NEWS FROM THE GA ACP

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Hyatt Regency, Savannah, GA

Sept. 29 – Oct. 1, 2017

Make sure to Mention GA ACP Meeting to secure the group rate!

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Meeting Highlights Include:
- Physician Wellness Workshop
- Pain Management/ Safe Use of Opioids
- New Anticoagulants
- CHF Update
- Clinically Integrated Networks
- Hospitalist Track
- GI - Common Hospital Problems
- SEP - MOC Modules
- Clinical Integration & Advanced Alt. Pymt Models
- MACRA Updates

INDUSTRY NEWS

MACRA plays blame game when patients don't adhere

Modern Medicine

The emphasis among commercial payers has been on providing incentives to improve adherence and not taking punitive measures, such as increasing copays for non-adherent patients. However, penalties might not be far behind. For example, the Affordable Care Act allows insurers to charge smokers higher premiums. READ MORE

The long and winding road to patient data interoperability
Most of the time when Dr. James Tcheng gets a new patient from outside of Duke Health, he starts with a bundle of paper. After his secretary receives a patient's records—either directly from another doctor's office or after a request is faxed—and opens them, Tcheng goes through the information, with a sheet of 8½ x 11 paper at his side for taking notes. He starts, usually, with the summary notes. Sometimes, almost all of what he reads is irrelevant. But he must go through everything nevertheless, making sure he misses nothing.

The top 5 conditions that shorten Americans' lives — and are preventable
HealthDay News
More bad news for plus-sized Americans: obesity is the leading cause of preventable life-years lost in the nation, a new study finds. Obesity steals more years than diabetes, tobacco, high blood pressure and high cholesterol — the other top preventable health problems that cut Americans' lives short, according to researchers who analyzed 2014 data.

Once endangered, doctors' lounge revived to battle burnout
AMA Wire
As the toll of physician burnout rises, healthcare organizations are examining many ways to provide resources to support doctors' well-being. A sense of community and workplace connectedness is often cited as an important factor for keeping physicians, residents and medical students engaged, positive and more resistant to burnout. Diane Sliwka, M.D., hospitalist and professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine, found a simple and cost-effective way of promoting these values: investing in a modern doctors' lounge.

FDA strengthens warnings for painkillers in children
The New York Times
The Food and Drug Administration announced that any child younger than 12 should not take the opioid codeine and that those 18 and younger should not take tramadol, another painkiller, after certain types of surgery. In addition, nursing mothers should avoid both opioids because they pose dangers to breast-feeding babies, the agency said.