June 26, 2013

**Community Service/Care for the Underserved**
Continuing ACP’s commitment to universal access to health care, your Chapter is convening a group of interested ACP members. If you practice in an FQHC, free clinic, volunteer to provide health care or want to further care for our most vulnerable, our local chapter would like to identify how ACP might assist you in this noble work. Please email Governor Marie Brown directly at mbrownacp@mbrownmd.net.

**Would you like your local ACP leadership to visit your practice?**
Invite local ACP leadership to your clinic, hospital or medical group. Your local ACP will assist you in providing Grand Rounds on numerous topics, assist with understanding health care reform, and assist with understanding the recertification process (changes coming in 2014). Simply call (417-264-2569) or email Donna Seawards, Executive Director; we will try to arrange to meet your needs.

**Near Miss Registry Update**
In May, ACP Illinois invited Ethan Fried, MD, MACP to Chicago to discuss NY ACP’s Near Miss Registry Project, the development of the ACP National Near Miss Registry, and promote awareness of this project in Illinois. The Near Miss Registry is an internet-based survey tool which is voluntary, anonymous, risk-free, and confidential. The goal of this project is to change the culture of healthcare by providing a tool for healthcare providers to use to report a near harm events that never reaches patients. This gives an opportunity for healthcare providers to advocate and enhance patient safety as well as improve patient care quality by identifying, reporting, and learning from these near miss events. The near miss frequency of a specific event at one institution may be small in number, however, when looking at multiple institutions, there may be a larger system wide trend that we can all learn from. This project may allow us to address an area of patient safety vulnerability as well as share important lessons learned.

Dr. Fried spoke during Grand Rounds to Program Directors, Faculty members, Residents, Hospital Leaderships, Patient-Safety and Quality leaders, and ACP members at MacNeal Hospital/Vanguard Health Systems,
UIC/Christ Advocate Healthcare, Rush University Medical Center, and Mercy Hospital. Dr. Fried also gave an informative presentation at a full-house dinner reception in Chicago represented by leaders in healthcare patient safety and quality in IL.

ACP Illinois is delighted and honored to be part of this National Near Miss Registry Project. It was truly wonderful to have Dr. Fried here in person to discuss the Near Miss Registry Project and provide the engaging Q&A sessions. The Chapter took the opportunity to videotape one of Dr. Fried’s Grand Rounds as well as one-on-one interview with Dr. Fried to provide further education and to further disseminate the Near Miss Registry information. Members will be notified when these videos are available on the Chapter website.

If you know of a Near Miss Event please log into www.nearmiss.org and file a report.
For more information about the Near Miss Registry Project, please contact Dr. Jennifer Bussell at jbussell@nmh.org.

**Need to Recertify?**
Confused about how to meet recertification Part IV (Practice Improvement Modules)? I used this tool and found it extremely helpful in changing the culture of my small practice. Join ACP's Closing the Gap and speak with live faculty to help improve patient care and meet MOC requirements! (Your own Governor, Dr. Brown, will be moderating the national call on July 24)

Closing the Gap: Is a team-based QI program aimed at identifying and addressing gaps in knowledge and practice among physicians and their staff members to ultimately improve the care of patients who suffer from diabetes care or cardiovascular disease.

Participants will report on performance measures that focus improvement in a variety of clinical areas including smoking cessation, foot and dilated eye examination, blood pressure measurement, lipid profile screening, influenza and pneumococcal immunization. Enrollment in Closing the Gap: Diabetes Care is available through 2014. To enroll, email acpQI@acponline.org with the subject line “Enroll in Closing the Gap”

Turn to ACP for help earning the required points and preparing thoroughly for the internal medicine recertification exam. You’re in good company when you use our reliable resources. Many internists report that they found the MOC process more fulfilling when they used our resources to earn points and keep up to date.
Important note: points earned before 1/1/14 will count toward maintaining your existing certificate(s) but will not count toward the new “Meeting MOC Requirements” category. Some may be better off waiting until after January 2014 to submit activities for medical knowledge and practice assessment points so that they count toward both sets of requirements.

**MKSAP Study Hall: Do YOU Need to Recertify?**
On March 5, 2013, Illinois Chapter Northern Region began an innovative way to prepare for your boards or ABIM recertification. The weekly sessions are lively, informative, fast passed, online, and free! And you can even get a 20% discount on MKSAP 16 Digital. Click here for more information, sign up for a test session, or register for all the sessions.

**Primary Care Provider Incentive Payment Program: Attestation Deadline Extended to June 30**
Internists providing primary care in Illinois can get higher Medicaid reimbursement rates through the end of 2014.

Be sure to sign up online for the higher rates, which are expected to increase by an average of 93 percent. The deadline has been extended to June 30 for physicians to be reimbursed at the higher rate retroactively to the beginning of this year.

The temporary raise should help increase doctors' participation in Medicaid. This is important because of the thousands of uninsured Illinois residents newly eligible for Medicaid in 2014. The pay increase for primary care was authorized by the Affordable Care Act.

Illinois Internists are required to sign the attestation by June 30 to be eligible for this increased payment rate. Additional information about the increased payments is available on the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services website. Click here for the Attestation for Primary Care Rate Increase.

**Resolutions to be Heard at Fall Board of Governors Meeting**
Members are encouraged to review and provide feedback on six resolutions which will be heard at the Fall Board of Governors meeting. Please click here to review the resolutions at your convenience. Email Marie Brown, Governor, with any thoughts on these resolutions before September 1. Your input assists Dr. Brown in preparing testimony to properly represent the needs of the Chapter.
Call for Members: ACP Illinois Public Health Interest Group
The ACP-Illinois Chapter Northern Region is forming a Public Health Interest Group for ACP members. This group will bring together internists with similar interests in public health. If you work in a public health setting, or if you have an interest in promoting best practices in public health and preventative medicine, or if you want to get to know other ACP members with a passion for all things public health, then the Public Health Interest Group is for you. For more information about the Public Health Interest Group or to join the discussion, contact William Wong, MD via at email: willwong2020@yahoo.com.

Congratulations to the New Fellows who participated in Convocation at IM 2013
Sasikanth Adigopula, MD FACP, Oak Park
Amar R Chadaga, MD FACP, Fairview Heights
Janet Y Forbes, MD FACP, Oak Park
Jason D Griffin, MD FACP, North Riverside
Catherine B Grotelueschen, MD FACP, Lombard
Joseph J Hennessy, Jr MD FACP, Western Springs
Jacqueline R Ivey-Brown, MD FACP, Chicago
Sayeeda A Jabeen, MD FACP, Springfield
Evan S Lu, MD FACP, Wilmette
Claudette M Macklin, MD MPH FACP, Chicago
Ellen D Mason, MD FACP, Chicago
Edward G Michl, MD FACP, Naperville
Linda Rae Murray, MD FACP, Chicago
Tanu S Pandey, MBBS FACP, Chicago
Kyra A Payne, MD FACP, Chicago
Muhammad A Shahzad, MBBS FACP, Lombard
Salman Q Sheikh, MBBS FACP, Champaign
Thaw Tun, MD FACP, Spring Valley
William Wong, MD FACP, Chicago
Scott S Yen, MD FACP, River Forest
Asad U Zaman, MBBS FACP, Lombard
Visit the Chapter's Photo Gallery for pictures of Convocation and the Chapter Reception in San Francisco!

Save the Date
Illinois Chapter Meeting, Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, IL
Wednesday, November 6, 2013: Chapter Meeting and Associates Day
Thursday, November 7, 2013: SEP Modules and Clinical Skills Modules
Registration opening soon!
IM 2014, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando
April 8-9: Pre-Courses
April 10-12: Scientific Program, Clinical Skills Center, Exhibit Hall
Details: http://im2014.acponline.org/