhdi@jasserim.com) to RSVP or for further information, or he can be contacted at (602) 721-7186.

**Education sessions**

Several education sessions have been arranged for the 2009 Annual Meeting. In keeping with Policy H-300.959, which calls for the AMA to promote physician participation in the AMA Physician's Recognition Award (PRA), and for all physicians to participate in the PRA as a visible demonstration of their commitment to continuing medical education (CME), we encourage all members of the AMA-HOD to apply for the award and be recognized for participation in CME. Contact Jeanette Harmon at [jeanette.harmon@ama-assn.org](mailto:jeanette.harmon@ama-assn.org) for more information.

Your Speakers wish to point out that all members are welcome to attend any of the education sessions, including those sponsored by the AMA sections and special groups on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, as well as those planned for Monday morning. In addition to the sessions listed below, the AMA Resident and Fellow Section (see page 10), the AMA Section on Medical Schools (see page 11) and the AMA Organized Medical Staff Section (see page 12) are all offering education sessions, several of which offer CME credit.

**Using the Electronic Handbook**

Two sessions on using the electronic Handbook will be presented during the meeting. The first will be 8–9 a.m. Saturday, June 13, and the second will be 8–9 a.m. Monday, June 15. Both sessions will be in the Grand Ballroom. Participants will be provided with tips for using the "eHandbook," with a particular emphasis on annotating business items. The session will be 'demo' format rather than hands-on; however, there will be time for questions, and handouts will be available. Both sessions will cover the same material so you need attend only one.

**\*Health system reform: A candid discussion**

Join Congressman Tom Price, MD (R-Georgia), J. James Rohack, MD, AMA President-Elect, and Richard Deem, AMA Senior Vice President for Advocacy, for a candid discussion about the status of health system reform, where it is heading and what it means for physicians and patients from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus I-J. With the recent changes in leadership in Washington and the challenging times facing the nation, it is imperative that physicians stay abreast of health care policy strategies and learn how to be a voice for their patients. This CME program is jointly sponsored by all AMA sections and special groups.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**\*Keeping Senior Physicians in Practice: Issues of Competency, Recertification and the Value of Experience**

The AMA Advisory Committee on Group Practice Physicians, the AMA Organized Medical Staff Section and the AMA Senior Physicians Group are sponsoring a CME program 1–2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus I-J, entitled, “Keeping senior physicians in practice: Issues of competency, recertification and the value of experience.” The well-documented impending physician workforce shortage, coupled with the recent economic downturn, points to the need for physicians to work beyond traditional retirement age. Organizations interested in successfully keeping senior physicians in practice will recognize there are many aspects to consider such as competency, adjusting to changing lifestyles, energy levels, and call. All these factors affect practice productivity, scheduling, coverage and more. The keynote speaker is John A. Fromson, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, who will help attendees understand the value senior physicians bring to a practice, the most common age related issues to be aware of, and practical solutions and environmental adjustments to address those issues. Additional information is available online at [www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/group-practice-physicians/meetings-events/a-09-meeting-information.shtml](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/group-practice-physicians/meetings-events/a-09-meeting-information.shtml).

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**Continuing Physician Professional Development Town Hall meeting**

The AMA’s Division of Continuing Physician Professional Development (CPPD) will hold its annual Town Hall Meeting 1–2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus C-D. Updates from the Council on Medical Education, Initiative to Transform Medical Education and other emergent AMA issues related to CME/CPD will be addressed. Additionally, the AMA is in the process of reevaluating the requirements for designating and awarding AMA PRA credits. Participants at this session will have an opportunity to engage in a discussion to identify enhancements or changes to the AMA PRA credit system that will ensure its continued value in the future. Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/cppdevents](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cppdevents) for a list of specific questions about the AMA PRA credit system that will be discussed. This Town Hall meeting is open to all individuals with an interest in learning more about AMA CPPD issues and the AMA PRA credit system. For more information about this meeting, please contact [cppd@ama-assn.org](mailto:cppd@ama-assn.org).

**Litigation Center**

The Litigation Center will hold an open meeting from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency B. The meeting will discuss current lawsuits affecting physicians and patients. The featured speakers are AMA President Nancy Nielsen, MD, who will discuss the class action lawsuits initiated by the Litigation Center regarding insurance companies’ calculations of out-of-network payments to physicians and patients; and Bruce Murphy, MD, who will talk about *Murphy v. Baptist Health*, which held a hospital’s economic credentialing policy invalid, primarily because it interfered with the patient/physician relationship.

Other Litigation Center lawsuits include cases relating to professional liability, the Americans with Disability Act, scope of practice and medical society peer review.

**Overview: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Health Information Technology Provisions**

Will you qualify for your Medicare incentive? Beginning in 2011, Medicare physicians who implement and report meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs) will be eligible for an initial incentive payment up to \$18,000. Early adopters could receive a five-year bonus of up to \$44,000. This session—held 8–9 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency A—will include updated details about HIT incentive provisions and grant programs included in the ARRA legislation. A panel, including invited speakers from the Department of Health and Human Services, will discuss the HIT incentive provisions and what physicians should do to prepare.

**The IOM Report on Resident Duty Hours: Enhancing Sleep, Supervision and Safety**

The American Academy of Sleep Medicine is sponsoring a session on the Institute of Medicine's recent report on resident duty hours. David Dinges, PhD, and Jordan Cohen, MD, will be the presenters for a scientific symposium, "IOM Report on the resident duty hours: Enhancing sleep, supervision, and safety" in which they will review evidence:

- As to whether the current ACGME duty hours for residents promote fatigue and pose a risk to patient or resident safety;
- On the relationship of work hours and sleep to performance and on ways to prevent and mitigate fatigue-related risks in residents; and
- On the IOM committee's recommendations for promoting conditions for safe medical care, improving the education of doctors in training, and increasing the safety of residents and the general public.

The session will be 8–9 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Crystal A. Dr Dinges is Associate Director of the Center for Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and Dr Cohen is professor of medicine and public health at George Washington University and president emeritus of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Both were members of the IOM Committee on Optimizing Graduate Medical Trainee (Resident) Hours and Work Schedules to Improve Patient Safety.

**\*Heal the Claims Process™: Check up for physicians and payers**

To help reduce the substantial administrative burden of ensuring accurate insurance payments for physician services, the AMA launched the Heal the Claims Process™ campaign to help cure the ailing system of processing medical claims with health insurers and rolled out the National Health Insurer Report Card (NHIRC) last year. This session, which will be held 9–10 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency A, will reveal the results from the second annual AMA NHIRC along with the payers' response and the process improvement efforts underway. Additionally, this session will discuss how the AMA is fighting for the standardization of the claims process, including pricing transparency through its NHIRC and how you can join the effort to "Heal the Claims Process." Physicians who attend this session will leave with resources and tools that can help their practices identify opportunities to incorporate process improvements. Isn't it time for you to set an appointment to give your practice a "physician claims process check up"?

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**Enhancing the Medical Education Learning Environment**

The environment in which medical students and residents train should support the development of professional attitudes, values, and behaviors. Currently, however, aspects of the medical education learning environment may have a negative impact on this desired outcome. The AMA Initiative to Transform Medical Education (ITME) has made the learning environment a priority area for change. Through two meetings, ITME has developed recommendations and strategies to make the learning environment more effective. An educational session will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Crystal A that will describe proposed plans and processes for bringing about change in the medical education learning environment and elicit audience feedback on the feasibility of the plans and the barriers to be overcome in bringing about change. For additional information, please contact [barbara.barzansky@ama-assn.org](mailto:barbara.barzansky@ama-assn.org).

**Current Concepts in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)**

From 9 to 10 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency C, the Federal and Military Medicine Section Council will sponsor a presentation on two of the most prevalent conditions affecting veterans returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom: PTSD and TBI. Subject matter experts will review the traditional understanding of the two conditions, the magnitude, prevalence and medical burden of these disorders, and share any new insights or evolving therapeutic interventions that have resulted from the military's recent experiences. They will also address any controversial areas and touch upon resources available to veterans suffering from either of these two syndromes, or to physicians who suspect their patient may be suffering from either one of these illnesses.

**Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs Open Forum**

CEJA's 2009 AMA Annual Meeting Open Forum will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency B. The Open Forum will be open to all AMA members, interested non-members, other guests, and the press. Open Forum attendees are invited to introduce issues that may warrant attention from CEJA and inclusion in the AMA Code of Medical Ethics. The Council also welcomes the opportunity to receive input regarding the following topics, to be introduced by the faculty:

- Never Events
- Disruptive Behavior by Physicians

The full agenda for the Open Forum is available online at [www.ama-assn.org/go/ceja](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/ceja). It provides additional information on the above topics, as well as instructions on how to submit testimony electronically. Written testimony submitted to the Council will be given the same consideration as oral testimony.

The session's learning objectives include:

- Identification of emerging and currently relevant issues in medical ethics and suggest topics to be addressed in future reports and opinions.
- Debate the ethical questions regarding "never events"—events that should never happen in the clinical care setting, but unfortunately do and should be publicly reported when they occur.
- Debate the ethical issues surrounding disruptive behavior by physicians—what constitutes a disruptive behavior by a physician and how best to manage physicians deemed disruptive.

Please contact Rebecca Shore with any additional questions by email [rebecca.shore@ama-assn.org](mailto:rebecca.shore@ama-assn.org) or by phone (312) 464-4061.

**Assuming the Mantle of Leadership: Roles for the AMA and its Members in Maintaining a Livable Environment**

Participate in a discussion on how environmental health and safety affects us, our patients, our hospitals and workplaces and our communities 10–11 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Regency C. These concerns now include climate change, hazardous metals and chemicals in medical and consumer products, and a food system that simultaneously is a heavy user of water and fossil fuels and often is at odds with the health of children and adults. With several recent policy resolutions, special reports and initiatives within the organization, the AMA is increasingly involved in these issues. This session reviews these recent activities, as well as the broader scientific and policy context in which they are occurring. Following two presentations by national leaders in these topics, there will be a moderated discussion of where the membership would like to see the AMA exert leadership.

**Extending Our Comfort Zone: Lessons on Establishing a Quality Improvement Culture**

The AMA convenes the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement® (PCPI) to provide physicians with performance measures that will help achieve positive patient health outcomes and guide overall quality improvement efforts. Identifying successful approaches that are being used as part of broad quality improvement strategies is a high priority for the AMA and the PCPI. Physicians are leading efforts at the local and national levels to design and implement unique and innovative strategies that promote effective and coordinated systems

of delivering health care services. The lessons learned from and the best practices used in these programs are encouraging physicians to adopt new and existing models for quality improvement collaboratives, define the role of performance measurement in facilitating improvement efforts, and lead efforts to bring about lasting changes across entire communities.

Join this session 10–11 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Crystal A to hear how Geisinger Health System in Pennsylvania has transformed patient care delivery and quality by fostering the development of innovative strategies within a dynamic, coordinated framework. Following this session, participants will be able to identify key features of this successful initiative that could be considered for implementing changes in other types of practice settings and systems of care and demonstrate ways PCPI-developed measures can be used to support quality improvement collaboratives and improve patient health outcomes.

## Sections and special groups

### Joint caucus of AMA Sections and Special Groups

A joint caucus of the AMA's sections and special groups will be held 5:30–6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in the Gold Coast Room. It will be chaired by Ada Stewart, MAC Section Governing Council Chair. All AMA sections and special groups are asked to send 1 or 2 representatives. If you have questions, please contact [mac@ama-assn.org](mailto:mac@ama-assn.org).

### Medical Student Section

The AMA Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) invites all meeting attendees to its 31st Annual Meeting, June 11–13. Hear keynote speaker Geoff Tabin, MD, the fourth person to climb the Seven Summits—the highest points on each of the world's seven continents. Dr Tabin is professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences at the University of Utah and the John A. Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City and co-director of the Himalayan Cataract Project. Please join this session, entitled, "Impossible dreams: Climbing Everest and eradicating world blindness," at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Regency A-C.

On Friday afternoon, medical students will hold their sixth and final National Service Project focusing on Covering the Uninsured and Protecting Access to Care. A new two-year national service project will be selected at this meeting. Get more details at [www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual).

The AMA-MSS will hold its sixth annual Medical Specialty Showcase at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in the Crystal Ballroom Foyer. Over 40 specialties represented in the AMA-HOD will be in attendance to provide an introduction to their specialty and offer materials to assist medical students in their career decision-making. The showcase presents an excellent opportunity for students to network with residents and physicians in their desired field. All attendees are welcome to attend this special event. To see if your specialty is represented visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual).

In addition to its policymaking activities on Friday and Saturday morning, the AMA-MSS will offer two full days of educational programs on topics such as residency, healthcare reform, student run-clinics, MD/MBA degrees, mentoring, military medicine, and more. (Multiple events are listed in the calendar starting on page 17.)

Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/mssannual) or contact Katherine Torres-Hertz at [katherine.torres@ama-assn.org](mailto:katherine.torres@ama-assn.org) for more information.

### Resident and Fellow Section

The AMA Resident and Fellow Section (AMA-RFS) invites all resident and fellow physicians to attend its 33rd Annual Business Meeting, June 12–13, in Regency D. There will be a general meeting orientation 6:30–7 p.m. Thursday, June 11, in the Wrigley Room. This will be an opportunity to learn about the section and the operation of the Assembly meeting. The AMA-RFS will also host a welcome reception to allow resident and fellow physicians from around the country to network with colleagues over drinks and hors d'oeuvres from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, June 12, in Plaza B.

In addition to its policymaking activities on Friday and Saturday mornings, the AMA-RFS will sponsor two educational sessions that will be held in Regency D. The first will be from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 12, with Jeanne Heard, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President, Department of Accreditation Committees at the ACGME. The second will run from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, June 13, with Irwin Redlener, MD, Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/rfs](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/rfs) for more detailed information about the AMA-RFS Annual Meeting activities.

### **Young Physicians Section**

The AMA Young Physicians Section (AMA-YPS) invites all interested meeting attendees to participate in its 2009 Annual Assembly Meeting June 11–13. All young physician AMA members (under age 40 or within their first eight years of practice) are welcome at the meeting. The AMA-YPS Assembly will include governing council elections, networking sessions, and the development of AMA-YPS positions on AMA-HOD items of business.

The AMA-YPS holds a virtual reference committee prior to the Assembly meeting to solicit testimony and comments on pending business, and young physician members are encouraged to submit online testimony in advance of the Assembly. The AMA-YPS invites you to review its agenda and items of business on its Web site at [www.ama-assn.org/go/ypsmeeting](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/ypsmeeting).

The AMA-YPS will kick off its meeting with an informal social with the governing council at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, June 11, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago's Big Bar.

The AMA-YPS Assembly begins at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 12, in the Crystal C Ballroom. In addition to the regular business meeting, participants will take part in a Town Hall meeting to give members of the Assembly an opportunity to identify key issues to the AMA-YPS and help forge the future.

Also, the AMA-YPS will be co-hosting with the AMA-OMSS an educational session on "Generational change and future healthcare leadership" presented by former AMA President Richard F. Corlin, MD, from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, June 12.

If you have any questions, please contact the AMA-YPS at (312) 464-4751 or email [yps@ama-assn.org](mailto:yps@ama-assn.org).

### **\*Section on Medical Schools**

The AMA Section on Medical Schools (AMA-SMS) invites all meeting attendees to participate in its 33rd Annual Meeting, June 12–13. The AMA-SMS meeting provides an opportunity to network, discuss issues impacting medical education, and help develop AMA policy. To learn more about the AMA-SMS and register for the meeting, visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/sms](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/sms) or call (800) 262-3211, ext 4655.

Descriptions of the educational sessions being offered at this meeting follow. There is no fee to register.

- "Mentoring the next generation: How to cultivate an AMA student chapter," 1:30–2:30 p.m. Friday, June 12, Columbus I-J.

This session will be held with the AMA Medical Student Section. The characteristics of a successful mentoring relationship and the importance for AMA Medical Student Section chapters at each medical school to have faculty mentors will be discussed.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

- “Resident duty hours: Where are we? Where do we want to be?” 3–4:30 p.m. Friday, June 12, Columbus I-J. This session will be held with the AMA Council on Medical Education and will focus on the consequences of resident duty hour limits, both positive and unintended. Strategies to ensure an appropriate learning environment will be highlighted.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

- “Interprofessional collaboration in health care: Implications for medical schools and GME,” 10:40 a.m.–noon Saturday, June 13, Columbus K-L. This panel presentation will discuss the benefits and value of interprofessional training in promoting patient health and safety as well as strategies to best train health professionals, especially for primary care practice.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

- “Mini-presentations on innovations in medical education,” 1–2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, Columbus K-L. This session will focus on emerging issues and challenges facing medical schools and discuss innovative changes/model programs.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **\*Organized Medical Staff Section**

Members of the AMA-HOD, councils, sections and special groups are invited to attend the AMA Organized Medical Staff Section (OMSS) Annual Assembly and Education Meeting, June 11–13. There is no cost to register. To learn more about the AMA-OMSS and register for the meeting, go to [www.ama-assn.org/go/omss](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/omss) or call (800) 262-3211, ext. 4761. The educational programs listed below begin Thursday, June 11, and run through Saturday, June 13. For those attending the House of Delegates, there will be an AMA-OMSS briefing and strategy session 6:45–7:45 a.m. Sunday, June 14, in the Wright Room.

- “The individual physician in the organized medical staff: Rights and wrongs,” 12:30–2 p.m. Thursday, June 11, Crystal B – Elizabeth Snelson, Esq (1.5 credits).
- “Organizational leadership: The Joint Commission 2009 leadership standards,” 2:15–3:45 p.m. Thursday, June 11, Crystal B – Paul Schyve, MD (1.5 credits).
- “Parliamentary procedure 101,” 5:45–6:45 p.m. Thursday, June 11, Crystal B – Jeremy Lazarus, MD, and Andrew Gurman, MD (1 credit).
- “Generational change and future healthcare leadership,” noon to 1 p.m. Friday, June 12, Columbus I-J, – Richard Corlin, MD (1 credit).
- “Hospital-employed physicians and the medical staff: Ramifications for quality and professionalism,” 1:30–3 p.m. Friday, June 12, Crystal B – Elizabeth A. Snelson, Esq (1.5 credits).
- “Important contract considerations for physicians when considering employment,” 3:15–4:45 p.m. Friday, June 12, Crystal B – Charles Bond, Esq (1.5 credits).
- “Health system reform: A candid discussion,” 11:30–1 p.m. Saturday, June 13, Columbus I-J – Congressman Tom Price, MD, Rich Deem and J. James Rohack, MD (1.5 credits).
- “Keeping senior physicians in practice: Issues of competency, recertification and the value of experience,” 1–2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, Columbus I-J – John A. Fromson, MD, Betsy White Williams, PhD, MPH, and David L. Weber, MD (1.5 credits).

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education credits for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 11 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**International Medical Graduates Section**

Join the Twelfth Annual Congress and Caucus meetings of the International Medical Graduates Section June 12–15. The Congress meeting will be held 5:30–7:30 p.m. Friday, June 12, in the Burnham Room, West Tower. The keynote speaker will be James Hallock, MD, President of the ECFMG, who will be retiring this year. Dr Hallock will speak about the state of ECFMG. Other discussions will include late IMG Section resolutions, ratification of the slate of officers for the 2009-2010 Governing Council, discussion of AMA-HOD business items, organizational reports and selection of a nominating committee for the 2010 governing council elections.

The Caucus/Candidates Interview Forum will be held 5:30–8 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus I-J, East Tower. Come and hear the candidates seeking election to leadership positions in the AMA. There will also be an opportunity to provide organizational reports by IMG Section members.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Desserts from Around the World reception will be held at 9:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Crystal Ballroom C, West Tower. This year, the Section is pleased to partner with the AMA Foundation, which will offer IMG physicians the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the uninsured by supporting the IMG Honor Fund.

From 7:30 to 9 a.m. Monday, June 15, the IMG Caucus will be held in Truffles, West Tower. The Busharat Ahmad, MD, Leadership Development Program, featuring Dr James Hallock, President, ECFMG, will be held from 9 to 11 a.m., also in Truffles.

All meeting attendees are welcome. For more information, please call J. Mori Johnson at (312) 464-5678 or Carolyn Carter-Ellis at (312) 464-5397.

**Advisory Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues**

Join the Advisory Committee on GLBT Issues for its reception and caucus 5:30–7 p.m. Friday, June 12, in the Comiskey Room. Network with friends and colleagues, and learn more about timely GLBT issues. The event will feature an informative presentation by Caitlin Ryan, PhD, ASCW, titled, “New family-based approach to prevention and care for LGBT children and adolescents.” Dr Ryan is a clinical social worker who has worked on lesbian and gay health issues since the 1970s, with an emphasis on the health care needs of LGBT adolescents in families, schools, and out-of-home settings. Dr Ryan launched the Family Acceptance Project in 2002 to fill a missing gap in our understanding of the role of families in supporting their LGBT children. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Email the AMA-GLBT staff at [gibt@ama-assn.org](mailto:gibt@ama-assn.org) or call (312) 464-4978 if you have any questions. Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/gibt](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/gibt) for more information about the AMA-GLBT Advisory Committee.

**Minority Affairs Consortium**

The AMA Minority Affairs Consortium (AMA-MAC) invites you to join AMA-MAC members and interested participants at their Caucus 4–6 p.m. Friday, June 12, in the Gold Coast Room. In addition to time for networking and discussing a range of minority-related issues before the AMA-HOD, the caucus program will honor the 2009 AMA Minority Scholars and include an informative presentation on the Latino Health Institute of New York, by Hector Castro, MD, Medical Director. Dr Castro’s discussion will focus on the Institute’s mission to improve the health status of New York City’s Hispanic community by overcoming the cultural, language, and economic barriers to quality healthcare. Refreshments will be served.

**\*Senior Physicians Group Educational Program**

The AMA Senior Physicians Group (AMA-SPG) invites all interested attendees to participate in its program 1–2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus I-J. The CME educational program is entitled, “Keeping senior physicians in practice: Issues of competency, recertification and the value of experience.” The keynote speaker is John A. Fromson, MD, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, who will help attendees understand the value senior physicians bring to a practice, the most common age-related issues to be aware of, and practical solutions and environmental adjustments to address those issues. The program is also sponsored by the AMA Organized Medical Staff Section and the AMA Advisory Committee on Group Practice

Physicians. Additional information is available online at [www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/senior-physicians-group/meetings/a-09-educational-program.shtml](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/senior-physicians-group/meetings/a-09-educational-program.shtml). Contact Alice Reed at (312) 464-5523 or [alice.reed@ama-assn.org](mailto:alice.reed@ama-assn.org) if you have questions.

The American Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education credits for physicians. The AMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.5 *AMA PRA Category I Credits*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### **Meeting of the Senior Physicians Group State Liaisons**

The AMA Senior Physicians Group (AMA-SPG) will hold a meeting of its state representatives at 4 p.m. Friday, June 12, in Plaza B. The representatives will serve as liaisons to their states' delegations on issues pertinent to senior members. Those attending will have the opportunity to assist the AMA-SPG in areas of advocacy, communication of issues and recruitment. Any state medical society staff member who is interested in senior physician issues is also welcome to attend. For further information or to identify a contact member for your state, please contact Alice Reed at (312) 464-5523, or by e-mail at [alice.reed@ama-assn.org](mailto:alice.reed@ama-assn.org).

### **Women Physicians Congress—Women's Caucus**

Join in celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the AMA Women in Medicine Program 5:30–7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Columbus E-F. While there, hear research results from the winners of the 2008 AMA Women Physicians Congress (AMA-WPC) Joan F. Giambalvo Memorial Scholarship Fund. Sue Yom, MD, PhD, will report on the results of her study entitled "Why do they leave? Female faculty retention and the costs of academic attrition." Another award winner, Maurice Clifton, MD, MEd, will present preliminary findings from his study entitled "Defining obstacles to the practice of medicine in rural areas by women physicians." While attending, you will also have a chance to participate in the caucus business session, review items before the AMA-HOD and hear results of the AMA-WPC candidate interviews. There will also be time to meet and greet colleagues over refreshments. Finally, celebrate AMA-WPC's new partnership with the AMA Foundation and learn about the new Fund for Advancement of Women in Medicine.

### **Women Physicians Congress - WPC Liaison Breakfast**

If you have been appointed by your state, specialty society, or delegation to serve as an AMA-WPC liaison, please plan to join other liaisons at a special breakfast 7:30–8:45 a.m. Monday, June 15, in Columbus C-D. While there, you will have the chance to present an update from your organization and share strategies and experiences for advancing the professional lives of women in medicine. Liaisons, please RSVP for the breakfast to AMA-WPC staff at [wpc@ama-assn.org](mailto:wpc@ama-assn.org) or call (312) 464-4743.

## **Exhibits**

### **AMA exhibit area**

The Annual Meeting will feature multiple exhibits. Learn what the AMA is doing related to our advocacy agenda, pick up some handy tools that will help you communicate about the AMA to your colleagues, and discover ways to get involved in the AMA and its efforts. AMA books and products as well as a cyber café, where you can check your e-mail and download materials from the AMA Web site, will be available.

### **AMPAC**

The American Medical Association Political Action Committee (AMPAC) is the largest physician PAC and one of the most influential membership PACs in Washington, DC. AMPAC is the bi-partisan political arm of the AMA that helps elect medicine-friendly candidates running for federal office who will promote the highest standards of excellence in medicine while promoting sound public health policy. AMPAC's success is due to the generosity of over 32,000 physicians from across the country who want to ensure that AMPAC can continue to support federal candidates who make medicine a priority. During the last election cycle, AMPAC contributed \$4.1 million to support bi-partisan Congressional candidates who were receptive to the AMA's advocacy efforts.

AMPAC needs your support in order to have a real impact on the AMA's continuing advocacy efforts. AMPAC will be hosting an invitation-only luncheon on Tuesday, June 16, for Capitol Club members, with special guest

and political commentator, Howard Fineman. If you are interested in becoming an AMPAC member or would like more information, please stop by AMPAC's booth.

### **AMA Foundation**

Learn more about your Foundation during the Annual Meeting by visiting the AMA Foundation booth. Staff will be happy to update you on current activities, including grant and scholarship opportunities. Additionally, you can help improve the health of Americans by making a gift and supporting programs in medical education and public health. For additional details, please call (312) 464-4200.

### **Physician Outreach Recruiting program**

Delegates and alternate delegates are all encouraged to sign up as outreach recruiters. Stop by the Membership Booth or contact AMA staff at [outreach@ama-assn.org](mailto:outreach@ama-assn.org) to learn about the incentive recruiting program. As an AMA Physician Outreach Recruiter, you can share your voice and convince physicians to join the AMA because, in the end, the AMA helps doctors' patients, and no one is more essential or uniquely qualified than you, a physician, to get the AMA message out to your colleagues and peers. AMA recruiters have exceeded program goals for four consecutive years. Join the physician outreach team and help build strength in our numbers!

## **Special events**

### **Speakers' 5K run/walk**

The Speakers will lead a 5K run/walk at 6 a.m. Saturday, June 13. The likely route is through Millennium Park, which is near the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Interested participants should plan to meet at 5:50 a.m. near the East Tower parking office, which is on the same level as the Grand Ballroom where the AMA-HOD meets. (Take the escalator down to the East Tower Gold level, and turn right for the Grand Ballroom or left for the parking office.) Additional, updated information will be available in the Headquarters Office.

### **Catholic Mass**

Arrangements have been made to hold Catholic Mass at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13, in Regency Ballroom B. The celebrant will be Fr. Dan Costello, pastor of St Thomas of Canterbury parish in Chicago.

### **AMA Foundation Annual Meeting donor reception**

The AMA Foundation is reminded during this economic crisis how vitally important donors are. In years past, the Foundation has hosted a free event open to all to attend. This year, the Foundation is transforming the Celebration of Giving into an exclusive event for AMA Foundation donors.

The Donor Celebration will take place 6–7:30 p.m. Friday, June 12, in Crystal A. Invitations were sent in early May, giving donors an opportunity to RSVP and non-donors the opportunity to renew their support or make their first gift and join their friends and colleagues at the Donor Celebration. Guests will enjoy complimentary cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live music and special announcements about the AMA Foundation. If you have not yet made a gift to the Foundation or if you need to renew your support, please do so by June 8 and express your interest in attending the Donor Celebration.

### **AMA Alliance**

On Saturday, June 13, during the AMA-HOD Opening Session, AMA Alliance President Sandi Frost will present a check to AMA Foundation President Jean Howard representing the magnitude of AMA Alliance fundraising nationwide through 40 state Alliances and more than 400 county Alliances. The funds benefit medical student scholars and health promotion projects that help "build healthy communities."

At 11 a.m. Sunday, June 14, the Alliance will open its House of Delegates in the Marriott Ballroom at the Chicago Marriott Downtown, 540 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Spouses of all AMA delegates are invited to attend. At 6:15 p.m. that evening a reception will honor Alliance President Sandi Frost from Kentucky and Alliance President-Elect Nancy Kyler from Virginia.

On Tuesday, June 16 at 11:15 a.m., the Alliance invites you to attend the Celebration of Leadership Luncheon honoring all past presidents and the 2008-2009 state presidents and state awards. The luncheon will be followed by the General Session of the AMA Alliance House of Delegates. The session will close with the installation of 2009-2010 officers and inaugural address of President Nancy Kyler. Tickets for this event are available by contacting Nancy Battaglia at (312) 464-4471 or by email at [nancy.battaglia@ama-assn.org](mailto:nancy.battaglia@ama-assn.org). Nancy can also assist with other Alliance-related questions.

The AMA Alliance is the largest volunteer arm of the American Medical Association, a public health advocacy network dedicated to *Building Healthy Communities*. To learn more, go to [www.amaalliance.org](http://www.amaalliance.org).

NOTES:



**The following list is provided for your convenience. It includes events mentioned in The Speakers' Letter as well as other items that might be of interest. (Items listed in bold are official AMA-HOD sessions, reference committees or programs.)**

All events are at the Hyatt Regency Chicago unless indicated by italics. Activities offering continuing medical education credit are preceded by an asterisk (\*).

Time	Event	Location†
<b>Thursday, June 11</b>		
6:30–7 p.m.	AMA-RFS meeting orientation	Wrigley Room
9:30 p.m.	AMA-YPS Informal social	Hyatt Big Bar
12:30–2 p.m.	*AMA-OMSS: The individual physician in the organized medical staff: Rights and wrongs	Crystal B
2:15–3:45 p.m.	*AMA-OMSS: Organizational leadership: The Joint Commission 2009 leadership standards	Crystal B
5:45–6:45 p.m.	*AMA-OMSS: Parliamentary procedure 101	Crystal B
<b>Friday, June 12</b>		
6 a.m.	AMA-MSS Wellness Walk	<i>Millennium Park</i>
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	Pictorial Directory updates with AMA photographer	Grand Foyer
7:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	AMA-MSS Assembly	Regency A-C
8:30 a.m.	AMA-YPS Assembly	Crystal C
9:30–10:30 a.m.	AMA-RFS Education session: Jeanne Heard, MD, PhD, Department of Accreditation Committees at the ACGME	Regency D
11 a.m.–noon	AMA-MSS Successful Student-Run Clinics	Columbus E-F
Noon–1 p.m.	AMA-OMSS and AMA-YPS: Generational change and future healthcare leadership, with speaker Richard F. Corlin, MD	Columbus I-J
12:30–1:30 p.m.	AMA-MSS: Military medicine: Redefining the practice of medicine across the globe	Columbus C-D
12:30–1:30 p.m.	AMA-MSS: The benefits of an MD/MBA	Columbus E-F
1:30–2:30 p.m.	*AMA-SMS and AMA-MSS: Mentoring the next generation: How to cultivate an AMA student chapter	Columbus I-J
1:30–3 p.m.	*AMA-OMSS: Hospital-employed physicians and the medical staff: Ramifications for quality and professionalism	Crystal B
2–5 p.m.	OSMAP meeting	Crystal A
3–4:30 p.m.	*AMA-SMS and Council on Medical Education: Resident duty hours: Where are we? Where do we want to be?	Columbus I-J
3:15–4:45 p.m.	AMA-OMSS: Important contract considerations for physicians when considering employment	Crystal B
4–5 p.m.	AMA-SPG meeting of state liaisons	Plaza B
4–6 p.m.	Section-sponsored candidate forum	Wrigley Room
4–6 p.m.	AMA-MAC Caucus	Gold Coast Room
5:30–7 p.m.	AMA-GLBT Reception and caucus	Comiskey Room
5:30–7:30 p.m.	AMA-IMG Congress	Burnham Room
6–7:30 p.m.	AMA Foundation Donor Celebration	Crystal A
7–9 p.m.	AMA-RFS welcome reception	Plaza B

† Locations are subject to change; please check the listings at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Time	Event	Location†
<b>Saturday, June 13</b>		
6 a.m.	Speakers' 5K run/walk	<i>TBD (meet at east parking)</i>
6:30–9 a.m.	Surgical Caucus Handbook review	Toronto Room
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	Pictorial Directory updates with AMA photographer	Grand Foyer
7:45 a.m.–1 p.m.	AMA-MSS Assembly	Regency A-C
8–9 a.m.	Using the Electronic Handbook (repeats Monday at same time)	Grand Ballroom
10–11 a.m.	AMA-RFS Education session: Irwin Redlener, Columbia University, Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness	Regency D
10:40 a.m.–noon	*AMA-SMS: Interprofessional collaboration in health care: Implications for medical schools and GME	Columbus K-L
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.	*Jointly sponsored by all sections and special groups: Health system reform: A candid discussion	Columbus I-J
12:30–2:30 p.m.	AMA-MSS Medical Specialty Showcase	Crystal Foyer
1–2 p.m.	AMA-MSS Keynote speaker: Geoff Tabin, MD	Regency A-C
1–2:30 p.m.	Surgical Caucus business and education session	Columbus E-F
1–2:30 p.m.	*AMA Senior Physicians Group, Organized Medical Staff Section and Advisory Committee on Group Practice Physicians: Keeping Senior Physicians in Practice: Issues of Competency, Recertification and the Value of Experience	Columbus I-J
1–2:30 p.m.	Continuing Physician Professional Development will hold its annual Town Hall Meeting	Columbus C-D
1–2:30 p.m.	*AMA-SMS: Mini-presentations on innovations in medical education	Columbus K-L
<b>3–5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>House of Delegates Opening Session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
5:30–6:30 p.m.	Joint Section and Special Group caucus	Gold Coast Room
5:30–7:30 p.m.	AMA-WPC Caucus	Columbus E-F
5:30–8 p.m.	AMA-IMG candidate interview forum	Columbus I-J
6:30–7:15 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Regency B
9:30 p.m.	AMA-IMG Desserts from Around the World	Crystal C
<b>Sunday, June 14</b>		
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>8–8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>AMA House of Delegates "Second Opening" Session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee B</b>	<b>Regency B</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee E</b>	<b>Regency A</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee F</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee G</b>	<b>Regency C</b>
<b>1:30– 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee on Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws</b>	<b>Regency B</b>
<b>1:30– 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee A</b>	<b>Regency A</b>
<b>1:30– 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee C</b>	<b>Regency C</b>
<b>1:30– 6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reference Committee D</b>	<b>Regency D</b>
4:30–6 p.m.	Disaster Medicine Caucus	Columbus G

† Locations are subject to change; please check the listings at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Time	Event	Location†
<b>Monday, June 15</b>		
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
7:30–8:45 a.m.	AMA-WPC Liaison breakfast	Columbus C-D
7:30–9 a.m.	Litigation Center	Regency B
7:30–9 a.m.	AMA-IMG Caucus	Truffles
9–11 a.m.	AMA-IMG The Busharat Ahmad, MD, Leadership Development Program	Truffles
8–9 a.m.	Using the Electronic Handbook	Grand Ballroom
8–9 a.m.	Overview: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Health Information Technology Provisions	Regency A
8–9 a.m.	The IOM Report on Resident Duty Hours: Enhancing Sleep, Supervision and Safety	Crystal A
8:30–10 a.m.	Action Team on Alcohol and the Tobacco Task Force joint session	New Orleans Room
9–10 a.m.	*Heal the Claims Process™ Check up for physicians and payers	Regency A
9–10 a.m.	Enhancing the Medical Education Learning Environment	Crystal A
9–10 a.m.	Current Concepts in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury	Regency C
9:30–11 a.m.	Joint Caucus: YPS, MSS, and RFS	Toronto Room
9:30–11 a.m.	*CEJA Open Forum	Regency B
10–11 a.m.	Assuming the Mantle of Leadership: Roles for the AMA and its Members in Maintaining a Livable Environment	Regency C
10–11 a.m.	Extending Our Comfort Zone: Lessons on Establishing a Quality Improvement Culture	Crystal A
10–11 a.m.	Caucus for community-based, private practice physicians	Columbus K-L
1–6 p.m.	Pictorial Directory updates with AMA photographer	Grand Foyer
<b>2–5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>House of Delegates Business Session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 16</b>		
7 a.m.–6 p.m.	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
7:30–8:45 a.m.	Elections	Columbus K-L
<b>9 a.m.–3 p.m.</b>	<b>House of Delegates Business Session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>
5 p.m.	Inauguration of J. James Rohack, MD	Crystal Ballroom
6 p.m.	Inaugural reception and dance	Regency Ballrooms and Foyer
<b>Wednesday, June 17</b>		
7 a.m.–adjournment	AMA-HOD Registration	Grand Foyer
<b>9 a.m.–noon</b>	<b>House of Delegates Business Session</b>	<b>Grand Ballroom</b>

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