

NKMS Society Rounds

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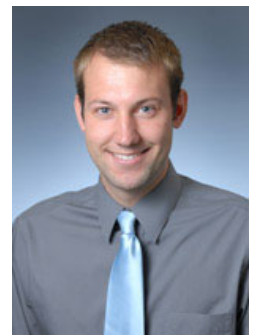
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President's Report

Engage with NMKS and engage with the NKY Community

In this newsletter I would like to provide you, the NKMS membership, with a few opportunities to be involved in some important projects and ways to give back. The first is CCRU, a free clinic run by medical students and faculty from the NKU branch of UK School of Medicine. Dr. Holly Danneman's description of the clinic and ways to get involved are enclosed. This is a great way to give back and help a needy patient population. If you are already signed up to precept UK medical students at your office there is no additional paperwork.

The second initiative I want to share with you is the HEAL Study I am a part of in Campbell County. This is a study aimed at reducing the number of opioid overdoses in high-risk counties, and several counties in Kentucky are enrolled including Campbell County and Kenton. The study focuses on high yield and evidence-based strategies for overdose prevention including increased Naloxone access, increased access to medication treatment for opioid use disorder, and safe medication prescribing, dispensing and disposal, among others. To increase access to medication treatment for patients struggling with opioid addiction or dependence the study has a sponsored waiver course (AKA DEA-X waiver course) for buprenorphine and naltrexone prescribing next month. You can see the enclosed flyer for specifics on signing up for this course. This course qualifies for CME, and is completely FREE. This is a great training opportunity if you are interested in helping some of your current patients that struggle with addiction. I personally care for a small panel of my own patients on Naltrexone and have found it to be a very rewarding part of my primary care practice. You would make a drastic improvement in access to care even if you only provide treatment for 5-10 of your patients after completing the course. If you have any ideas to help the HEAL study and the reduction in overdoses please reach out to me via email.



James Schack, MD
President, NKMS

President Podcast Recommendation

For all the football fans and fantasy players out there I'd like to recommend the "Fantasy Footballers Podcast" to you. It's a fun podcast with helpful fantasy advice for start/sit decision, injuries updates, waiver wire priorities, and trade suggestions. It's a great source to keep up to date on your drive in and stay ahead of other members in your league.

On a more medical note I recently received a flyer for "Pediatric Consult" which is a podcast run for Cincinnati Children's Hospital the focuses on best evidence based practices for a variety of pediatric issues. The podcast just started, only 3 episodes so far but it seems like a good source for any primary care or pediatrician looking to brush up on their knowledge.

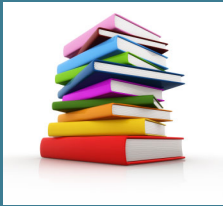
NKMS Foundation Report



2022 Events

November 15, NKMS
Executive Board
Meeting

December 9,
Holiday Party



The NKMS is hosting book raffles. The drawings will be held once a month in the Edgewood, Florence, and Ft. Thomas doctors' lounges. Each month we will raffle a new book. Please write your name, phone number, and email address on the index cards provided in the doctors' lounges. If your name is drawn, we will contact you and make arrangements to deliver the book to you.

The journey to achieve a medical degree is long and expensive. The average medical school debt accrued today is around \$250,000 for four years. This cost does not include any undergraduate expenditures. In recent years this expense has grown exponentially with changes in deferment of loans for students.

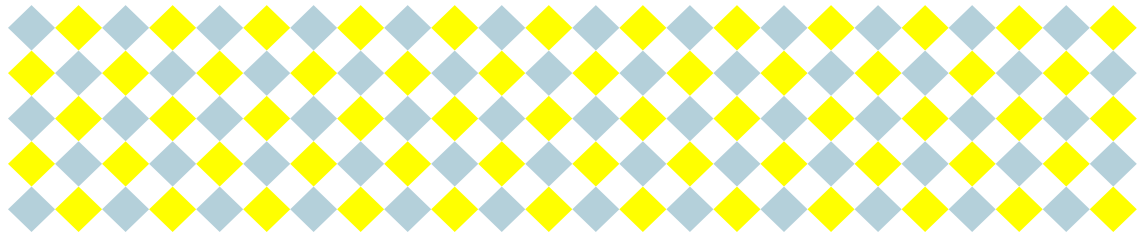
I know many of my colleagues share with me the memories of financially "scraping by" in medical school. My roommate never quite knew if her old car would make it home after a late shift. I owe my disdain for tuna salad from all the canned tuna I ate those four years! Can you relate?

The Northern Kentucky Medical Society acted in 2013 to help with the growing cost of tuition for medical school. A tuition scholarship for 3rd and 4th year medical students was started at the University of Kentucky. Now that the Northern Kentucky University Medical School is in place, this scholarship has been delegated to those at the NKU campus. In 2018 this program was extended to the University of Louisville Medical School. Past recipients include Megan O'Conner Schneider, Sarah Nester, Zachary Grove, Cayla Kunstek, Katie Currie, Robert Pugh, Jessica Nelms, Derek Menefee and Luke Byerly. All have ties to the Northern Kentucky area.

It is our hope to further expand our offer to the Pikeville Medical School soon. I hope you will join us in helping to grow the next generation of physicians in our area by donating to the NKMS Foundation and its efforts. Please support the future of medicine in our community.



Amy Haney, MD,
President, NKMS
Foundation



Report on the AMA Annual Meeting

I want to thank each of my colleagues of the Northern Kentucky Medical Society and Kentucky Medical Association for providing me with the opportunity to represent you as delegate to the AMA Meeting of the House of Delegates. It was held in June and was the first in person meeting in two years. Neal Moser, MD and Nancy Swikert, MD served as Alternate Delegates. During the meeting, there were 312 items of business dealt with by some 650 Delegates and 650 Alternate Delegates. It is the diversity of ideas, expertise and experience held within this body ... and the honest, civil, and open debate. It inspires.

Over the past years we have focused on sharpening and refining the AMA's strategic work in three areas:

- Improving physician satisfaction by removing obstacles that interfere with patient care.
- Driving the future of medicine by reimagining medical education, training and lifelong learning and by promoting innovation to tackle the biggest challenges in health care.
- Improving the health of the nation by leading the charge to prevent chronic disease and confront public health crises.

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Report on the AMA Annual Meeting

Continued

More recently, we have defined three important accelerators to advance this work:

- Advocacy-representing physicians with a unified voice.
- Innovation - ensuring technology is an asset, not a burden.
- Equity - embedding equity in the AMA and throughout health care.

After more than a decade of progress advancing initiatives through this strategic framework, we have achieved much for our physicians and have experienced 10 consecutive years of membership growth with a 35% increase in dues paying members during this time. Special areas need mentioning.

Dues: We have been able to avoid dues increase for the past twenty-five years and yet expand focused efforts in so many areas.

Medical Education: There is no easy path to becoming a doctor, but we know we must address the barriers that are keeping people out, particularly students from underrepresented communities.

- We are committed to reduce the amount of debt medical students must carry to complete their educations, now over 200,000 dollars, especially as we attract physicians to rural America.
- We are committed to expand the number of residency training slots and remove caps to Medicare-funded positions that Congress put in place long ago.
- We are committed to win funding from Congress to support the creation of new medical schools and residency programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Public Health: COVID-19 has magnified politicization and mistrust of public health officials. This polarized climate has resulted in some receiving death threats and subjected to protest at their personal residencies. Public health officials must have the authority they need to lead and make evidence-based decisions.

- We are committed to standing up for science - against misinformation. This includes defending against efforts to countermand evidence-based recommendations and reign in public health officials' authority.

Advocacy: Efforts are made up of dedicated and engaged physicians working to inform lawmakers, guide decision-making and generate support for policies on critical issues that impact physicians, patients, and the health care environment at both the national and state levels. This includes supporting expanded use of telehealth, reforming Medicare payment, fighting scope creep, fixing prior authorization, reducing physician burnout, and addressing surprise billing.

- We are committed to making technology an asset, not a burden, expanding access to telehealth.
- We are committed to Medicare payment reform. Medicare physician payments are the only component of health care delivery subject to budget neutrality and have fallen 20 percent, adjusted for inflation, since 2001—an average of about one percent a year. We fight to for a permanent solution and end the annual threat of cuts that threaten the economic survival of physician practices.
- We are committed to supporting team-based care, but not pretending that every health care practitioner has the same training and experience as physicians. Patient safety demands that we acknowledge physicians for their expertise, as leaders of health care teams.

Over these years the House of Delegates has benefited from the substantial input from the Women's Physicians Section, the Minority Affairs Section, the Medical Student Section, the Organized Medical Staff Section and the Resident and Fellows Section, that reflect the diversity of society and the medical community in responding to social issues impacting the health of our patients and healthcare delivery. The thousands of physicians and medical students that attend each meeting are working hard to address many difficult issues.

If you are not a member, you should be. This is our 175th birthday. It's amazing to think back to where medicine was 175 years ago. In 1847 there were no standards for medical education; quackery was rampant. The AMA responded by creating those educational standards as well as the Code of Medical Ethics ... tools that have served us well during the greatest public health crisis in a century. Be a part of the next 175 years.



Don Swikert, MD



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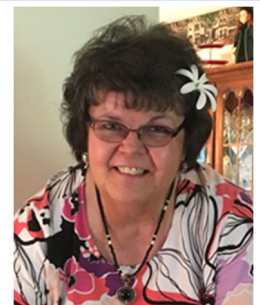
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Northern Kentucky's
Physician Network

Address Correction Requested

NKMS Alliance Report

Several NKMSA members attended the Annual KMA meeting recently held in Louisville, Ky. This annual meeting was the first face to face meeting since the Covid outbreak in 2019. Outgoing KMA President, Dr. Neal Moser (NKMS), addressed the KMA HOD meeting with a long list of successful accomplishments achieved this year. The KMA Board in Action items that Dr. Moser highlighted can be found on kyma.org website. Three main KMA sponsored bills passed the legislature and became law. These three include: HB 219 (Lung Cancer Screening), HB 529 (Compassionate Patient Support) and HB 573 (Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program).



Nancy Swikert, MD
President, NKMSA
President, KMAA

The new KMA president is Dr. Monalisa Taylor (Louisville). Dr. Taylor is looking forward to being a part of initiatives that will provide education to KMA members, including through the KMA's new "CME Guarantee" program. This will allow KMA physicians to receive access to at least 30 hours of Category I Continuing Medical Education credit each three-year cycle at no cost. These sessions will provide the opportunity for physicians to connect and learn from one another, as well as discuss ways we can better serve and collaborate for our patients. This issue of Kentucky Health eNews contains a new section dedicated to sharing current and upcoming CME opportunities as part of the CME Guarantee, with links to register or view with just a click.