



Business of Medicine

March 26

On Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 6:00 pm in the TMA Thompson Auditorium, Shannon Moore, Texas Medical Association's Director of Health Information Technology will present *Selection and Implementation of Electronic Medical Records*. The Texas Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. TMA designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. The Texas Medical Association designates this activity for up to 1 hour in the area of ethics and/or professional responsibility education.

For more details or to register, contact the Society at 206-1146, tcms@tcms.com, or enroll online at www.tcms.com. This presentation is free to TCMS members.

2009 Directory Orders

The 2009 TCMS Pictorial Directory is being finalized. TCMS members receive one complimentary copy as a member benefit. Additional copies will be available for purchase. This publication is a valuable reference tool for physicians as well as for office staff and other medical professionals. Contact the Society at 206-1249 or ajeansonne@tcms.com to order additional copies.

Influenza Activity in Texas

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending January 31, 2009 was "widespread." Widespread activity indicates that at least half of the regions in the state are experiencing an increase in influenza-like illness (ILI) and have recent culture-confirmed influenza. The central Texas region reported an increase in flu activity compared to the prior week.

Pertussis

The Austin/Travis County Health & Human Services Department (ATCHHSD) has had four positive PCR lab - confirmed pertussis reports between November 13, 2008 to February 13, 2009. All were children <18 years of age. These cases highlight the need to continue to provide recommended immunizations as well as for enhanced clinical awareness.

Retired Physicians' Organization

March 17

The next meeting of the TCMS Retired Physicians' Organization (RPO), will be March 17 at Tarrytown Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition at 11:30 am. All retired physicians, or those who are contemplating retirement, are invited. Retired Admiral Bobby R. Inman, former Director of the National Security Agency and Deputy Director of the CIA will present *Continuing Threats to American Safety and Interests*. For more information or to RSVP, contact Ann Jeansonne at 206-1249 or email ajeansonne@tcms.com.

Free Reimbursement Consultations

April 2 & 3

Treat reimbursement pangs with TMA's 30-minute remedy. Schedule a free one-on-one session with a reimbursement specialist from TMA. Get answers to problems with Medicare, Medicaid, TWCC, managed care, and private insurance. The thirty minute sessions are Thursday and Friday, April 2 - 3 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Appointments are limited. Contact the Society at 206-1249 or email tcms@tcms.com.

Communications Committee - Members Needed

Charlotte Smith, MD, TCMS President, is establishing a new Communications Committee to oversee the TCMS publications and website. If you have an interest in serving on this committee, please contact Belinda Clare at 206-1250.

First Tuesdays at the Capitol

April 7 • May 5

Physicians, alliance members, and medical students from across the state will converge on Austin the first Tuesday of each month during the 81st Texas Legislative Session to participate in the "White Coat Invasion" at the Capitol. Stephanie Triggs, TCMS Director of Community and Government Relations will schedule appointments with local legislators.

To register, visit www.texmed.org. Join your colleagues to make a difference by registering for one or all dates!

Volunteers needed to provide student athletic physicals

The Austin Independent School District requires all students participating in competitive sports to have yearly athletic physical exams. The TCMS Public Relations committee is now soliciting volunteers to help with the 2009 athletic physicals for AISD students who have financial restrictions and other barriers to health care.

Volunteer physicians will be assigned to one portion of the exam (heart/lungs, ear/nose/throat, ortho/neuro, etc.). The students are guided from one station to another until they have received a complete exam.

Please select the location(s) and shift(s) you would be willing to provide your services and return to the Society (Fax: 450-1326, or mail: TCMS, PO Box 4679, Austin, TX 78765).

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| Tuesday, April 14—Delco Center (183 and Manor Rd) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm |
| Tuesday, April 21—Burger Center (South Mo Pac and 290 West) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm |
| Tuesday, May 12—Burger Center (South Mo Pac and 290 West) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm |
| Thursday, May 14—Delco Center (183 and Manor Rd) | <input type="checkbox"/> 5:15-6:45pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 6:30-8:00pm |

I will be unable to participate this year, but will see students in my office.

Name: _____ Specialty: _____

Maps and specific information will be sent to you in advance. Contact Stephanie Triggs, TCMS Director of Community and Government Relations, if you have any questions at 206-1124 or striggs@tcms.com.

