

2014 Board

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Improving Health Outcome as Top Priority - Addressing Heroin First then Culture. Doctors Must Lead.

We must treat all individuals with heroin addiction with the same vigilance as if they had active Tuberculosis. Currently, we do not have an accurate count of the number of individuals impacted, but we need to develop a process to identify them. Each patient who is using heroin or has used recently should be transitioned to Medicine Assisted Treatment (MAT) for an indefinite period of time. That medicine includes Vivitrol, Suboxone, and Methadone. This process should be tailored to each patient. Each patient needs therapy and support, some in an inpatient and others in an outpatient setting. Since relapse can lead to death, we need to reduce all barriers to treatment, such as cost, transportation etc. Addiction and heroin's culture are powerful. Therefore, in order to stay on the right path toward recovery, each patient needs a recovery team comprised of lay persons, persons in recovery, social workers, addiction specialists, nurse navigators, probation officers, public defenders and physicians to help them. These teams must

work closely with the patient's family and support system. There needs to be a comprehensive overdose prevention and response program developed. Needles must be addressed. The legal system must be transitioned to move as many addicted persons into treatment as possible. Specific programs must be developed for higher-risk populations such as pregnant women, the homeless, adolescents, and those with comorbid illnesses including chronic pain and mental illness. Finally, we must help restore the individual and family to function by assisting with parenting, employment, and routine daily function. This will only occur if the medical community adopts a hands on approach.

Next - Culture change. There is no reason Northern Kentucky has to be so unhealthy. We do a good job in the office, the operating room and hospital taking care of the patients. What we need is to get the whole community to adopt a better attitude; one that values health and function. We should be identifying

problems, finding solutions, building consensus and fixing the problems. The plan to get this process kick-started is simple. The doctors will align themselves with all the agencies that are working to improve the health of the individual and families. With physician leadership these agencies will be empowered. If you are game contact me at 513-312-9824, jengel1@cinci.rr.com. To become a Suboxone provider at St. Elizabeth contact Chuck Washburn at 859-301-5910, chuck.washburn@stelizabeth.com People love underdogs, why shouldn't we?



Jeremy Engel, MD



The Statewide Epidemic

Clearly this is an issue that will be with us for a while. The work of Dr. Jeremy Engel, Dr. Lynne Sandler and the Northern Kentucky Heroin response group is much appreciated. This will require all of us to help on some level. **What can we do?** We need to limit the potential for narcotic prescription diversion as much as possible. The potential for patients becoming addicted to narcotic prescriptions must always be considered. When we talk to politicians, we must

remember to mention the need for more money and services in N. Ky to provide collaborative legal and treatment options. Expanding the treatment services available for addiction is a priority that should not be forgotten in our relationships with the healthcare institutions in our community (hospitals, long-term care facilities, pharmacies, etc). Addiction treatment centers currently availa-

ble in N. Ky are Transitions, NorthKey Community Care, St. Elizabeth hospital, Brighton Recovery Center for women and NKY Med Clinic, LLC. There is much valuable information on the website <http://www.drugfreenky.org> making it worth the visit.

Mike Gerwe, MD, Past President, NKMS

Walgreens Healthcare Clinics

Earlier this year members of the NKMS and the Academy of Medicine met with the leadership of Walgreens regarding their HealthCare clinics. Walgreens HealthCare clinics have been in existence for about 7 years. They were previously known as TakeCare clinics and are very successful. It is our understanding that Walgreens plans not only to increase their number of

clinics but also their scope of practice. We expressed our concerns about quality of care, oversight and the lack of communication with the patient's primary care provider. Do you as a physician have any concerns about the HealthCare clinic model? Similarly, what do you like about the HealthCare clinics? Have you had a positive experience with them? Can the

Walgreens HealthCare clinic be used to improve the quality of care in our region? I welcome your input as the NKMS plans to approach Walgreens for further discussions. Please feel free to call me at 859-757-8204.

Mark Schroer, MD, Program Chair, NKMS

Upcoming Events



Calendar of Events

- February 25 NKMS Executive Board Meeting
- February 26 KMA Physicians Day at the Capitol
- March 20-22 AMAA Southern Regional Conference
- April 15 NKMS Executive Board Meeting
- May 1 General Membership Dinner
- May 20 NKMS Executive Board Meeting

President's Report

What Can I Do? Part 1:

Please Give Us Your Cell Phone Number

You see things; and you say "Why?" But I dream things that never were; and I say "Why not?"
George Bernard Shaw (1949)

If we were all more politically active, not only would we do a better job of preventing bad legislation, but we could achieve long sought goals such as tort reform. The KMA has made it a priority to encourage greater physician political involvement. To that end, you will find a few suggestions here in the coming months.

During the height of the Kasper battle, there were times when as many calls as possible to legislators were needed in as little as an hour to prevent negative outcomes. NKMS has established a rapid action network to mobilize our members and auxiliary members in the event of such an urgent political situation. To do this we need your cell phone number. We promise to keep this information confidential and to use the system judiciously.

Calls to Frankfort make a significant difference. Each call generates a "Green Slip" which goes to one or more legislator(s). Law makers have been known to

wave stacks of these slips on the floor of the legislature to indicate how their constituents are reacting to a given bill.

Let's all work together to have a stronger voice in Frankfort. Please send your cell phone number to Karla Kennedy at: NKMS@NKMS.ORG. Alternatively, you can call Karla at 859-496-6567. Thank you for your help.

Eric Neils, MD, President, NKMS



Practice Update

We want to welcome the following physicians who became members of the Northern Kentucky Medical Society in 2013.

Daniel Buck, MD

Kimberly Case, MD

Jaspreet Chahal, MD

Brandon Cowan, MD

Wael Eid, MD

Heidi Franz, MD

Corey Gallus, DO

Carl Gandola, MD

Marlyn Generillo, MD

Brad Kelly, DO

Faisal Khatri, MD

Justin Kruer, MD

Bradley Mullen, MD

Alisha Rust, DO

Adam Slone, DO

Alvena Tcheng, MD

Seth Vensil, MD

Sarah Weinel, MD

2014 Budget

Ordinary Income		Equipment	1,000.00
Contributions	500.00	Dues & Subscriptions	435.00
Dues-Associate	1,755.00	Insurance	2,000.00
Dues-Active	82,575.00	Licenses & Permits	30.00
Dues-Resident	120.00	Postage & Printing	4,300.00
Dinner Meetings	<u>3,900.00</u>	Professional Fees	6,600.00
Total Income	<u>88,850.00</u>	Repairs & PO Box	140.00
Expenses		Telephone & Contributions	1,150.00
Website	5,000.00	Contracted Services	28,000.00
Dinner Meetings	22,100.00	Office/Supplies	<u>1,900.00</u>
Gift	400.00	Total Expenses	<u>73,055.00</u>
		Net Income	15,795.00



**Northern Kentucky
Medical Society**

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Contact Information

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Web: nkms.org

Northern Kentucky's
Physician Network

Address Correction Requested

NKMS Alliance Report

SAVE THE DATE!

The Kentucky Medical Association Alliance is host this March 2014 for a National Seminar for the AMA Alliance. State leaders from all over the U.S. will be invited to sample Kentucky hospitality at the Brown Hotel in Louisville KY from March 20-22, 2014. Here is a draft of the agenda that is open to physicians and their spouses/guests:

March 20 (Thursday) Registration and reception at Whitehall Mansion

March 21 (Friday) Dr. Glenn Loomis - Large Group Medicine Hospital Owned

Dr. Wm Monnig - Large Group Medicine Physician Owned

Special speaker - U.S. Senator, Rand Paul

Lunch and tour - Derby Museum

March 22 (Saturday) AMAA update - Jo Terry, President

SMAA update - Susan Rish, President

AMA update - Dr. Ardis Hoven, President

Humor in Medicine - Terry Foster, RN

History and Tips on Bourbon - Marianne Eaves

Tour of Bourbon Distillery

Please see the kyma.org website for registration and more details. Lets all mark our calendars to attend and support this event!



Nancy Swikert, MD, President, NKMSA