NEW PROCESS FOR GLMS ELECTIONS ANNOUNCED

The Board of Governors approved changes to the GLMS bylaws at its December meeting that introduce a reinvigorated process for electing leaders in the organization. The changes charge the GLMS membership with electing a broadly representative Nominating Committee each year. The committee will, in turn, develop a single slate of candidates for election to offices. An opportunity will be available for GLMS members to add a candidate to the ballot.

The board recognized that GLMS was disadvantaged by its election process, which differed from similar organizations. Other all-volunteer membership groups produce a single slate to ensure broad representation and retain their talent pool.

This year, through an e-mail survey, members had the opportunity to recommend themselves or colleagues for open offices to the Nominating Committee by Jan. 7. The committee will produce a single slate of candidates by the end of January. The proposed ballot will be announced to the membership electronically.

Any member not slated who desires to run for office may submit a petition with signatures from at least 10 percent of the active GLMS membership by Feb. 28. The ballot will then be finalized and mailed to members in March. The Tellers Committee will announce the results and install the officers at the President’s Soiree for terms beginning in June.

As part of the ballot, members will also elect next year’s Nominating Committee as an additional measure to encourage broad representation.

KMA DETAILS EFFECTS OF HEALTH REFORM LAW ON KENTUCKY PHYSICIANS

KMA Executive Vice President Patrick T. Padgett outlined important elements of the health reform law during a presentation to GLMS physicians at The Old Medical School Building on Nov. 30. The KMA Board of Trustees commissioned a study of the law and generated an analysis that has been shared with members across the state.

“Health Reform’s Impact on Kentucky Physicians” covered four particular areas: Medicaid, Medicare, reporting requirements and insurance changes.

MEDICAID

Medicaid eligibility will expand to all individuals at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty limit. KMA estimates that an additional 350,000 to 500,000 uninsured Kentuckians will qualify for Medicaid, bringing the total number to 1.2 million residents (about 30 percent of the state population).

Unfortunately, Medicaid funding “is already in the hole in Kentucky,” Mr. Padgett said. “The changes to the program and much of the funding for the program are going to be determined at the state level.”

MEDICARE

Primary care physicians will receive a 10 percent bonus in Medicare payments in 2011-2015. This includes doctors in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics and Pediatrics. In the 82 Kentucky counties designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas, general surgeons also will receive a 10 percent bonus during those years.

Starting in 2011, cost-sharing for certain preventive and screening services will be eliminated.

Two areas of concern are the CMS Innovation Center, being created this year, and the Independent Payment Advisory Board, being created in 2015. The IPAB will include salaried members who will look at reducing per-capita Medicare spending, including changes in payment levels for certain services. “When the law was passed, we expressed specific concern about this part of the law,” Mr. Padgett said. However, the work of the CMS Innovation Center could have a greater impact. The center is exploring new payment models such as medical home programs and accountable care organizations.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

New reporting requirements are “probably the most important part of the health reform law that’s going to impact physicians and has probably been the most underreported part of the law to physicians and others in the health care community,” Mr. Padgett said. Continued on page 4
MEMBERSHIP STATUS
As of December 2010, active GLMS membership numbered 2,078, which is 80 percent of physicians practicing in Jefferson County.

View Additional Photos from GLMS Events:
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BOARD OF GOVERNORS HIGHLIGHTS
DECEMBER 10, 2010

- The Board of Governors voted to approve changes to the GLMS bylaws on Elective Offices and Nominations. The new process involves the membership electing a Nominating Committee that will develop a single slate of candidates for office each year.

- Edward C. Halperin, MD, MA, dean of the University of Louisville School of Medicine, told the board about two new degree programs for 2011. An MD with a certificate of additional competence in research will be available for students interested in laboratory research who do not want to take the extra three years required to complete a combined MD-PhD. A pilot is being developed in coordination with the U of L Trover Campus for a three-year, year-round MD program that aims to address physician shortages by allowing students to continue into a Family Medicine residency and graduate from medical school with less student loan debt. Dr. Halperin said these programs are expected to attract a select group, perhaps 3-5 percent of the medical student class.

Dr. Halperin reported that U of L medical students have performed in the 50th-55th percentile on board exams during the past four years. In contrast, students enter the medical school in the 25th percentile based on MCAT scores and GPAs. “The fact that our students enter in the lowest quartile and then are performing at the national average is, I think, a tribute to the medical school,” he said.

Regarding the ongoing work on a merger by Jewish Hospital & St. Mary’s HealthCare, Catholic Health Initiatives and the University of Louisville, Dr. Halperin said the faculty is working on an academic affiliation agreement. “The intention is to have a downtown academic medical center with a medical staff of both university physicians and community physicians to use the existing properties of University Hospital, Frazier Rehab and Jewish/St. Mary’s,” he said. “Ultimately, if this merger does take place, it involves roughly 3,000 physicians, perhaps on the order of 40 percent of the hospital facilities in the state of Kentucky, and major impact on medical student education, clinical research and health care.”

- Matthew M. Zahn, MD, interim director of Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness, said the department received Metro Council approval on a voluntary menu labeling campaign. The initiative, part of the Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant, would offer financial and technical assistance to restaurants with fewer than 20 locations in providing information about calories on their menus or menu boards.

“One of the big ways you can try to (combat obesity) is to get people to understand and limit the calories they are eating when they are going out to eat,” Dr. Zahn said. “About half the money we spend on food is going out to eat.”

Dr. Zahn noted that the first three cases of influenza were confirmed in the community. He said this year’s vaccine should be effective in protecting against the season’s various strains of flu.

- KMA President Gordon R. Tobin, MD, announced that the KMA endorsed The Doctors Company as a provider of affordable medical liability insurance for members.

- The board recognized Executive Director Lelan K. Woodmansee for receiving renewal of his Certified Association Executive credential. It is the highest professional credential in the association industry.

Susan M. Bentley, MD, (second from right) receives a laptop from MedX12 at the Board of Governors meeting Dec. 10. Awarding the prize are (from left) Stephen S. Kirzinger, MD, president of Medical Society Professional Services, and Theresa Neal and Mike Sostarich from MedX12, an MSPS-endorsed vendor. Dr. Bentley won a drawing of all respondents to the GLMS Emerging Medical Concepts Committee’s survey on electronic health records that was conducted in the fall.
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• Physician Feedback Program, starting in 2012 – Physicians will receive reports comparing them with other physicians treating Medicare patients with similar conditions.

• Physician Compare Website, starting in 2013 – These reports, along with data from Medicaid and private payers, will be published on a website available to the public. Any individual will be able to look up a physician by name.

• Value-Based Payment Modifier, starting in 2015 – Medicare will modify physician fee schedules based on the data collected regarding quality and cost measures.

“In 2012, they’re going to give you reports,” Mr. Padgett explained. “In 2013, they’re going to publish the reports. And then in 2015 they’re going to pay you based on those reports with some type of modifier.”

In addition, the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative will change from a voluntary program. In 2015, Medicare payments will be reduced 1.5 percent for providers not participating in PQRI. Physicians should be assessing their practice’s ability to report data electronically now.

In addition to the Medicaid expansion, about 221,000 Kentuckians could be eligible for tax credits to buy insurance through the exchange (those at or below 400 percent of the poverty level).

KMA offers a variety of resources, including webinars and a two-page timeline detailing the changes, at www.kyma.org. After logging in, click on Physician Resources and select Health Care Reform.

Critical illness/cancer coverage is a relatively new product that fills gaps in traditional planning. Offering a lump sum payment of $25,000, $50,000 and $100,000 for invasive cancers, dread diseases and paralysis, this product can be a valuable source of cash during a traditional disability policy waiting period, or to take care of the many out-of-pocket expenses associated with an unexpected illness or extended period of treatment with a cancer diagnosis. Because it is not disability insurance, there are no income limitations, tax returns, blood tests or complicated underwriting requirements to apply for this valuable coverage.

GLMS disability income insurance: With many disability companies limiting total monthly benefits to $15,000/month, the GLMS disability plan can issue an additional $5,000/month on incomes more than $350,000 to bring your total individual coverage to $20,000/month. Offering “own occupation” protection for five years and “own profession” coverage thereafter, this product may be the best value in the market today. Simplified issue ($3,000/month) also makes this plan an excellent opportunity to supplement your existing coverage without complicated applications, tax returns or exams.

GLMS member/spouse term life insurance: The greatest risk in ordinary term policies is the chance you will need to keep valuable life insurance protection beyond the end of an ordinary term period of 10 or 20 years. The GLMS plan offers guaranteed renewal to age 75, regardless of changes in health or insurability – at standard plan rates. Ordinary policies typically offer either no end-of-term renewal options or prohibitively expensive renewal at the end of term.

Simplified application and local service have made these plans a valuable member benefit. For more information, contact Woody Long at (502) 425-3232 ext. 222 or wrl@niai.com. Members can also visit www.niai.com.

In addition, the individual mandate could affect 619,000 uninsured Kentuckians. And depending on whether large employers continue to provide insurance coverage or choose to pay a fine, there could be even more state residents looking to purchase plans. That’s where the establishment of a state health insurance exchange comes in.

“No one could be a lot of people in this exchange if employers decide they’re just not going to cover people anymore,” Mr. Padgett said. “The rules governing these exchanges are going to be very important, and our state is already talking about that right now.”
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Dr. Miller will assume the position of Department Director of the Senior Care Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation program. In this new role, Dr. Miller will provide strategic oversight and guidance to the rehab programs within the Louisville Senior Care facilities.

Dr. Miller will remain as Director of P M & R with Oaklawn Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

**Chris Koford, M.D.**

*Director of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*

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Dr. Koford has joined the rehab team at Rockford Health and Rehabilitation. He has over ten years of experience delivering acute and post-acute rehabilitative care in our community.

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**Greathouse, Richard F MD** [3220]

Insert address and telephone number: 2421 Little Union Rd Taylorsville KY 40071 502-477-4849 F 502-477-9302

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**Olson, Walter L Jr MD** [2215]

Change office information to: University Neurologists PSC Division of Movement Disorders 401 E Chestnut St Ste 510 40202 589-0802 F 589-0805

**Poston, Cornelia Maria MD** [21345]

Change office information to: Women’s Specialists downtown 210 E Gray St Ste 604 40202 629-2030 F 629-2070 4420 Dixie Hwy Ste 116 40216 449-6400 F 449-6401

**Schekter, Luis MD** [606]


**Schneider, Gregory Carl MD** [20758]

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**Tasch, Bruce J MD** [233]

Change fax number to: F 899-9561

**Reynolds, Jeffrey Leo MD** [1037]

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**Scheker, Luis MD** [606]


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**Tasch, Bruce J MD** [233]

Change fax number to: F 899-9561

**Weakley-Jones, Barbara MD** [8696]

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**White, Stuart Winter MD** [3218]

Indiana offices include: Jeffersonville, Corydon

The GLMS Foundation would like to acknowledge and thank the following Foundation members for their enthusiastic support despite not receiving their Foundation seal designation in this year’s roster. Our sincere apologies.

- Akin, Daniel P MD [3473]
- Behr, Max M DMD [630]
- Bornstein, Alan M MD [917]
- Bukowski, Elaine Marie J.D. MD [990]
- Glaser, Nicholas W MD [3010]
- Gleis, Gregory E MD [3025]
- Gleis, Linda H MD [3027]
- Gump, William C MD [21275]
- Hoffstapple, Kenneth E MD [3788]
- Howell, Robert S MD [3857]
- Livesay, Kenneth Wayne Jr DMD [17897]
- Mehta, Sanjiv MD [580]
- Meyers, James A MD [5446]
- Neustadt, David H MD [5936]
- Reichard, K. Thomas MD [6769]
- Smith, Mary A MD [7812]
- Sonne, Thomas MD [590]
- Tobin, Gordon R MD [8290]
- Wolf, Richard S MD [8960]
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STROKE/NEURO CRITICAL CARE

GARY FOX, M.D.
NEUROLOGY

JEFFREY H. FRANK, M.D.
NEUROLOGY

THOMAS W. JOHNSON JR., M.D.
NEUROLOGY

JASON M. MECKLER, M.D.
NEUROLOGY/EPILEPSY

ROY J. MECKLER, M.D.
NEUROLOGY/NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

MANJARI MOTAPARTH, M.D.
NEUROLOGY

KRISTI M. NORD, M.D.
NEUROLOGY

GEORGE WESLEY SCOTT II, M.D.
NEUROLOGY

TAD SEIFERT, M.D.
NEUROLOGY/HEADACHE

NADEEM A. TALPUR, M.D.
NEUROLOGY/STROKE

ROBERT S. TILLET JR., M.D.
NEUROLOGY/MS

TAREK M. ZAKARIA, M.D.
NEUROLOGY/EPILEPSY

SHELLEY BRADLEY, ARNP
NURSE PRACTITIONER

JENIFER PATTERSON, ARNP
NURSE PRACTITIONER/MS

ROBIN TILLET, R.N.
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GLMS is seeking physician volunteers to make guest appearances during Pulse of Surgery programs at the Louisville Science Center. Pulse of Surgery, an exciting new effort to expose middle and high school students to real-time surgery, launched Jan. 12. GLMS physicians will encourage young participants to consider careers in medicine, reinforce wellness information and answer questions about their specialties.

In-training and active members from all specialties are welcome. Volunteers should be able to commit to spending at least one hour at the Louisville Science Center during the program time of 9 a.m. to noon. Pulse of Surgery will take place on the following Wednesdays: Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Feb. 23, March 9, March 23, April 20, April 27, May 4 and May 18.

To get involved, contact GLMS Communications Associate Ellen Hale at 736-6338 or ellen.hale@glms.org.