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KYTC Medical Review Board

Transportation Cabinet seeks physicians for Medical Review Board

Board works to identify drivers whose impairments may pose safety hazard

FRANKFORT, Ky. - The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) goes to great and mostly familiar lengths to promote and enable safe driving: Bridge inspections, road maintenance and new highway construction. Education campaigns against drinking or texting while driving. Promotion of seat belt use and child safety seats.

The work doesn't end there.

Less familiar to the public but hugely important to public safety is a select group of medical professionals - the KYTC Medical Review Board - whose job is to identify drivers who may have physical or mental impairments that render them unable to safely operate a motor vehicle.

"The Cabinet devotes a tremendous amount of time, energy and resources toward providing a safe and reliable transportation system throughout the Common-

wealth," said Commissioner Rodney Kuhl, of the KYTC Department of Vehicle Regulation, which includes the Division of Driver Licensing.

"But our efforts would be incomplete without a program to ensure, as best we can, that those who are granted the privilege of a driver's license are physically and mentally able to operate a motor vehicle - for their own safety and the safety of those with whom they share the road," Commissioner Kuhl said.

The KYTC Medical Review Board provides much-needed expertise to the Division of Driver Licensing. The board may consist of a variety of medical providers, including family practice specialists, internal medicine specialists, ophthalmologists, neurologists and rehabilitation specialists.

"The ultimate goal of the Medical Review Board is safety," Commissioner Kuhl said. "By reviewing records of drivers who may have conditions that prevent them from safely operating a vehicle, the board not only acts to protect those drivers but also other drivers they meet on the road."

KYTC is actively seeking medical professionals, in good standing, to serve on the Medical Review Board. The board, under Kentucky law, is empowered to review medical histories of driver's license applicants and license holders who have been reported as having health risks that might render them unfit to drive.

A driver could be reported to the Medical Review Board for many reasons, including if a driver has:

- Indicated he has "blacked out," lost consciousness or suffered a seizure prior to a reportable motor vehicle accident;
- Been reported by a physician as being incapable of driving safely due to a physical or mental condition, or due to medication prescribed for an extended period of time;

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KYTC Medical Review Board

- Been reported by a law enforcement officer after being observed driving or behaving erratically, indicating the possibility of a physical or mental impairment;
- An official record kept by the Transportation Cabinet that indicates a possibility of a physical or mental impairment;
- Reported that he suffered an epileptic seizure or any type of syncopal episode;
- Been reported by a commonwealth's attorney, county attorney, county clerk, circuit clerk, sheriff or judge as being inca-

pable of driving due to a physical or mental impairment;

- Been named in an affidavit by at least two citizens as being incapable of properly operating a motor vehicle due to a physical or mental impairment;

Board members review evidence and determine their decisions based on the safety of the driver and others on the road. These reviews take place at least once a month in Frankfort, though Commissioner Kuhl said the board might be able to hold regional reviews if more physicians can be enlisted.

Those interested in joining the Medical Review Board may

send their CV/resume to:

Kimberly G. DeSimone, Esq.
Kentucky Transportation
Cabinet

Office of Legal Services

200 Mero Street

Frankfort, KY 40622

kimberlyg.desimone@ky.gov

502-564-7650

Upcoming Events



Calendar of Events

October 17-18

October 30-November 1

November 8-11

November 18

December 4

January 6

January 20

KMAA Fall Meeting (Lexington, Kentucky)

SMAA Meeting (Destin, Florida)

AMA Meeting (Dallas, Texas)

NKMS Executive Board Meeting

Holiday Party

KMAA Winter Meeting (Louisville, Kentucky)

NKMS Executive Board Meeting

NKMS Alliance Report

Northern Kentucky was very well represented at the recent annual KMA/KMAA meeting in Louisville on September 14-16 at the Downtown Hyatt. Dr. Tom Bunnell was installed as the new KMA Alliance President by AMA Alliance President, Sarah Sanders (OH).



Nancy Swikert, MD, President, NKMSA



Dr. Ted Miller was installed as the new President Elect of KMA and Dr. Nancy Swikert was installed as the new Vice President of KMA.

Kim Moser is Chair of KPPAC and Dr. Neal Moser is District Trustee on the KMA BOT. Dr. Wm Monnig is National Legislative Chair for KMA and Alternate Delegate to the AMA. Dr. Don Swikert is State Legislative Chair for KMA and Delegate to the AMA and Dr. Eric Neils served the KMA HOD as a Teller. Dr. Mark Schroer serves as Alternate District Trustee to the KMA BOT.

The KMA Alliance raised over \$8700 for Medical scholarships/grants this year due to very generous donors. The KMAA Raffle item (IPAD mini) was won by Dr. Don Swikert. This year the Raffle item is a choice of one of two bracelets. Tickets are available from Nancy Bunnell/Nancy Swikert at \$50 each. Money is donated to UK, UL or PC.



President's Report

What Can I Do? Part IV
Vote

"Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote." Andrew Lack

For the good of our profession and of our patients, we need to elect physician-friendly legislators. The most basic step we can take toward this goal is to

vote and to encourage others of like mind to do the same.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, 2014. The polls in Kentucky are open from 6AM until 6PM. Please go help elect legislators who are willing to listen to us.

Special Additional Note

of Congratulations

Drs Ted Miller and Nancy Swikert were chosen as President-elect and Vice President, respectively, of the KMA at the recent KMA convention in Louisville. Congratulations to both of you and thank you for your service!



Eric Neils, MD, President, NKMS



**Northern Kentucky
Medical Society**

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Northern Kentucky's
Physician Network

Address Correction Requested

Holiday Party

The Annual Holiday Party sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Medical Society and the Northern Kentucky Medical Society Alliance will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at the Ft. Mitchell Country Club.

The festivities begin with a cash bar, silent auction, and hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:30 PM.

The Holiday Party gives the opportunity to recognize the NKMS physician members who have retired from the active practice of medicine. If you, or if you know of another member who has retired from the active practice of medicine in 2014, please contact the NKMS, Karla Kennedy, at 859-496-6567 or via email:

nkms@nkms.org

Invitations will be mailed in November.

Make Plans to attend this year's Holiday Party.



We wish to extend our sympathy to the families of the following physician members who have passed away in 2014.

Richard Allnutt, MD

Robert Heimbrock, MD

George Renaker, MD

Gary Shearer, MD

John Stevie, MD

The Northern Kentucky Medical Society wish you and your family a very happy and safe holiday.