



KANSAS MGMA

The Newsletter of the Kansas Medical Group Management Association

Vol. 10 No. 1

March 1999

President's advice: "You gotta know how!!!"

by Fred Vance

The working environment within a medical office is changing, sometimes at warp speed.... Many of us probably remember the "good old days" when the most difficult decision of the year was whether to increase your fees by 6% or 8% and then notify your contracted insurance companies of the new charges. However, everything has now turned upside down and we have been inundated with constant change since 1984 when DRGs first hit the medical world. Managed care companies now instead notify us of the new fee schedules!!! These changes now pose many challenges, or should we say "opportunities," for each medical office administrator or manager.

One of the best ways to prepare and handle these changes is to be involved in continuing education. Being an active member of KMGMA is an excellent and inexpensive start to maintain and improve in self-education.

MGMA and ACMPE Health Policy & Leadership Conference

by Kim Weaver, President Elect

Michael Samms, immediate past president and legislative liaison for Kansas MGMA, and I attended the 2nd annual MGMA and ACMPE Health Policy and Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. from February 6th - 10th, 1999. This conference brought together officers and legislative representatives from state associations throughout the United States, as well as section officers, and staff from the national MGMA office. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the future direction of MGMA and the various sections, exchange ideas and information with other state associations within the various sections, and discuss legislative issues of importance to medical practices with members of Congress.

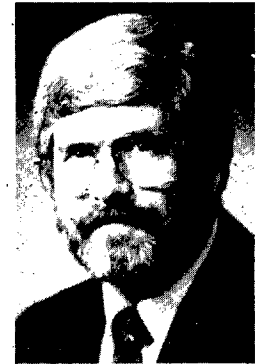
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tion. The two annual conferences are relatively low cost and the outstanding speakers and topics are always superb. Everyone is highly encouraged to participate in attending each conference.

Memberships in the national MGMA and American College of Medical Practice Executives are additional avenues for continuing education. These organizations offer excellent workshops on specific topics throughout the year and also are a source for information involving clinic management. Please contact me if you would like more information on membership and benefits.

KMGMA committees are also sources for continuing

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Insurance Commissioner Office Considers Standardized Credentialing Form

by Michael Samm, Chair-Legislative Affairs

The State of Missouri has adopted a standardized credentialing form to be used with Managed Care Organizations. The Kansas Insurance Commissioners Office has created a task force for the purpose of establishing the same type of form. In fact, after several meetings, the proposed form to be used in Kansas is 99% the same as Missouri's. Additional interaction with the Missouri Insurance Commission will bring about a form that is identical. The Kansas Insurance Commissioners office is to be highly commended for their proactivity on this issue. Anne Haught, a staff attorney with the office has been very proactive and has even contacted the Insurance Departments of CO and NE to look at a standardized form in central USA.

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Kansas Legislature Activities

by Michael Samms, Chair-Legislative Affairs

Several healthcare related bills will be considered by the Kansas Legislature this session:

1. Physician Assistants are once again seeking licensure. PAs are currently registered while Nurse Practitioners are licensed. This bill is generally supported.

2. PAs and NPs currently can prescribe controlled substances only orally or telephonically. A bill will be considered to allow them to write a prescription for this class. The original intent of the current law was to prevent overreaching by PAs and NPs and to give physicians the ability to monitor the Rxs ordered by these groups. In reality, however, anyone may call in an Rx and the pharmacist is required by law to fill it. This bill is generally supported so long as the tie between the practitioner and the physician is maintained.

3. There continue to be initiatives by respiratory therapists, occupational therapists and physician therapists to be licensed. These initiatives are generally supported.

4. The Kansas Medical Society continues to be concerned about the ability of convicted felons to receive a license to practice medicine in the state of Kansas. The KMS plans to introduce a bill that would make it more difficult, and in some cases prohibitive, for a convicted felon to receive a license.

5. Also to be considered will be legislation to create a state trauma care board to create and administer a statewide trauma system.

There will be other bills introduced this session. We will continue to monitor and take action appropriately.

The Taffetas A Delightful Musical Comedy!

KMGMA's Spring entertainment committee is proud to bring you The Taffetas -- a magical, musical journey through the fabulous fifties. These pretty, plucky, pert princesses of Pop pay loving tribute to all of your favorite '50s chart toppers! Song highlights include "Mr. Sandman," "Sincerely," "You Belong to Me" and many more.

A bus from the Hyatt will leave around 6 p.m. Thursday, April 29th to take you to Dinner and a Show at the Crown Uptown Professional Dinner Theatre. Join your KMGMA friends for a night of pretty, plucky and pert performances!

You must RSVP when registering for the conference.

W E L C O M E

NEW MEMBERS

Debra Schaapveld

Administrator

Medical Heights Medical
Center / Dodge City

Clark Stevens

Director Managed Care
Via Christi Medical

Management / Wichita

Stephanie Walker

Clinical Coding Coord.
Kansas University Physi-
cians, Inc. / Kansas City

George Stover

Clinical Administrator
Kepka Family Practice Ctr
Ellsworth

Richard Hertenberg

VP Business Development
Salina Regional Health Ctr
Salina

Ann Williams

Office Manager

The Women's Health
Group, PA / Manhattan

Linda Kay Brant

Office Manager
Lincoln Medical Clinic
Lincoln

"Form" Continued from pg 1

This form will be standardized and will be used with all insurance companies in KS and MO. The form will be published at www.ink.org under 'government', 'state agencies', 'Kansas Department of Insurance', 'Bulletins.' The intended publish date will be June 1, 2000. The form is intended to be voluntary until 2001. An important feature of this form is the fact that it can also be used for hospital credentialing. You may want to contact your hospital medical staff offices to enlist their support.

Copies of this form will be at the KMGMA April meeting.

Life Membership for Jim Lockhart

Jim Lockhart was recently honored by the Executive Committee when his membership was approved for Life status. A KMGMA member is eligible to request to become a Life Member if he or she was a member of good standing for at least fifteen years.

Jim has been a hardworking and loyal KMGMA member for many years, and helped improve the organization during the difficult review to change its bylaws when he was President in 1994-95. Jim, your leadership and efforts for KMGMA have not gone by unnoticed. Congratulations!!!

Insurance Committee Notes

submitted by Shirley Gamble

The committee met on January 27, 1999 in Emporia, Kansas. The highlights of the meeting included:

1. Medicaid eligibility for (1) year;
 2. Most recent information Title XXI, Healthwave;
 3. Clarification on AWP resource for BCBS -- First Data Bank's National Drug File - 800-633-3453, 1111 Bayhill Dr., San Bruno, CA 94066, AWP information can also be obtained from the BS Hotline; Newsletter S-24-98 gives more details;
 4. The Carrier Advisory Committee targeted Peri-operative Management and is developing a "Statement of Principles" and lists circumstances when a transfer of care would be considered appropriate. Some very interesting concepts were presented. I would recommend you obtain a copy from Carolyn Payne.
 5. Standardized Credentialing Committee met February 5, 1999. Only minor changes were made, additional comment time extended to March 1, 1999. Then the form will go out on the Website. It is recommended that the form be recommended until 1/2001 and mandated at that time.
- Additional updates will be presented at the Spring Conference in Wichita.

"MGMA and ACPE Conference 'Continued from pg 1

The first day and a half was spent meeting with the officers and representatives from state associations in the Southern section. The Southern section is made up of the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Staff from MGMA gave reports on various subjects, including the MGMA Strategic Plan, the Task Force on Organizational Analysis, the search for a new CEO for MGMA, ACMPE report, and membership recruiting and retention. A discussion was held on the purpose of and direction for the Southern section. This discussion focused on leadership development, communication issues, and helping each state association in the section provide services to their members.

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education. Each member should connect with a committee of interest. KMGMA will only be as good as its active members. Sitting on the sidelines just won't get it done in today's environment. Your input is definitely needed and encouraged. Participating in committee work also stretches a person's abilities while the individual and KMGMA organization all benefit from the effort.

Contact any of the KMGMA officers if you have a suggestion, comment, problem, complaint, recommendation, wish to join a committee, or just want to say "hi"...



SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT Wednesday

April 28, 1999

*Willowbend Golf Club
8001 Mulberry Drive
Wichita, KS 67226*

*New system of
handicapping will equalize
all abilities. Set up your
own foursome or be
assigned to a team.*

Prizes and awards!

*Call Charley Larsen for
more information on how
to join in the fun.*

(316) 691-9150

Database information update

If your database information has changed, please complete this form & send it to the address below:

From:

To:

Send to:

**ANN BUESS
WICHITA CLINIC
3311 E MURDOCK / WICHITA KS 67208
FAX: 316-689-9102**

1998 - 1999

Committee Chairpersons

Interested in serving on a committee?

Call the chairs below:

Human Resources - Rosann Speer (913) 362-0031
Insurance - Shirley Gamble (316) 669-6624
Legislative Affairs - Michael Samms (816) 276-9270
Membership - Dorothy Gallagher (785) 827-2238
Newsletter - Rachel McPhail (316) 651-2213
Public Relations - Coquette O'Rourke (316) 291-7250
Rural Health Care - Lynne Adams (785) 628-9876
Executive Assistant - Claire Daniels (316) 265-1277

Officers

President - Fred Vance (913) 233-5101
President Elect - Kim Weaver (316) 263-5891
1st Vice President - Jinny Freeman (913) 843-9125
2nd Vice President - James Knight (316) 275-3701
Secretary - Jo Marsh (316) 685-3822
Treasurer - Ann Buess (316) 689-9353
Past President - Michael Samms (816) 276-9270

Kansas Medical Group Management Association