



# OSMA News Now

*The Latest News, Views, Updates, and Information for Physicians  
from the Oklahoma State Medical Association*

May 2, 2008

## Legislative Update

The Oklahoma State Legislature is finishing their twelfth week of the 2008 Legislative Session. This week both the Senate and House were busy accepting and rejecting amendments to bills from the opposite House.

SB 1577, the anesthesiology bill by Senator Rice, was passed out of the Senate with bi partisan support and is now headed to the Governor's desk. The OSMA is in support of this legislation.

House Republican leaders are planning to put together a bi-partisan task force to find "market-driven solutions" to the State's health care problems. The study will be conducted after the Legislature adjourns and will complement the town hall meetings Insurance Commissioner Kim Holland is holding to discuss the uninsured and underinsured.

**The Oklahoma State Medical Association would like to take this opportunity to thank the Physicians Liability Insurance Company (PLICO) for underwriting the 2008 OSMA Annual Meeting.**

PLICO also sponsors the OSMA in the following:

Continuing Medical Education Programs  
EMR Technology Conference  
Clinical/Scientific  
Risk/Practice Management  
Day of the Judges  
Medical Student Picnic  
Medicine Day  
OSMA Directory  
OSMA Journal

## SAVE THE DATE!

The Oklahoma State Medical Association and the Oklahoma County Medical Society will hold on June 18, 2008, from 5:00pm – 5:30pm a reception to meet Dr. Deborah Patterson, Lead Director for TrailBlazer Medical Review, Provider Education Activities, Lead Director for Policy Activities Related to Evaluation and Management, Cardiology, Allergy Immunology, Ambulance Service, Oversight of CMD/Medical Policy Departmental Quality Management and Performance Measurement/Reporting/Management Control. A 2 hour workshop will follow from 5:30pm – 7:30pm which will provide complete information on:

1. How to navigate the Trailblazers website
2. All attending physicians (only physicians) will receive the E&M Guide Book
3. Answer questions and problems physicians face with the transition
4. Other strategic Medicare reimbursement issues physicians are facing

If you are interesting in serving on the 2008-2009 Admissions Board of The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, please contact Donna Bartlett at the OSMA (405) 843-9571 or [Bartlett@osmaonline.org](mailto:Bartlett@osmaonline.org). Four physicians from each of the five Oklahoma Congressional districts are selected to serve on the Board each year. Admissions Board members are required to attend an orientation session in September and must be prepared to commit a minimum of four (4) half days between October 2008 and February 2009 to the interviewing effort. Each member will also be required to attend a final full board meeting to vote on recommendations for acceptances to the next entering class. This meeting will be scheduled for mid to late February 2009.

The workshop will include dinner and offer 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for all attending physicians. Cost will be \$25 for OSMA members and \$50 for non-members. Registration will be required. Please watch for more information to come next week in News Now. For further information please contact Sandy Deeba, OSMA CME Manager at (405) 843-9571 or 1-(800)-522-9452 or [deeba@osmaonline.org](mailto:deeba@osmaonline.org).

**NEW AMA/RUC RECOMMENDATIONS ON MEDICARE  
MEDICAL HOME DEMO SUBMITTED TO CMS**

CHICAGO – Recommendations on the new Medicare medical home demonstration project were submitted today to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) by the American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee, commonly known as the RUC.

The RUC recommendations are specific to the development of the reporting mechanism and underlying data that CMS will use to determine payments in the medical home demonstration project. These data include physician work relative value (RVU) and practice expense input recommendations, such as electronic medical record costs and nurse care coordination.

“The RUC has demonstrated its support for the medical home demonstration project, and the primary care physicians caring for our nation’s aging population by unanimously approving the recommendations to CMS,” said RUC Chair William Rich, M.D. “The support of the full RUC is a testament to the willingness of physicians from all specialties to support the evolution of primary care, and to help primary care physicians provide comprehensive and coordinated patient centered medical care.”

The three-year demonstration project will begin on January 1, 2009 in rural, urban, and underserved areas in up to eight states, and was mandated by Congress through the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (TRHCA). The medical home is described as a large or small medical practice where a physician provides comprehensive and coordinated patient centered medical care.

The legislation specifically requested that CMS use the RUC process to develop a case management fee and valuation, and it is the first time that CMS has been congressionally mandated to seek the RUC’s advice in valuing a Medicare demonstration project.

“As an expert panel in developing relative value recommendations to CMS, we appreciate Congress’ support for the hard work of the RUC,” said Dr. Rich. “Working on a tight schedule, a workgroup representing several medical specialties presented its findings and recommendations to the full RUC in under three months, and the full RUC unanimously voted to approve the recommendations to CMS.”

**Thank you to the following companies who  
exhibited during the  
2008 OSMA/OSMAA Annual Meeting  
on April 11th and 12th!**

A+ Computer Solutions  
AutoFlex Leasing  
Availity, LLC  
Baker Asset Management  
C.L. Frates and Company  
Commercial Resources  
CoreVault  
Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma  
Fifth Avenue Agency  
Health Choice  
John Hancock Financial Network  
Liberty Mutual Group  
Misys Healthcare Systems LLC  
eClinicalWorks  
Oklahoma Beef Council  
Oklahoma Blood Institute  
Oklahoma Health Care Authority  
Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and  
Supervision  
OSMA Health  
Physician Manpower Training  
Physicians Liability Insurance Company  
Sage Software Healthcare Inc  
SMRTNET  
Tinker Federal Credit Union

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C.L. Frates and Company  
*OSMA Delegates Breakfast*  
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*Refreshment Break*  
Integris Health  
*Inaugural Table*  
OSMA Health  
*Inaugural Dinner  
Refreshment Break*  
Physicians Liability Insurance Company  
*General*  
St. Francis Health Systems  
*Inaugural Table*  
Tinker Federal Credit Union  
*General*