



**Tuesday,
November
13, 2012**

Great Pains: Famous People and Headaches

Volume 173, Issue 7

**NOVEMBER
2012**



Speaker:
Jeffrey M. Jones, MD
Neurologist

* * *

**New Elkmoss
Book Signing
Fundraiser for
Marian Burch
Adult Daycare
Center - See pg. 7**

* * *

**Annual
Election of New
Officers**

* * *

**R.S.V.P. to
Diane at
660-0893
See you at
Bronson Battle
Creek Out-
patient Center
Second Floor
Conference Rooms**

MEETING INFO.

LOCATION:
**BRONSON
BATTLE CREEK**

AGENDA:

- * **5:30 P.M. - CCMS Executive Committee (OPC 2nd Fl. Board Room)**
- * **6:00 P.M. - 6:30 Social (OPC 2nd Fl. Conf. Rms. 1&2)**
- * **6:30 P.M. Dinner/Presentation (OPC 2nd Fl. Conf. Rms. 1&2)**

MENU:
Buffet with vegetarian option

1-Hr CME OBJECTIVES

- ◆ Review the epidemiology of migraines
- ◆ Outline the history of headaches
- ◆ Examine the guidelines for the Rx of migraines
- ◆ Discuss barriers to adequate care
- ◆ Explore the influence of headaches on history

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Jones received his

MD education from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV; along with his BSChE. His post-graduate Residency was served in Neurology, Medical Univ. of SC, Charleston, SC, and his Flexible Internship was served at Riverside Hospital, Newport News, VA. Dr. Jones is licensed in Michigan and Florida.

Hospital privileges he serves are at Bronson Battle Creek (BBC) in Battle Creek, MI, Oaklawn Hospital in Marshall, MI, and Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo, MI. Dr. Jones has also served hospital leadership positions as Chief of Staff, Battle Creek Health System (BCHS, now BBC); Chair, Department of Neuropsychiatry, BCHS; Member at Large, Medical Executive Committee, BCHS; and Chief of Staff, Southwest Michigan Rehab Hospital (SWRH).

Dr. Jones' professional experience includes as Clinical Assistant Professor at Michigan State University Col-

lege of Human Medicine and in Private Practice at Neurology of Battle Creek in Battle Creek, MI. He is board certified with the American Board of Electroencephalography, American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine, and American Society of Neuroimaging.

Medical societies have seen Dr. Jones at the Michigan Board of Medicine; Federation of States Boards of Medicine, Fellow; American Academy of Neurology, Fellow; Michigan State Medical Society; District Director; Calhoun County Medical Society, President; American Society of Neuroimaging; Electroencephalography and Clinical Neuroscience Society; and the American Association of Neuro-muscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine, Fellow. He served our country in the United States Army as First Lieutenant, and Vietnam Service.

**CCMS
PLANNING
CALENDAR**

2013

**2nd Tuesday,
6:30pm Meeting
Topics:**

Jan. 18	President's Celebration @ BCCC
Feb. 12	TBA (Member suggestions welcome)
Mar. 12	TBA (Member suggestions welcome)
Apr. 9	TBA (Member suggestions welcome)
May 14	TBA (Member suggestions welcome)
Sept. 10	TBA (Member suggestions welcome)

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience for this program is ALL PHYSICIAN MEMBERS of Calhoun County Medical Society.

This is a non-sponsored presentation. The speaker has no financial affiliation. A disclosure form is on file at Bronson Battle Creek.

Reminder: This is the last 2012 CCMS Newsletter until February when 2013 meetings resume. Hope to see at the FRIDAY, January 18th President's Celebration!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Lokesh R. Edara,
MD**

2012 President,
Calhoun County
Medical Society.
Email: edaralr@
bronsonhg.com.

If you have
COUNTY
suggestions,
call me at my
Battle Creek
office phone
(269) 968-3030

FEDERAL LEGISLATOR CONTACT INFO.:

U.S. Senator
Debbie Stabenow
-R

Phone
1-616-975-0052

Email: senator@stabenow.senate.gov

U.S. Representative
7th District
Tim Walberg-D

Phone
1-517-780-9075

Email: <http://walberg.house.gov>

Patients First Reform Package

Studies project that by 2020 the state of Michigan will have a physician shortage of over 4,500 doctors in fields like pediatrics, family practice and general and internal medicine. What's more, many of Michigan's cities and urban areas with the largest populations are at risk of becoming underserved.

As our state struggles to attract and retain high quality physicians to meet the growing health needs seniors, children and families, common sense tort reform legislation that puts patients first has the ability to make Michigan a much more appealing state in which to start a practice and see patients and strengthening and restoring Michigan's tort climate.

The Patients First Reform Package would:

- ◆ Better define "economic" damages—This reform would clarify Michigan law when it comes to what constitutes "economic" damages (like lost wages and legal bills) and "non-economic" damages (like pain and suffering).
- ◆ Hold physicians to the same standards as trial lawyers—Physicians will be held to the same negligence standards that attorneys are, leveling the playing field.
- ◆ Close a confusing legal loophole that allows unnecessary suits—

Removing the "Loss of Opportunity" doctrine would clear up ambiguous statutes that cloud the judicial waters, a solution Michigan Justices have been asking for.

- ◆ Prevent trial lawyers from artificially inflating awards— End the practice of using compound interest in the collection of damages when multiple parties are named in a lawsuit.
- ◆ Protect patients by bringing more professionals under medical malpractice guidelines— Unlicensed health care professionals (like X-Ray techs) will be brought under medical malpractice guidelines to protect patients.
- ◆ Prevent trial lawyers from using a loop hole into default judgments against physicians—By reforming guidelines that cover the timely filing of legal documents trial lawyers will no longer be allowed to win default judgments against physicians by failing to notify them that they are being sued.
- ◆ Close a loophole that doubles the statute of limitations—Ends the practice of trial lawyers who use a loophole in the law to double the statute of limitations for filing wrongful death suits.
- ◆ Put patients first, not their lawyers—Right now, trial lawyers are collecting interest payments on expenses they have not

incurred. Ending this deceptive practice will ensure timely representation and that patients benefit most from judgments, not their lawyers.

Source: MSMS email 11-2-2012.

2013 CCMS New Officer Ballot Proposal

OPEN BEFORE AND DURING UNTIL THE ELECTION IS CLOSED Tuesday, November 13th at the General Membership Meeting, nominations on the floor are as follows:

President—

Gunjana Bhandari, MD

President-Elect—

William J. Comai, DO

Vice President—

Satya Chaparala, MD

Secretary/Treasurer—

Sridhar Chalasani, MD

Trustees (3-Year Terms)—

**Zarius Drummond, MD
exp. 2013)**

**Karl F. Loomis, MD (exp.
2013)**

**Chris M. Flynn, MD (exp.
2014)**

**Patrick J. Sweeney, MD
(exp. 2014)**

**Kari M. Formsma, MD
(exp. 2015)**

OPEN (exp. 2015)

MSMS Delegates—

Raakesh C. Bhan, MD

**B. Douglas Campbell, MD
James H.**

Timmons, MD, PhD

Paul A. Walk, MD

MSMS Alternate Delegates—

Jeffrey M. Jones, MD

Daniel C. Hood, MD

Chris M. Flynn, MD

OPEN

*Happy Holidays,
Lokesh R. Edara,
MD*

Hospital Lawsuit Against Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC)

A coalition of hospitals sued the U.S. government on Thursday, claiming that private auditors hired to crack down on improper Medicare payments are denying hospitals hundreds of millions of dollars in legal payments for necessary care. The lawsuit alleges auditors known as Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC) forced hospitals to repay Medicare for the cost of in-patient services by determining months and sometimes years after the fact that beneficiaries should have been treated as out-patients instead of being admitted. The plaintiffs – the American Hospital Association and four institutions from Missouri, Michigan, and Pennsylvania – say auditors in many cases do not deny the care is necessary but the government still refuses to reimburse hospitals under the Medicare program for out-patient service.

Filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, the suit charges the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services were violating the law that governs the popular Medicare program for the elderly and disabled as well as other statutes. The RAC audit program, established under the Bush administration to curtail improper Medicare payments, has collected \$1.86 billion in overpay-

ments from October 2009 to March 2012, according to the court filing.

Health Insurance Exchange Deadline

The deadline to apply for a state health insurance exchange is less than a month away, but many states have made limited progress in planning and implementing the online marketplaces mandated by the 2010 federal health care law. These Internet exchanges, which allow individuals and small businesses to compare the benefits, prices, quality and services of health care plans, are meant to encourage competition among insurers. Supporters of the health care law say this will lead to lower premiums. If a state chooses not to run its own exchange, the law mandates that the federal government will step in and establish one for it.

The response to the Affordable Care Act's exchange provision has varied. Although some states have already taken steps to create exchanges, others have had exchange-related legislation fail or have stated that they will not establish state-run exchanges. States wishing to set up their own exchanges have little time to act; the deadline to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is Nov. 16, and all state-operated exchanges must be fully functional

by Oct. 1, 2013.

In 2006, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney created the first state-operated exchange: the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority, an independent state agency governed by an 11-member board. The exchange offers two programs: Commonwealth Care, which is aimed toward low-income adults who require subsidized health care, and Commonwealth Choice, which is aimed at everyone else. Accordingly, eight insurance carriers participate in Commonwealth Choice, and five participate in Commonwealth Care, resulting in a combined total of 99 health care plans.

The Health Connector is funded by a combination of earned income, state funding and federal grants. In 2012, the exchange received about \$25.6 million from the state, \$6.3 million in earned income from its carriers and \$1 million from the federal government. Independent polls indicate that between 69 and 75 percent of Massachusetts residents support the state health care reform.

Utah legislators created Avenue H in 2009. That exchange is run by the state's Office of Consumer Health Services and is geared toward small businesses and their employees.

Continued on page 8

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



**Marjaneh
Rouhani MD**
CCMS Legislative
Co-Chair
Email:
mrouhani@doctor
.com
Concerns?
Office phone
(269) 969-6108

STATE LEGISLATOR CONTACT INFO.:

Michigan 62nd
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Kate Segal-D
Phone toll free
1-888-347-8062
Email: KateSegal@house.mi.gov

Michigan 63rd
District State
Representative
Jase Bolger-D
Phone toll free
1-877-265-4371
Email: JamesBolger@house.mi.gov

Michigan 19th
District Senator
Mike Nofs-R
Phone
269-441-1222
Email: ILikeMike@MikeNofs.com

MSMS THIRD DISTRICT REPORT



**Michigan State
Medical Society**
120 W Saginaw
East Lansing, MI
48823

Main Phone:
(517) 337-1351

Website:
www.msms.org

Email:
msms@msms.org

**Calhoun's MSMS
Member
Consultant,
Gary A. Huyge,**
*will be pleased to
meet with you to
answer your MSMS
membership
questions.
To schedule
a visit, please
contact him at
Phone
616-826-4652
or
Email
GHuyge@msms.org.*

MSMS Reimbursement Advocate Alert—Nov. 6th

New e-Referral System De- layed

Blue Care Network previously announced preparations for a new referral system. (See BCN Provider News, Sept. Oct. 2012, Page 45.) The implementation has been delayed. The new system is expected to be available in 2013.

The new e-referral system will have features designed to make the referral process easier for you. While BCN is eager to share it with you, it hopes to introduce the system at a time that is less disruptive to your office. This is one of the reasons why BCN is postponing implementation of the new system beyond the holidays and the first few months of the new year.

Watch for updates on BCN's e-referral website and in future issues of the BCN newsletter.

Blue Care Network Website Will Move to Blue Cross Site

The Blue Care Network website, MiBCN.com, will be moving to the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan website by the end of 2012.

BCN is making this change as a result of national health care reform. In 2014, consumers will be able to shop on health care exchanges for health insurance, according to provisions of the Affordable Care Act. Having a combined website will allow consumers to shop all of the Blues products in one location.

Most public provider

pages are already on bcbsm.com. Any visits to MiBCN.com will be redirected to the Blue Cross site.

BCN Advantage Expands to 11 Counties

BCN Advantage HMO POSSM has expanded to 11 counties in Michigan, effective January 1. The counties are Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Huron, Isabella, Kalkaska, Mecosta, Missaukee, Roscommon and Sanilac Counties.

Provider information is available in the BCN Advantage chapter of the BCN Provider Manual on web-DENIS, available under BCN Provider Publications and Resources. Provider materials and forms can be found in web-DENIS. Look in BCN Provider Publications and Resources; then, under Products, go to the BCN Advantage page.

Blues Audit Medical Records to Meet CMS Re- quirements

In September 2012, the Blues began auditing health care providers' medical records to meet requirements of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. This impacts both Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network.

CMS annually performs Risk Adjustment Data Validation audits to ensure member diagnosis information is submitted accurately. In an RADV audit, the Blues have 12 weeks to submit medical record documentation to CMS for a random member sample. If BCN is audited, it's imperative that physician

offices and facilities submit the needed medical records so the Blues can comply with CMS audit requirements. Two Blues audits will occur between September 2012 and January 2013.

Beginning in September 2012, BCN will conduct an internal audit to identify and mitigate any outstanding risk related to member diagnoses.

In late 2012, BCN will perform a mock RADV audit to ensure BCN is prepared to meet CMS standards within the specified timeframe, in case an RADV audit is required.

For both audits, BCN is partnering with Inovalon™ to get the required information. It is critical that you promptly respond to Inovalon with the requested medical records.

If you have any questions, please contact your BCN provider representative.

Blue Cross Complete Now Accepts Children's Special Health Services Enrollees

Physician/Provider currently serves children or youth with complex chronic health conditions

Reminder: Bill CPT Code *99080 for Payment for Healthy Blue Living Quali- fication Forms

Physicians/Providers must use CPT code *99080 when filing a claim with Blue Care Network for completing a Blue Care Network Qualification Form for Healthy Blue LivingSM and Healthy Blue Living RewardsSM members. Claims should be billed in the

Continued on page 5

CCMS REPORT

PLEASE...

...ADD CCMS TO YOUR ADDRESS LISTS for your important practice announcements and changes at P.O. Box 278, Battle Creek, MI 49016-0278.

...ADD CCMS TO YOUR EMAIL CONTACT LIST at calhouncms@yahoo.com.

...ADD CCMS TO YOUR WEBSITE FAVORITES at www.calhouncms.org and MSMS at www.msms.org.

EMAILED MEETING FLYERS & NEWSLETTERS ARE RECEIVED FASTER!!!

Call the office or send an email request to Diane at calhouncms@yahoo.com.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As of 10/31/12, we have a total of 214 members.

Welcome New Members

Ali Ghasham, MD, Family Medicine, Oaklawn Medical Group

William A. Sray, MD, Ophthalmology, Southwest Michigan Eye Center

No 1st or 2nd Readings

Keep in mind this is a membership-based organization.

CCMS encourages all current members to continue to recruit new members.

MEMBERSHIP DUES INFORMATION

The CCMS executive committee voted by email in June 2012 to NOT raise

the 2013 dues. MSMS mailed the first mailing of dues invoices for 2013 in September. After March, unpaid dues members are dropped and fall into the "non-paying dues" (NPD) members. We sincerely hope this line-item is an important part of your 2013 budget. Please note: County dues are 100% tax deductible; State dues are 85% tax deductible.

Multiple payment options include the easy GROUP BILL to the practice and/or monthly payments. The AMA is NOT part of CCMS/MSMS. As a convenience ONLY, AMA dues are OPTIONAL as a convenience to be paid on one invoice.

For your review, the Dues Rates are listed in the chart below.

2013 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES	Dual Membership Required		Optional
	CCMS	MSMS	AMA
Practice Status			
Regular Full-time Active	\$275	\$495	\$420
Part-time/Spouse Dr.	\$137.50	\$247.50	\$420
1st Year Practice/Student/Resident	\$68.75	\$123.75	\$420
2nd Year Practice	\$137.50	\$247.50	\$420
3rd Year Practice	\$206.25	\$371.25	\$315
Retirees	\$50	0	0

MSMS THIRD DISTRICT REPORT

Continued from page 4

amount of \$40 using the CPT code *99080. This CPT code should only be used for billing for qualification forms for Healthy Blue Living

members. For more information about reimbursement issues, contact **Stacie Saylor, CPC**, at MSMS at 517-336-5722

or ssaylor@msms.org. For more news and information, visit www.msms.org where you can read *Medigram* and *Michigan Medicine* online.

COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CONNECTIONS

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

For your **useful equipment and medication disposal**, please consider donations to **Community HealthCare Connections (formerly Nursing Clinic of Battle Creek)**.

Samantha Pearl,

Executive Director
Community HealthCare Connections
(Calhoun Health Plan & Nursing Clinic of Battle Creek)
190 East Michigan Ave,
Ste 385
Battle Creek, MI 49014
(269) 969-6461
spearl@chcconnections.org

2012 CCMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

at the
5:30
meetings...

President - Lokesh R. Edara, MD

President-elect- Gunjana Bhandari, MD

Vice President - William J. Comai, DO

Secretary / Treasurer - Satya B. Chaparala, MD

Immediate Past President - Mahesh C. Karamchandani, MD

3rd District Director / Legislative Chair - John G. Bizon, MD

Michigan Society of Hematology & Oncology - Stephen L. Smiley, MD

Trustees (3-Year Terms)

Sridhar Chalasani, MD, exp. 2012

Maddur Badarinath, MD, exp. 2012

Zarius Drummond, MD, exp. 2013

Karl Loomis, MD, exp. 2013

Christopher M. Flynn, MD, exp. 2014

Patrick Sweeney, exp. 2014

MSMS Delegates (1-Year Term)

Raakesh C. Bhan, MD

B. Douglas Campbell, MD

James H. Timmons, MD, PhD

Paul A. Walk, MD

Alternate Delegates (1-Year Term)

Daniel C. Hood, MD

Jeff M. Jones, MD

Tarek Elshaarawy, MD

Rachel D. Yankama, MD

Elkmoss Corner: "Thanksgiving"

When the Elkmoss kids were growing up, I think Christmas was my favorite time of the year. Compulsive Mrs. Elkmoss did most of the shopping for friends and family, made out all the Christmas cards, and certainly did all the cooking and cleaning. The only responsibilities I had were to put up the tree, play with the kids, and make sure I got what Mrs. Elkmoss wanted as a present. That might sound like an easy assignment, but knowing what Mrs. Elkmoss wants is quite difficult for me.

The first Christmas after we were married, I unadvisedly gave my new bride a vacuum cleaner. From then on, my mother-in-law made subtle, but effective suggestions as to what would please Mrs. Elkmoss. My office, after hearing about my faux pas (time and time again at the annual office Christmas parties), also helps with suggestions. You would think that Daughter Elkmoss, when she got a little older, would help her father out by buying something (with my money, of course) for her mother, but no such luck. Now that she is in college, she really has no time (or interest) in helping her

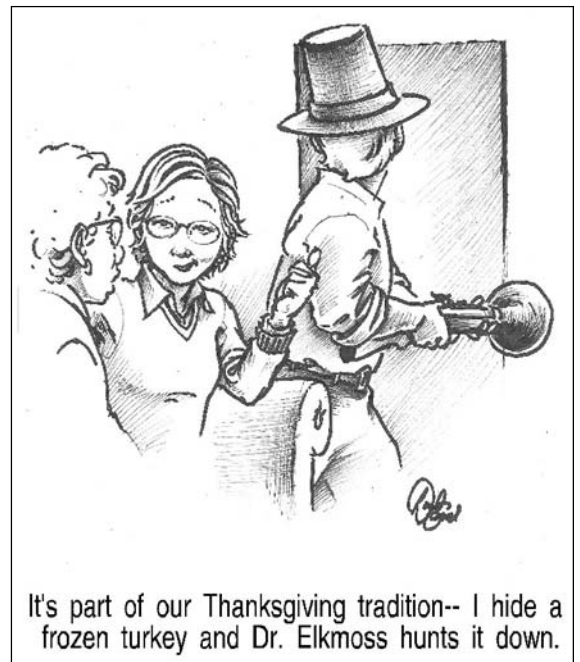
incompetent father.

Now the kids are grown and scattered and it is hard to get them all together for Christmas. Furthermore, with a great deal of emphasis on commercial aspects, I guess my favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. It involves my favorite activities I refer to as the 3 F's- family, food, and football. Not too bad. The only irritant in my Turkey Weekend is Black Friday. That's the day after Thanksgiving when a huge number of normally sane people go berserk trying to find "door buster" deals. If I plan any outing that day correctly, however, I am not too affected by traffic jams. I certainly want to stay out of any retail stores.

Nonetheless, I am having increasing difficulties enjoying Thanksgiving because of my memory problems. This year we could get two of the three Elkmoss kids home (the oldest is in the military and did not even make it home for Christmas), but they added to the complexities of the weekend.

One minor problem was that our driveway had to handle extra cars. So to make sure I could get out to make rounds at the hospital, I let (was ordered) Daughter Elkmoss park in the garage in my place. (Actually, there was space enough for me to get out, but Mrs. Elkmoss insisted on protecting her only daughter, or at least her daughter's car, while she was home.)

As I was getting her car into the garage, I noticed that Daughter Elkmoss had not changed the oil in her car for nearly 20,000 miles ("I was just too busy studying, Dad!"). So before I put her car away, I took the car in for an oil change. Mrs. Elkmoss invited her parents as well as her sister's and



It's part of our Thanksgiving tradition-- I hide a frozen turkey and Dr. Elkmoss hunts it down.

Elkmoss *(continued)*

brothers' families over for dinner, and wanted me to stop by the grocery store on the way home. Mrs. Elkmoss gave me a carefully prepared list knowing quite well I would forget something.

The service station where we had Daughter Elkmoss's car oil changed was not very busy at all. I guessed everyone was too busy shopping to have their car fixed then. I took her with me with some hope she would learn how to get the oil changed herself one day. (Silly me- that will never happen as long as Mrs. Elkmoss is around to "protect" her daughter.) The maintenance was accomplished easily, and we stopped off to get groceries on our way home. The store was also fairly empty- most people were probably eating leftovers from the day before- and we quickly grabbed every item on Mrs. Elkmoss's list including a bottle of Scotch that Mrs. Elkmoss's father usually drinks at our affairs. I particularly remember putting it on the floor of the back seat of the car so it would not roll around on our way home.

At home, we pulled into the garage and

Daughter Elkmoss dutifully helped me unload the back of the car. I gave her the drink stuff to go to the bar area while I took the rest of the groceries to the kitchen so Mrs. Elkmoss could appreciate what a helpful husband I she had. I then retired to my study (the cave as the rest of the family refers to it) to make sure I was out of the way of the whirly dervish of a housecleaner that Mrs. Elkmoss represents.

About a half hour before the family was to arrive, Mrs. Elkmoss instructed me to set up the bar. I got the ice out, set up the soda for the kids, and tried to find the Scotch for my father-in-law. (I make sure he is well taken care of, because he has rescued me time and time again from the wrath of his daughter.)

I could not find the Scotch. Look as I might in the bar, it just was not there. I then called Daughter Elkmoss, but she was over at some friends and I finally had to call her on her cell phone. (She is trying to teach me how to do text messaging, but I am too old to learn such fancy techniques.) She did not

remember bringing it in from the car, so I went out to my car and looked in the back seat.

It was not there. So I rummaged around the bar again, and then looked back in my car again, but to no avail. At that point I was panicking, not only because Mrs. Elkmoss would be mad, but also I would be letting down my best ally.

I rushed out to my car in the driveway (for the third time) and was getting in the car to go buy another bottle when I remembered that we had taken Daughter Elkmoss's car to the store, not mine. I rushed into the garage, found the precious bottle, and causally sauntered by Mrs. Elkmoss on the way to bar.

It turned out that my father-in-law just drank water that evening because he was feeling a little queasy. Two good things came of the incident, however. Mrs. Elkmoss was pleased that I was looking out for her father, and I did not have to disclose what an idiot I was.



*Herman J.
Elkmoss,
MD*

NEW ELKMoss BOOK: SIGNING FUNDRAISING EVENT 11/13/12

In June, *Further Adventures of Herman J. Elkmoss, MD* was released. After **Dr. Jeff Jones'** November 13th "Great Pains..." CCMS presentation at Bronson Battle Creek, a **BOOK SALE** (\$20 each) & **SIGNING** as a **Marian Burch Adult Day Care Center** fundraising event will take place. **Dr. James Mauer** will be on hand co-signing as an appreciative representative.

The original book, *The Marvelous Adventures of Herman J. Elkmoss, MD*, can be purchased directly from **PublishAmerica** or through **Amazon** or **Barnes & Noble** online. (E-book versions will soon be available as well.)

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



John J.H. Schwarz MD
CCMS Legislative
Co-Chair
Email:
jschwarz@FHCBC
.com
Concerns?
Office phone
(269) 965-8866

Best regards,

Marjaneh

Rouhani,

MD,

Joe Schwarz,

MD



Continued from page 3

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 10 other states and the District of Columbia have passed exchange legislation since President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Care Act. Legislation is pending in four more states. Indiana, Kentucky, New York and Rhode Island established their exchanges through governor-issued executive orders. Many states have resisted implementing a state-run exchange.

In 2011, New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez vetoed legislation that would establish a state exchange. A year later, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vetoed a similar bill.

Eight states — Texas, Louisiana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Florida, Maine and Alaska — have announced they will not create state-run health exchanges. Those states, excluding Alaska, have also announced they will return the majority of their grant funding to the federal government. Alaska is the only state that did not apply for a grant. A New Hampshire law signed in June prohibits the state from establishing or participating in a state health insurance exchange, and instead turns that role over to the federal government. Exchange legis-

lation has failed in several more states, including Missouri. Other states, such as Montana and Wyoming, have tasked commissions with determining the implications of state exchanges. Those states have taken no legislative steps toward establishing exchanges.

States have received substantial funding from the federal government. 49 states and the District of Columbia have received up to \$1 million in Exchange Planning Grants and have used them to conduct community forums and establish studies on exchange feasibility. Six states and a multi-state association led by the University of Massachusetts Medical School received \$241 million in February to create technology systems for the exchanges. Thirty-five states have received Establishment Grants. Fabien Levy, press secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimated that by 2016, about 20 million Americans will acquire health insurance through the exchanges.

In Michigan State officials have chosen Priority Health HMO as the benchmark for a new health care exchange. It's another step towards the inevitable - unless the President and Congress make major modifications

to the Affordable Care Act. Uninsured people will be required to buy health insurance through state health care exchanges by January 1, 2014. The state's decision means all other health insurance companies must offer at least the same level of benefits as Priority Health HMO. Those benefits include preventive services like mammograms and well-child visits with no co-pay.

Priority Health HMO is the state's second largest, after Blue Care Network HMO. Governor Rick Snyder is pursuing a state and federal government partnership that will run Michigan's exchange, after the state legislature failed to act to set up a state-only run exchange.

As it is, the federal government plans to provide tax credits to people who can't afford to buy health insurance from a company that is in the exchange. Employer-provided health insurance plans will also have to match the minimum level of benefits in the exchanges - unless the employer gets a waiver. Individuals will not have to pay more than 9% of their income for health insurance. People who choose to remain uninsured will pay a tax penalty, which will increase every year until it reaches the maximum penalty.

Plenty of Opportunity to Participate, Educate, or Serve

Participate...

Attend Berrien County Medical Society's **DOs and MDs Serving Berrien County Together**. BCMS is very pleased to welcome **John B. Crosby, Executive Director of American Osteopathic Association (AOA)**. **6:00-8:00 p.m.**
Thursday, November 15th
Berrien Hills Golf Club
 690 W Napier Ave
 Benton Harbor, MI 49022
\$25.00 Dinner/Cash bar
R.S.V.P.:
 BCMS@lakelandregional.org
 or Call **Joyce DeLong**,
 269.208.4256

The AOA is the professional body of more than 78,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) that promotes public health, encourages scientific research, and serves as the primary certifying body for DOs. It is also the accrediting agency for all osteopathic medical colleges, and has federal authority to accredit hospitals and other healthcare facilities. Mr. Crosby has unique insight into the allopathic and osteopathic relationship since he has functioned AAOA Executive Director for 12 years, following eight years of service as Senior Vice President for Health Policy at the American Medical Association. BCMS is thrilled to host Mr. Crosby.

Educate...

Lean Physician Practice Innovation: Finding the Time to Deliver Great Health Care

Our industry has a relentless stream of changes that physicians are struggling to understand and react to while continuing to improve their patient care practices. MSMS is partnering with the Lean Transformations Group to offer a physician learning collaborative designed to help practices reduce the time and energy associated with running a practice through innovative process improvements.

For optimal outcomes, we encourage physicians and their office staff to attend every session. By doing so, a plan can be developed and implemented more effectively. **A significant discount is offered to those who attend the entire series.**

Wednesday, November 14, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm:

Ypsilanti

- ◆ Improvement opportunities through value stream mapping, problem solving, and other "Lean thinking" techniques
- ◆ "Train-do" day: formal training with facilitated sessions
- ◆ Collaborate with other attendees on practice changes

Thursday, December 6, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm:

Webinar

- ◆ Follow-up on individual practice projects

- ◆ Share experiences with other participants

2 0 1 3

Wednesday, January 23, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm:

Ypsilanti

- ◆ Identify improvements in a structured process to meet specific goals
- ◆ Design pilots/experiments to test new ideas without adding risk to existing practice
- ◆ "Train-do" day: formal training with facilitated sessions
- ◆ Collaborate with other attendees on practice changes

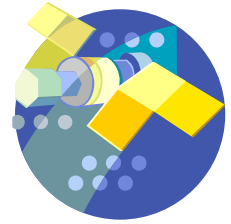
Wednesday, February 27, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm:

Ypsilanti

- ◆ Create visual controls and management to sustain improvements
- ◆ Design effective huddles to review ongoing progress, discuss recent performance, and identify new opportunities
- ◆ "Train-do" day: formal training with facilitated sessions
- ◆ Collaborate with other attendees on practice changes

Serve...

Each year Michigan State Medical Society develops nominees for appointments to its committees and task forces. If every physician loaned a few hours of his or her time once per year, the wealth of knowledge and support could be spread out. Contact **Heather Hill** at hhill@msms.org.



MSMS COMMITTEES

Committees on...

- ◆ Aging
- ◆ Bioethics
- ◆ Annual Scientific Meeting
- ◆ CME Accreditation
- ◆ CME Programming
- ◆ Health Care Quality, Efficiency and Economics
- ◆ Information Technology
- ◆ Maternal and Perinatal Health
- ◆ Medical Licensure and Discipline
- ◆ Membership Recruitment and Retention
- ◆ State Legislation and Regulations

Liaison Committees with...

- ◆ Michigan's Public Health
- ◆ Third Party Payers

Task Forces on...

- ◆ A Patient Focused Compensation System
- ◆ Physician Extenders



**Roshan
Karam-
chandani ,
CCMSA
President**

As a spouse or partner of a Medical Society member (physician), you are eligible to become a member of the Calhoun Co/ Michigan State/ National Medical Society Alliance.

The Alliance is the largest volunteer arm of the AMAA/MSMSA/CCMSA, supporting medical families through advocacy and education and serves as a volunteer voice of healthy families in our communities. You can learn more about the rich opportunities available at www.amaalliance.org and www.msmsa.org.



Calhoun County Medical Society Alliance News

In the month of November, watch the mail for the annual Calhoun County Medical Society Alliance 'Holiday Sharing Card'. This opportunity allows donations for charitable contributions. It was begun at national/state levels to raise funds for the AMA Foundation, which awards scholarships to medical students. At the local level, we have also included the choice of local charities: the Fountain Clinic in Marshall; the Community Health Care Connections (formerly the Nursing Clinic); and a nursing scholarship held at the Battle Creek Community Foundation which was begun by a Battle Creek physician and his family several years ago. After donations have been collected, a greeting card is mailed to participants, which includes the names of all donors. For questions or suggestions, contact Roshan at: roshanmk@comcast.net

Roshan

Karamchandani

(roshanmk@comcast.net)
and

Jenny Krauss

(j.krauss.9435@gmail.com)

Southwest Michigan Eye Center proudly welcomes Dr. William Sray



**William A.
Sray, M.D.
Ophthalmology**

The mission at Southwest Michigan Eye Center is to provide excellence in vision care to Southwest Michigan through advanced technology, quality service and compassionate care. To advance this mission we are pleased to announce the addition of **William A. Sray, M.D.**, to our eye care team.

Dr. Sray, a Captain in the United States Navy, joins us after completing 21 years of active service. He is board certified in Ophthalmology and completed his subspecialty training in cornea and refractive surgery at the prestigious Wills Eye Institute in Philadelphia, which consistently ranks in the top three eye hospitals in the nation. His extensive refractive surgery experience stems from serving as Medical Director of the Refractive Surgery Center at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth where he was proud to perform refractive surgery on military pilots and Navy SEALs. During

his Navy career, he served aboard ships, was stationed in Japan, and participated in several humanitarian surgical missions to countries throughout Central and South America. Dr. Sray's special interests include corneal transplant surgery, keratoconus treatment, and refractive surgery including LASIK, PRK, and ICL (Implantable Collamer Lens) surgery.

When he's not taking care of patients, Dr. Sray enjoys teaching his son woodworking, taking his daughter out for tea, and going on dates with his wife. His down time often finds him enjoying the simple pleasures of a good cup of coffee and a great book.

Dr. Sray is now accepting patients. To refer a new patient, please call our physician referral line at 269-441-5789.

Help us Welcome New Member Dr. Sray!

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 timothy.wendt@plantemoran.com

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CALHOUN COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
*** 2013 SECOND-TUESDAY MEETINGS ***

EXEC. CMTE. 5:30 P.M.: Bronson Battle Creek OPC 2NDFI Brd Rm, or Oaklawn Hosp Wright Med Bldg Garden Level Brd Rm

GEN. MEMB. 6:30 P.M.: Bronson Battle Creek Outpt Ctr 2NDFI Conf Rms 1&2, or Oaklawn Hosp Wright Med Bldg 3RD FI Clsm

Feb. 12 - Bronson B.C.	Sept. 10 - Bronson B.C.
Mar. 12 - Bronson B.C.	Oct. 8 - B.C. Country Club, HCLF Winslow Lectureship
Apr. 9 - Bronson B.C.	Nov. 12 - Bronson B.C.
May 14 - Oaklawn Hospital	TBA - President's Celebration
June 11 - Exec. Cmte. Only	

A cut-out card for your convenience

CALHOUN
 COUNTY
MEDICAL
SOCIETY

Since 1839

PO Box 278
Battle Creek, MI 49016-2078

Phone Messages / Fax:
269-660-0893

Email: calhouncms@yahoo.com
Diane Cummins, Executive Director

Articles submitted and opinions
expressed in *The Bulletin* are **views of
the writer and not necessarily those of
Calhoun County Medical Society**. Articles
must have author's signature, address
and phone. They can be sent to Calhoun
County Medical Society at the address
above.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
*The 20th day of each month
prior to published month.*

A Nonprofit Physician's Professional Organization

BIOGRAPHY: A Society is a group of professionals with a common trade that offers networking and referrals, professional development and educational opportunities. The medical society offers enhanced services at the county level, guided by the professional state level. Calhoun County formed one of the earliest medical societies in the state of Michigan in 1839; Michigan State Medical Society formed in 1866.

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of the Calhoun County Medical Society / Michigan State Medical Society is to offer opportunities for networking, leadership and mentoring, grassroots medical legislative involvement, continuing medical educational needs along with personal and professional support services at the county, state, or national levels.

**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE...
www.calhouncms.org**

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notifications**

OTHER RELATED WEBSITES:

<http://www.msms.org>
<http://www.mdpac.org>
<http://www.michmgma.org>
<http://www.bronsonbattlecreek.com>
<http://www.oaklawnhospital.org>
<http://www.sw-rehab.org>
<http://www.hclfonline.com>
<http://www.calhouncancer.org>

Battle Creek, MI 49016-0278
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COUNTY

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