

## WSMA Update: House of Delegates Actions, Health Care Reform, Consult Codes and SGR

February 2010



BENTON FRANKLIN COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

# The Society Pages

### Highlights of House of Delegates Actions (entire list is online at WSMA site):

- Resolution A-5: Statewide Vaccine Purchase and Distribution Program.  
*Endorses continuation of Universal Vaccine Purchase and Distribution Program*
- Resolution C-2: State Laws Relating to E-Discovery from EMR (referred to EC)  
*Asks WSMA to work on creating E-Discovery Laws to make EMR data comparable to paper records data for malpractice related purposes*
- Resolution C-4A Health Plans Issues (being referred to EC - Exec. Committee)  
*Asks WSMA to pursue legislative prohibition of insurance company contract requiring physicians to have active staff privileges*
- Resolution C-4B – Payment to Physicians Providing On-Call Coverage  
*WSMA endorses reasonable payment of physicians by hospitals for on-call coverage whether or not they are required to be physically present in the facility.*
- Resolution C-12: Electronic Prescribing and Conflicting Federal Guidelines  
*WSMA to encourage AMA to address with CMS and DEA contradictory guidance issued respectively by these two federal agencies relating to e-prescribing.*

**Initial Recommendations on Federal Health Care Reform Impacts from the Governor's Advisory Group:** This is on the WSMA website and Nicole at medical society office has copies. *Included (1) pre-existing condition exclusions will be eliminated in 2010 (but remain in individual plans); (2) Individual Mandate for all residents to have basic health insurance; (3) Scope of practice expansions and payment reform to support new models of care – "strategic development of mid-level practitioners who can expand work force capacity and increase access (e.g. dental therapists)..." Read this and feel free to email the Governor with input.*

### Consultation Codes:

a. Medicare will not pay for consultations (99241-99245) as of Jan 1, 2010.

WSMA has surveyed private insurance companies.

YES, will pay for consults - Premera, United Health Care, First Choice Health Network, Aetna, Cigna have said they would cover consults for commercial insurance patients since "AMA lists consult codes as active."

Not sure - Regence BlueShield, Uniform Medical, Basic Health Plan, Community Health Plan, Molina and Medicaid indicate Guidance is still pending.

Call WSMA Practice Resource Center, Michelle M. Lott, CPC at 206-441-9762 or 1-800-552-0612 or email [mml@wsma.org](mailto:mml@wsma.org) for questions

### SGR

Absent further action by Congress, payments under Medicare will be cut by 21% in March. In January, the House and the Senate both passed a two-month stopgap measure to postpone the cuts, but they expire at the end of February. News from December 31, 2009: The **Mayo Clinic**, praised by President **Barack Obama** as a national model for efficient health care, will stop accepting Medicare patients as of tomorrow at one of its primary-care clinics in Arizona, saying the U.S. government pays too little.

Thank you Dr. Rege for this contribution to the newsletter. If you have further questions about this information, please contact Nicole at the Society office.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

6:30-7:00 pm, Social Hour

7:00-8:30 Membership Business and  
Presentation

### 2010 General Membership Meeting Dates

March 16, 2010

April 20, 2010

May 18, 2010

September 21, 2010

October 19, 2010

November 16, 2010

The CME Committee and I are currently finalizing the plans for our Spring programs, stay tuned for more information!!

## SAVE THE DATE!

Benton Franklin County Medical  
Society 26th Annual

CME Seminar

February 19-20, 2010

Diabetes Related Complications

Depression in Adolescents

Pediatric Orthopedics and Sports Medicine

Breast Cancer Screening

Vitamin D Deficiency

Treatment Options for Prostate Cancer

Treatment for Heart Failure

Evidence Based Screening Measures

Management of Hypertension

Treatment of Dizziness in Primary Care

Treatment of Allergic Rhinitis

Gastroenterology Update

We are currently inviting exhibitors to participate in this event. Please refer your pharmaceutical representative to me if they are interested in participating. Thank you for your help!!

Registrations are also available at the society website, [bentonfranklincms.com](http://bentonfranklincms.com)

Dues invoices were sent out in early November. As a reminder, you will be paying your county dues directly to us, NOT to the WSMA.

We are now able to accept credit cards (Visa and MasterCard). Please call the office if you have any questions.

### Attention Office Managers-

We are interested in providing practice management offerings this summer and need your help.

If you have particular subjects that you would be interested in (coding, billing, etc.) please email the office at

[bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com](mailto:bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com) or call

582-2866 and talk to Nicole.

Thank you for your help!

# Applications for Membership

## First Notice:

### Michael Turner MD

**Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (Board Certification Pending)**

**Medical School:** Harvard (2005)

**Internship:** Mayo Clinic

**Residency:** Mayo Clinic

## Second Notice:

### Basir Haque MD

**Board Certified Internal Medicine, Eligible Hematology/Oncology**

**Medical School:** King Edward Medical College, Lahore (1998)

**Internship:** Brooklyn Hospital Centre, NY

**Residency:** Brooklyn Hospital Centre, NY

**Recommended by:** Sheila Rege MD, Thomas Rado MD

### Richard Lorenzo DO

**Board Certified OB/GYN**

**Medical School:** Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (1996)

**Internship:** Western Pennsylvania Hospital

**Residency:** Western Pennsylvania Hospital

**Recommended by:** Alex Ortolano MD and Kevin Turner MD

### Jay Klarnet MD

**Board Certified Hematology/Oncology**

**Medical School:** State University of NY at Buffalo (1980)

**Internship:** Millard Gilmore Hospital, Buffalo, NY

**Residency:** Millard Gilmore Hospital, Buffalo, NY

**Recommended by:** Sheila Rege MD and Thomas Rado MD

**Please be advised, Dr. John Michael Roach (Gastroenterology) has joined Lourdes West Pasco. His office is now located at 7425 Wrigley Drive, Ste. 101, Pasco. His new phone is 546-8383 and the new fax number is 546-8375.**

**Dr. Edward Temple (OB) has also moved and is now practicing with at Riverview OB/GYN. His new office location is 5908 Bedford St., Pasco. The phone number is 547-4724 and the fax is 547-4881.**

**Arbor Healthcare for Women has moved! Dr. Ortolano and Dr. Lorenzo are now located at 900 Stevens Drive, Suite 203 in Richland. The mailing address is PO Box 925 in Richland. The phone number is 946-7900 and the fax is 946-7944**

Benton Franklin County Medical Society  
PO Box 5998  
Kennewick, WA 99336

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PD  
KENNEWICK, WA  
PERMIT NO. 75

Return Service Requested

---

**BENTON FRANKLIN COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

PO Box 5998  
711 S. Auburn Street, Suite F  
Kennewick, WA 99336  
Phone: 582-2866  
Fax: 582-3318  
Email: [bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com](mailto:bfmedsoc@charterinternet.com)  
[www.bentonfranklincms.com](http://www.bentonfranklincms.com)

---

**2010 Board of Directors**

John Droesch, MD	President
Stanley Ling, MD	Vice-President
Donald Dicken MD	Secretary-Treasurer
Heather Phipps, DO	Past President
Richard Long, MD	Past President

**Trustees**

David Fischer, MD, John Henriques, MD  
Larry Jecha, MD, MPH  
Sheila Rege, MD           AMA Delegate

*The objectives of the Benton Franklin County Medical Society are to promote the art, science and practice of medicine and the practitioners who pursue these goals; to promote the care and well being of the patients of Benton and Franklin Counties; to protect and improve the health of the public; to provide medical education and to provide leadership for the members of the Society.*

*Please contact Nicole Austin with any questions, comments or information you would like added to the Newsletter.*