CA ACP SERVICES CHAPTER
NEW PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Chwen-Yuen Angie Chen, MD, FACP begins her term as President of CA ACP Services, and succeeds Immediate Past President Alpesh Amin, MD, MBA, MACP.
Chwen-Yuen Angie Chen recently became president of the California Services Chapter of the American College of Physicians. Dr. Chen’s two-year term began at the conclusion of ACP’s 2016 Internal Medicine Meeting held early May in Washington, DC. Previously, she served as Secretary-Treasurer of the CA ACP Board of Directors.

Dr. Chen is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Addiction Medicine. Following work in both Primary Care and Hospitalist settings in Santa Cruz, CA, she joined the research team at the Addiction and Pharmacology Research Laboratory (California Pacific Medical Center) founded by Drs. Mendelson and Galloway, as a research physician conducting studies in methamphetamine, cocaine, and MDMA pharmacology, while working part-time in geriatrics as house call doctor with Bay Area House Call Physicians. She later worked for Kaiser as an addiction specialist.

She is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Stanford School of Medicine in both the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and the Division of General Medical Disciplines based out of Stanford Family Medicine in the Hoover Pavilion, supervising its Addiction Medicine Fellows, Residents and Medical Students.

During her term, Dr. Chen plans to focus in the following areas: 1) To address the increasing burnout amongst our colleagues, providing avenues to renew sense of purpose, joy and empowerment in the practice of medicine, which includes activism and advocacy; 2) To continue efforts to stem the growing opioid epidemic and use it as a platform to promote the understanding of addiction medicine, which is now recognized as a subspecialty of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS); and, 3) To invite more medical students, physicians in training and young physicians to become active in ACP’s advocacy programs and educational opportunities.

Dr. Chen’s complete bio is available [here](http://example.com/chenbio).
MEMBERS IN ADVOCACY “Getting Involved — Getting Recognized”

2016—Advocate for Internal Medicine
L-R: George Meyer, Darilyn Moyer, Darin Latimore

ACP Leadership Awards presented to recognize individuals who have made efforts in support of ACP’s advocacy program.

2016—Tilles Award
L-R: Soma Wali, Jeremiah Tilles, Tiffany Leung, Chwen-Yuen Angie Chen

The CA ACP Services Chapter presented the Tilles Award to recognize individuals for efforts in fostering education, career growth, and innovative programs on behalf of CA ACP Chapters.

Birthday Fundraising Event for U.S. Representative Jackie Speier
14th Congressional District
L-R: Chwen Yuen Angie Chen, Jackie Speier, Tiffany Leung
Advocacy

Strong Presence Includes Medical Students at Advocacy Events

Sacramento Leadership Day

Leadership Day attendees met with Ed Hernandez, Chair, Senate Committee on Health

CMA’s Annual Legislative Advocacy Day

A large presence of UC Davis Medical Students attend first-time advocacy event
Pre-Medical Students Share Perspectives and Experiences

On April 12th, the California Medical Association (CMA) hosted its 42nd Annual Legislative Advocacy Day. The agenda focused on tobacco tax legislation and involved a myriad of physicians and political leaders coming together to address issues of common interest. Pre-medical students enrolled in the education pipeline programs of UC Davis School of Medicine Office of Student Diversity also attended. For many, it was their first experience participating in legislative action for health care policy and were glad for the opportunity to share their perspectives and experiences.

Rachel Jackson, a student in the Medical School Preparatory Enhancement Program (MSPEP), was inspired by the welcome remarks provided by Dr. Steven Larson, CMA President, and Dustin Corcoran, CEO of CMA. “I never realized how much of physicians’ jobs are controlled and affected by legislative matters until I attended this event and heard first-hand from physicians pleading for changes to better help them effectively serve their patients. In addition, I think it’s great that physicians have an option to transition to legislative roles in order to ensure that bills are being effectively written to help the field of medicine”.

Farsam Faz, a post-baccalaureate student, was impressed by the commitment of California physicians in having an impact on policy: “It was inspiring to see physicians from throughout California come together to support the needs of their patients outside the walls of their clinics and hospitals. My peers and I not only learned more about the health care issues that face our communities, but also the importance of a physician’s voice at the legislative level”.

Keynote speaker Republican Assembly Leader Chad Mayes discussed current political projects related to health care in California, and also provided a welcoming opportunity for audience members to communicate their questions and concerns in an open forum. Post-baccalaureate student Jonathan Rochin commented about his experience at the meeting, “The CMA day was a rich experience in which I learned about current political issues physicians are facing in serving underserved communities”.

In closing, the California Medical Association hosted an inspirational and productive Legislative Advocacy Day, not only for the seasoned physicians and constituents who attended, but also for first-time attendees including the premedical pipeline program participants of the UC Davis School of Medicine Office of Student and Resident Diversity. Yadira Raya, post-baccalaureate student stated, “Attending the CMA Legislative Advocacy Day was an amazing opportunity and reminder of the great need and responsibility that we have towards advocating for our patients. As future health care providers, together we have the power to make a difference, and by participating in the CMA Legislative Advocacy Day we came a step closer towards that goal”.

The Controlled substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) database stores Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substance prescription information reported as dispensed in California and is intended to help pharmacists, physicians and the Department of Justice (DOJ) keep track of patients who are illegally gaming providers. As with all California physicians, CA-ACP members must be registered with CURES prior to July 1, 2016.

New registration with CURES may be completed via this online form. When you have your email address, medical license number, and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration certificate number, DOJ will validate your identity and license with the Department of Consumer Affairs and the DEA. If you have recently applied for federal DEA registration, you may wait until you have received it to register with CURES.

If you are already registered to access the prior version of CURES (Version 1.0) -- you will not need to apply for access to CURES 2.0. Instead, you will be able to access CURES 2.0 with your current User ID and password. When you first login, using your old CURES 1.0 login, you will be asked to update your security questions and answers and re-establish a new password. You will also be asked to review your CURES account profile to verify that your information remains accurate. (Keep in mind that CURES 2.0 users must use Microsoft Internet Explorer version 11.0 or higher, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari. Earlier versions of Internet Explorer are not supported by CURES 2.0. If you are using an old browser, CURES 1.0 will continue to be made available to you for at least a little time longer.)

The requirement to register with CURES should not be confused with a proposed penalty on physicians who do not consult CURES. CA-ACP continues to OPPOSE Senate Bill 482 (Lara – D- Bell Gardens). The bill requires physicians to consult CURES prior to prescribing a Schedule II or III drug to a patient for the first time or face disciplinary action (by the Medical Board of California for MDs, and by the Osteopathic Medical Board for DOs).

Delays in the implementation of CURES 2.0 slowed the bill down last year. Opponents argued that physicians could not be required to use a poorly functioning database besieged by newly registered by users.

This year, proponents of the bill argue that the bugs are out of CURES 2.0 and that the magnitude of the problem (addiction to prescription narcotics) warrants extreme action on the part of the medical community. The CMA maintains an Oppose Unless Amended position on the bill and has pushed for changes to the bill that will ensure that 1) it will not interfere with patient care or create new liability concerns for prescribers, 2) patient-physician privacy is protected and 3) the organization that certifies that the new system for large-scale operational readiness is independent of bias (probably not the Dept. of Justice). Once these amendments have been taken, CA-ACP will re-evaluate its position of Oppose.

Also, the Assembly Budget Committee has proposed the following language: Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) - California’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program: $875,000 (CURES Fund) and 8.0 positions to provide additional help desk support to handle calls from system users. The CURES Program receives approximately 9,700 telephone calls from pharmaceutical prescribing professionals per month, of which it is estimated 5,000 of these calls go unanswered due to inadequate staffing levels. In other words, they are proposing to hire 8 more help desk folks to make the system more functional.
As contenders in the presidential race continue to release the details of their policy proposals, ACP plans to keep an eye on how stated policies might affect physicians and their patients.

The 2016 presidential election is underway, and there are a number of important issues in health care that will require the attention of the candidates.

Here, ACP offers a breakdown on some of these critical issues; providing a detailed description of ACP’s policy on each issue along with some questions that you may want to think about when evaluating the candidates’ positions.

Please note that the College cannot and does not endorse candidates for elected public office nor take partisan stances. The information presented below is for purely educational purposes.

**Important Issues**

- **Access to Care**
- **Bending the Cost Curve**
- **Firearm Violence**
- **GME and Workforce Support**
- **Health Insurance Consolidation**
- **Medicaid and Medicare Benefit Reform**
- **Medical Liability Reform**
- **Affordable Prescription Drugs**
- **Payment and Delivery System Reform**

**Additional Resources**

- **Calendar of State Primaries and Caucuses**
- **Candidate Websites**
Flu and Antibiotics

Misuse of antibiotics leads to the rise in superbugs — those bacteria resistant to antibiotic treatment. Not completing the antibiotics that are prescribed, or taking antibiotics when they are not necessary, contributes to the problem. It is important for physicians and patients to discuss when and when not to use antibiotics. Antibiotics fight bacteria, not viruses. During flu season, it is important to remember that the flu is a virus and therefore not responsive to antibiotic treatment.

The following articles, brochures, and posters from Consumer Reports and the CDC can be used by providers in their waiting/exam rooms and by patients and families for their own benefit. These materials can be downloaded and printed. Most of the materials are also available in Spanish.

Antibiotics for Respiratory Illnesses in Adults

Antibiotics: When You Need Them and When You Don’t

Antibiotics: Will They Help You or Hurt You?

Five Questions to Ask Your Doctor About Antibiotics (poster)

Virus or Bacteria, What’s Got You Sick

What You Can Do About It

Pharmacists: How to educate about use of antibiotics

Public Health: Article regarding a public health antibiotic stewardship campaign
18th Annual California Regional
Internal Medicine Review Course *

July 30-31, 2016

Saturday, July 30 — 7:30 am to 7:00 pm
Sunday, July 31 — 7:30 am to 6:00 pm

BEAVER MEDICAL GROUP
Conference Room
340 Cajon Street, Redlands, CA 92373
(Additional Information [here](#))

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<th>PROGRAM GOAL:</th>
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| To enhance your knowledge in Internal (Adult) Medicine and prepare you for the ABIM and/or the ACP In-Training examinations. | After this program, you should be able to:  
  - Recognize the appropriate diagnosis and management of many of the clinical cases that are likely to be seen in practice and appear on the ABIM and the ACP In-Training exams  
  - Enhance your knowledge in Internal Medicine | • Internal Medicine residents, fellows and attending physicians who are interested in a focused review of Internal Medicine in preparation for taking the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) recertifying exam or the ACP In-Training exam  
• Primary care physicians and providers who are interested in a focused review of Internal Medicine  
• Medical students who are interested in a focused IM review or who will be taking Part II of the National Boards Exam |

COURSE REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

[http://www.evenbrite.com/e/california/acp-18th-annual-internal-medicine-review-course-registration-24947053308](http://www.evenbrite.com/e/california/acp-18th-annual-internal-medicine-review-course-registration-24947053308)

Contact: Natalie Kaczur, Course Coordinator / Socalregion3@gmail.com

* Note: Sorry—No CME Credits or MOC Points Are Available For This Course.
LUNG FORCE

LUNG FORCE is the national movement led by the American Lung Association to unite women in the fight against lung cancer and for lung health. We stand together with a collective voice and determination to increase awareness and understanding of lung disease.

We invite you to join us—share your story and become a LUNGFORCE Hero, take the pledge and spread the word to make lung cancer a cause people care about and act on, participate at a LUNGFORCE Walk, attend a LUNGFORCE Expo to learn how to educate and empower patients and healthcare providers, and raise critical funds for lung cancer research.

Visit LUNGFORCE.ORG to learn more and to join us in the movement.

Raising Tobacco Tax Key to Reducing Lung Cancer

Smoking contributes to 80 percent and 90 percent of lung cancer deaths in women and men, respectively. In California alone, lung cancer kills more than 13,000 residents each year.

On November 1, 2016, Californians will have an opportunity to change this deadly statistic by voting to raise the tobacco tax by $2 on a pack of cigarettes.

Increasing the tobacco tax is widely recognized as the most effective way to reduce smoking across California, especially among young people, and will raise funds for much needed cancer research.

If passed, the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 would:

- Save more than 100,000 lives each year in California from death caused by smoking
- Prevent 150,000 young people annually from ever starting to smoke

To learn more and get involved in supporting a tobacco tax, visit SaveLivesCA.com

Contact Us:

Visit us at lung.org/california
Call our Lung HelpLine at 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872)
Like us at Facebook.com/alacalifornia
Follow us on Twitter @Californialung