Preserving Values

As promised, the thoughts and opinions presented over the next several months will be those of our members. Revolving around the theme of MEDICINE as PROFESSION, the core of our careers will be explored. Where has medicine come from, and where is it going? What have we gained and what have we lost? What are our challenges and what are their solutions? How can we, and how can GAMA serve in optimizing the future?

I recently had the fortune of interviewing a retired physician in our community. Without solicitation he graciously came to our office and in person and with passion shared his thoughts about the PROFESSION and its future. A cascade of follow-up e-mails helped coalesce some of those thoughts.

Graduating from Medical School in 1965, with Boards in General Surgery and one of its Subspecialties were but the beginnings of a proud career. It was a career steeped in Patient Care and the Practice of Medicine. Long days, long nights, constant call – all with a central commitment – the patient.

Although perhaps idealistic, this individual longed for a preservation of that central commitment and the value of placing the patient in the center of our healthcare paradigm. “The care of patients has deteriorated,” an impression derived from the firsthand experience of being a patient as well as direct feedback from others. Threatened by extraordinary ER wait times, a confusing and inhospitable insurance climate and excessive influence of hospital businesses, patient care has deviated from its core purpose. “There is a lack of continuity and an indifference to their needs” - truly a discouragement for many.

Here-to-fore, physicians have served as the “glue in the works,” committing their lives and careers to the needs of their patients. Perhaps no more clearly than in Private Practice, wherein the physician stands alone in this mission. “The future will depend on Physicians in Private Practice to rectify and return to old fash-

Our mission

“To promote excellence in patient care by identifying and solving physician practice problems in any practice environment through advocacy, education & collegiality”

Harvey White, M.D.
A Day in the Life of a Hospital Massage Therapist

I am trying to share some different types of editorials this year. I asked David Lang LMT, RMTI, COMT, Director of Advance Manual Therapies at UNM Center for Life to share with us some of the exciting things he does as a massage therapist.

So many times in a week, I have the honor to help a child or an adult having difficulties with something as simple as a bowel movement. I get a call on my cell phone and go to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to meet a resident that has heard there is a massage therapist that can help a baby that hasn’t had a bowel movement in three days. Sometimes a parent is present. If the mother is there, I will teach her how she can touch her tiny baby’s tummy in a way that is nurturing and healing. This is done in a clock wise motion from the ascending colon to descending colon with very light touch. Inevitably the child will have a bowel movement shortly after the treatment! This is just one example of how massage helps in our modern medicine.

Today four out of eight patients were new to me starting with a young person with a venous malformation. Next, I saw an elderly lady who had stage four lung cancer with metastases to the brain, hip, and liver. Another patient with back pain and just wanted a nice massage. At the end of the day, I worked with a Hunter’s Syndrome child, another child with stage four Hodgkin’s lymphoma, and an ex-athlete who had several abdominal surgeries that resulted in significant abdominal pain. All of these patients needed one thing, relief!

As a licensed massage therapist I’ve had many opportunities working at a major academic medical center that most massage therapists would never have in their lifetime. Working side-by-side with attending physicians while showing medical residents and students what and how I work with all of these patients is a
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www.phs.org
Southwest Women's Health, PA is looking for a bc/bel gynecologist to join our busy practice. Dr Karen Williams and Dr Rebecca Shoden work with five excellent midlevel providers. If interested, please email elizabeth@shodenwilliams.com or call (505) 247-9983.


Family Practice Outpatient Primary Care in Albuquerque is seeking Nurse Practitioner/MD or DO, Bilingual (Spanish is desirable). Positive work environment, work/family balanced, established, independent private practice. Flexible substantial part time or full time hours, must be available most Fridays, benefits, very light call. Fax CV/Resume to 505-242-1221 or email qcarr@eq.com

New Mexico Pain and Spine Institute is seeking a Physician’s Assistant or Nurse Practitioner to join an expanding pain practice in Albuquerque. Competitive Salary, great benefits package and minimal call. Please send a copy of your CV/Resume to sarah.muelle@aanmpc.com (email) or fax 505-260-4371.

BRIDGES IN MEDICINE is seeking an Internal Medicine/Family Practice physician or Certified Nurse Practitioner who is interested in general medicine with an interest in the Integrative Holistic Approach. This is a unique opportunity for someone who enjoys primary care and has an interest in learning Integrative Holistic Medicine with an entrepreneurial spirit. Please email your CV to lisaw@bridgesinmedicine.com or fax to 505-855-5541.

Family Medicine or Internal Medicine Physician - Rio Grande Family Medicine offers wonderful opportunity to join small, collegial primary care practice focused on quality pt. care. Full or part time, attractive hours, Mon-Fri. Competitive benefits and compensation. Light call schedule. Fax CV to (505) 224-2710 or e-mail: bcorbin@abqct.com.

Looking for an experienced Medical Assistant to work with an OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner. Schedule is Wed & Thurs 1-4:30 and Tuesday & Friday 7:30-4:30. Position available now. Email resume to linda@northsidefamilymedicine.com

Medical Office Space—Near Wyoming and Menaul and Kaseman. About 1100 sq. ft. $985 / month ($9.75 per sq. ft.). Attractive landscape and brick exterior. Two other medical doctors at this central location. Faces south with your own entrance and sign. Call Dr. Robert Foreman at 269-1731.

Medical Suite for Lease. Located walking distance to Presbyterian, Lovelace and the Heart Hospital; this 3,089 sq. ft. space can accommodate up to 6 exam rooms, two offices, a M.A. work station and a large employee lunch room. Willing to sub-divide into two 1,500 sq. ft. offices. Based rent is $15.50 per sq. ft., including utilities. For more information contact Mike Phillips at 505-898-1428 or mike@hsnm.com.

Medical Offices available for lease - Newly remodeled office on historic “Pill Hill” near all downtown hospitals. Perfect for solo practitioner or group practice wanting a downtown location. Three exam rooms, a physician’s office, nurse’s station, reception area and two restrooms. Lease rate of $16.50 per Sq. Ft. which includes utilities. Available for immediate occupancy. For more information contact Peter at 505-242-4599, ext. 06.

Medical Office available for One Year Lease - Great Location to hospitals. Next to Encino Medical Plaza., 3 patient exam rooms. Large procedure room and Doctors Office, abundance of storage. Two restrooms, one handicap accessible. Parking available Call 843-7901. 711 Encino Pl NE, Abq. NM 87102

Ultrasound for Sale : Toshiba, Nemio XG Color Doppler Ultrasound System for sale. Like new, paid $35,950 will sell for $13,900. Call Peter (505-242-4599 ext 06) at Primary Care of New Mexico for more information.

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-ioned ways of practice. They need to provide total care of patients, from the office to the ER to the hospital."

Along the same lines, from this venerable doctor – a plea for physicians not to be passive but to reassert themselves in the design and execution of healthcare – “We must be in the driver’s seat, not hospitals.” A glimmer of hope was observed in the large specialty groups as they have seemed to thrive in this climate. “They have become very effective and the patients are pleased . . . having managed to adapt and flourish better than others."

Finally the observation that GAMA can effectively spearhead reform in these areas. “GAMA, with focus, can effectively serve to assist new physicians in the establishment of practices, assist in the formation of larger groups, and work to ensure the financial success of larger specialty organizations.” GAMA can play an important role in preserving the values we have come to honor in medicine so that more can know “the true Joy of Practicing Medicine.”

And a final recommendation that cannot help but be inspiring – “I have read the Oath of Hippocrates and of Maimonides in the GAMA Directory several times to ground me.” Certainly advice which we can all find beneficial.

(I invite all who might find themselves similarly motivated to share some thoughts about Medicine as Profession to send me a note. I am available at hwhite@vesselnm.com or can be reached through our GAMA office. Points and counterpoints will all be honored, as will anonymity if requested.)

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April 11, 2015
New Mexico Heart Institute - 22nd Annual Current Concepts in Cardiovascular Disease
Sandia Resort and Casino, Albuquerque, NM
Contact: Martha Mowry, (505) 350-8599, martham@nmhi.com to register

April 17, 2015
36th Annual Advances in Primary Care Conference
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Albuquerque, NM
Contact: (505) 272-3942 or http://som.unm.edu/cme/

May 1, 2015
2015 Presbyterian Pediatric Update
Sheraton Albuquerque Airport Hotel
Contact: LeeAnne Smith at (505) 841-1225 or lsmith2@phs.org or http://events.signup4.net/2015Peds

May 15, 2015
New Mexico Medical Society Annual Scientific Meeting
Hunger, Obesity, and Eating Disorders in New Mexico
NMMS Office, 316 Osuna Road NE, Albuquerque, NM
Contact: Joan Ford (505) 796-3436 or jford@nmms.org

June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2015 -- SAVE THE DATE!
TAKING OUR OWN PULSE: PHYSICIAN WELLNESS AS A PERSONAL, INSTITUTIONAL, AND POLITICAL IMPERATIVE
12:30 to 1:30 pm, UNM Health Sciences Center, Domenici Auditorium
Webcast will be available for our out of town members
Contact: Liz Lawrence MD - Elawrence@salud.unm.edu or Eileen Barret MD - Barrett.Eileen@gmail.com

June 5, 2015
33rd Annual UNM Orthopaedic Alumni Conference
UNM Domenici Center for Health Science Education, Albuquerque, NM
Contact: (505) 272-3942 or http://som.unm.edu/cme/

July 21-25, 2015
Cycling CME Rocky Mountains
Vail, Colorado
Register: www.cyclingcme.com

August 2-8, 2015
16th Annual Taos Writing & Wellness Retreat for Health Professionals
Mable Dodge Lujan House, Taos, NM
Contact: (505) 272-3942 or http://som.unm.edu/cme/

August 7-8, 2015
2015 16th Annual Santa Fe Bone Symposium
Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe, NM
Contact: E. Michael Lewiecki, MD, (505) 938-2117, mlewiecki@gmail.com

Controlled Substance Abuse In New Mexico: Perspectives and Approaches in the Clinic and Community. DVD and CD order form. Approved by NM Medical Board to meet 5 hours of pain management education requirements and 5.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s) TM. This enduring material is accredited from December 1, 2014 through November 30, 2017.
Candidates for Membership

George Erdman MD
Retired
Anesthesiologist
Med School: 1972, University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
Internship: 1972-1973, Internal Medicine, VA Medical Center, Dallas, TX
Residency: 1976-1978, Anesthesiology, University of Texas SW Medical Center, Dallas, TX
Fellowship: 1978-1979, Cardiothoracic Anesthesia, University of Texas SW Medical Center, Dallas, TX
States License: TX and NM

Jan Gotta MD
Anesthesia Associates of New Mexico, 1720 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Suite 401, Albuquerque, NM 87110
Anesthesiologist
Med School: 1984, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
Internship: 1996-1997, General Surgery, Bay State Medical Center, Springfield, MA
Residency: 1997-2000, Anesthesia, Bay State Medical Center, Springfield, MA
Fellowship: 2000-2001, Pain Management, Bay State Medical Center, Springfield, MA
States License: TX and NM

Mawulawde Kwabena MD
NM Heart Institute, 502 Elm Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Med School: 1985, State Univ. of NY, School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Buffalo, NY
Internship: 1985-1986, General Surgery, Stony Brook School of Medicine, Stony Brook, NY
Residency: 1986-1989, General Surgery, Stony Brook School of Medicine, Stony Brook, NY
Fellowship: 1989-1990, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH
States License: AR, GA, IL, NY, OH, TX and NM

Richard S. Larson MD
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
Anatomic Pathology/Clinical Pathology
Med School: 1990, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
Residency: 1990-1993, Anatomic Pathology, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Residency: 1993-1994, Clinical Pathology, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN
Fellowship: 1984-1990, Ph.D. Immunology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
States License: NM

Kashif Malik MD
Presbyterian Hospital, 201 Cedar St. SE Suite 306
General and Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery
Med School: 1997, King Edward Medical College, Lahore Pakistan
Residency: 2003-2005, General Surgery, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Albuquerque, NM
Residency: 2005-2008, General Surgery, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
Fellowship: 2008-2009, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL
States License: FL and NM
Travis Flandermeyer, MBA
Phil Messuri, MS, CFP ®

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great experience for all involved. By working with these practitioners we create an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect. I have heard many providers tell patients that “Oh, it’s ok. It’s just a massage. It’s not going to hurt you.” This is not always true. When you have a patient with stage four neuroblastoma and a platelet count of 35,000, you don’t refer them to just any massage therapist for myofascial care. You need a therapist that has a depth of knowledge and extensive training in the specific care that your patient needs.

In the state of New Mexico, we have over thirty-seven hundred licensed massage therapists. All of these therapists have a minimum of 750 hours of training. Most of the therapists that work in a hospital system have at least 3-6 more years of training. As a profession, we have started developing higher standards so you, the medical provider, can trust that your patient is receiving the best care possible. Out of 33 counties in New Mexico, there are 22 that have a Licensed Massage Therapists (LMT). In many of these counties, the LMT is the only care provider. Obviously we are not the primary care provider, but with extra training we can always refer the patient to the closest medical facility for the proper care.

Hopefully in the next year, the Advanced Manual Therapist will have the ability to bill and be reimbursed by insurance companies in New Mexico. The time has come!
Physician opening. We are hiring for a leadership position to oversee other providers as well as do some direct patient care. The ideal candidate will have a strong commitment to providing compassionate patient care. We are looking for someone who has great communication and organization skills while being flexible and capable of adapting to change as necessary. This is a great opportunity to join a cutting edge practice serving several facilities across the Albuquerque metro area. Please contact Jennifer Gibbs at Jennifer@rehabpartners.com or 505-503-3513.

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MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 12, 2015

I. Approval of Minutes: Unanimously approved

II. Consent Calendar:
   a. No new membership applications this month
   b. Delinquent list
      i. Not reviewed due to new dues cycle

III. Current Items
   a. GRT Survey Progress
      i. Completed; results shared with NMMS and NMTRD
   c. GAMAPAC Appointed Board—in process
      i. Contributors identified as possible Board members.
   d. NMMS Council Meeting: January 10, 2015—report from those present.
   f. Advocacy Committee—review of legislative positions; brief update on possible other legislation
   g. NMMS Legislative Issues: reviewed

IV. New Business
   a. 2015 Nominating Committee: Drs. Epstein and Stryker were elected.

V. Other Items
   a. Discussion of membership and core values

VI. Upcoming Events
   a. GAMA Legislative Day: February 5, 2015

VII. Next Board Meeting, Thursday, January 15, 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
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Lucille Martinez, M.D. is a board-certified OB-GYN physician. Dr. Martinez earned her bachelor’s degree in biology from Xavier University of Louisiana. She earned her medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at North Shore University Hospital in New York and then returned to Albuquerque as a practicing physician the last seven years. Dr. Martinez is a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Martinez is an Albuquerque native and will be practicing at our Lovelace Women’s Hospital clinic.

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SAVE THE DATE
GAMA EXPO - October 20, 2015
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

HIPPA Training Tuesday, October 20
11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
More information coming