ON THE COVER-Ohio Statehouse in OHFAMA's Centennial Year: A Time to Reflect

Strategic Planning, A Look at the Year in Review, Member Benefits Highlights, and more

DON'T MISS The OHFAMA Centennial Calling Card

Become a Part of History! SEE PAGE 12



OF THE OHIO FOOT AND ANKLE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 57 | NUMBER 4 | FALL 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message				
Members in the News				
Executive Director's Message				
OHFAMA Member Benefits				
A Simple Website Checklist				

...6-78

ľ	OPPAC Listings	1
	Centennial Calling Cards Order Form	
	OPHP: Ohio's Resource for Physicians	1
	Baby Steps	14
	Report from WVPMA	1

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT Strategic Planning for the Future

Greetings and salutations from your President! It's been almost a year since my inauguration at the 2014 OHFAMA House of Delegates. It's been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president during the 100th

sary of our esteemed association. We, as an organization, have accomplished a lot over that period of time. I'm happy to say

anniver-



Corey B. Russell, DPM, FACFAS FACCWS

we are completing the goals that I set out in my inauguration speech.

In August, your OHFAMA Board of Trustees had a very interactive and successful Strategic Planning session. We established what we deemed to be the 4 most important pillars for our organization to build on over the course of the next 5-10 years. The foundation for those pillars has been built over the years with an emphasis on education and member recruitment/retention. Those continue to be the necessary base of our organization.

As our membership has grown over 655 members, changes continue in our healthcare system. The education of our Podiatric physicians and surgeons has been standardized and continues to closely mirror the education of our allopathic and osteopathic counterparts. With these thoughts in mind, the 4 pillars of progression were established in August at our Strategic Planning session.

In no particular order, the first pillar is Parity. We started down this road a couple of years ago at the House of Delegates when a resolution was passed to have our

physician leadership meet with our counterparts in the Ohio State Medical Association and Ohio Osteopathic Association. To our delight, we were received warmly by both associations and saw a partner in the ongoing struggles of the medical profession. We also met with the leadership of the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians to the same kind reception. We have continued to try to build off those initial meetings by inviting their leadership to our 100th anniversary gala as well as our House of Delegates. But that is just the beginning. As part of our strategic plan, we will establish quantifiable goals to meet our objectives on the Parity issue. Dr. Michael Cornelison of the California Podiatric Medical Association will be speaking at this year's House of Delegates about the Parity issue on how California started and continues to build on their successes there. We will most likely structure our plan based on the road they have already paved.

The next pillar is Grassroots Legislative Advocacy. It's been continually difficult when we, as physicians, have to connect with our state and federal legislators to work on any legislation. Our lobbyist, Dan Leite, does a tremendous job for us and is well connected in Columbus. We need to be able to help him as he helps us. Establishing social relationships with our legislators would be of great benefit. That way they know who we are before we even enter the room. Also, they will know we don't only meet with them when we need something. This grassroots approach will require closely working with our local Academy components to cover all the legislators statewide. We are working on how best to structure that effort so as to accomplish those goals.

The third pillar is External Relationships. As mentioned previously, we have met with our counterparts in the OSMA, OOA and OAFP. We need to build on those relationships as well as continuing to build on the synergy with the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine. KSUCPM and OHFAMA are obvious strategic partners when it comes to issues of education and parity. Since the merger of OCPM and KSU, there are a great many new opportunities for the betterment of our profession which need to be fully explored.

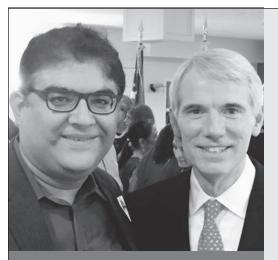
The final pillar is that of our Relationship with the APMA. There is much to be gained by having a closer working and social relationship with our national organization. Ohio is one of the most outspoken and progressive state associations in the APMA. We have a great many talented, intelligent podiatric physicians in our state that can improve our profession on a national level through the passage of resolutions at the APMA House of Delegates as well as through their service at the APMA level. We are all in this fight together and we can have much greater success working together than we can ever have working apart.

Those are the 4 primary objectives/ pillars coming out of our Strategic Planning session. Although some may differ on what those 4 pillars should be, I think we can all agree that these are 4 issues of great importance to OHFAMA and the Podiatric profession here in Ohio.

With that, I will end my final installment in our journal as your OHFAMA President. It's been a tremendous year and I have loved every minute of it! They say "Leadership is its own reward" and I couldn't agree more. A special thanks to the OHFAMA Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, APMA HOD delegation, PIAC/CAC chairmen as well as our Executive Director, Dr. Rumberg, Luci Ridolfo and the OHFAMA staff. Without all of your help and support, there would be no success. Thank you and I will see you in November at our HOD!

Fraternally yours,

Corey B. Russell, DPM, FACFAS, FACCWS



OHFAMA MEMBERS IN THE NEWS **RECENTLY SPOTTED:** Dr. Animesh Bhatia chats with Senator Rob Portman at a private function.

New Fluorescence Angiography Machine Aids Ohio Podiatrist

Akron General Health System expanded its care for patients with chronic, hard-to-heal wounds after contracting with a national firm to help run and oversee the program



and research efforts. The relationship provides Akron General access to *Luna*, the new fluorescence angiography machine that allows assessment of blood flow in tiny peripheral vessels of the extremities. "Before the

Dr. Windy Cole

new technology . . . doctors couldn't get images showing blood flow in the feet," said Dr. Windy Cole, who sees patients at Akron General's Health & Wellness Center in Green.

"Images from the machine can be used to evaluate whether hyperbaric oxygen therapy and other treatments are increasing blood flow to wounds," she said. | *Source: PM News July 04, 2015 #5,410*

OHFAMA MEMBERS SERVE IN KEY ROLES CAC and PIAC Representatives Elected for 2015-2018

The August meeting of the OHFAMA Board of Trustees confirmed by election two committee appointments for the APMA; the PIAC and CGS CAC (carrier advisory committee) positions.

Dr. Bruce Blank was elected to serve a three-year term as the Ohio PIAC (Private Insurance Advisory Committee) representative to APMA. Dr. Blank has held this position for several years and has been instrumental in assisting with some recent Medicare Advantage plan issues as well as MyCare OH issues. The PIAC covers many nuances of insurance plan coverage. Dr. Blank's tenacity has served OHFAMA as well as APMA as a valued resource. Moreover, he serves as a member on the Private Insurance Subcommittee of Health Policy and Practice Committee of the APMA.

Dr. Animesh Bhatia was elected as the new CAC representative for podiatry in Ohio. The position was confirmed by Dr. Earl Berman, CGS Medical Director. Dr. Paul Lieberman, will serve a two-year term as alternate representative. Dr. Bhatia is extremely well-versed on Medicare and DME issues. He has been a national lecturer on coding and billing, has served on the Board of Directors for the AAPPM and is serving on the APMA Coding Committee.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Great Things Continue at OHFAMA

Fall's harvest is the time for thanks. We look at our association's harvest in much the same way-as a time to say thank you to our members. We are thankful for another



robust year of membership growth as we recognize your devotion to professional podiatric affiliation. We are now at an all-time high in membership and are nearing the 670 member mark. I remember our ela-

Jimelle Rumberg, PhD, CAE

tion when we hit 601! The news of our work and quality medical programs and services keeps us at the top of our game. With growth comes opportunities. The OHFAMA Board of Trustees approved at the August board meeting one such opportunity-the formation of an educational foundation, known as the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation (OHFAMF). It will be the educational arm of our association, providing scholarships and a mechanism to secure grants that promote educational objectives of physician learning and postdoctoral education. Together the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation and OHFAMA will maintain and endow a strong, solvent professional podiatric community.

The Year's Accomplishments in Review

Additionally, here's what was accomplished for our members to date in 2015:

- Surgical Symposium with Grant Hospital and Central Academy - January 31, 2015
- New website that is loaded with information and member items – launched in February, 2015
- · Sports Injury Clinic March 7, 2015
- · Coding Seminar April 24, 2015
- GXMO 3 scheduled trainings throughout the year – March – July – November, 2015
- The 99th Annual Foot and Ankle Scientific Seminar (our largest seminar event ever!)
 June 4-6, 2015

- Centennial Gala and Reception June 5, 2015
- First class of inductees into the OHFAMA Service Award – June 5, 2015
- · ICD-10 Seminar (our largest single-day educational event ever!) July 31, 2015
- Four greatly expanded state issues of the OHFAMA Journal in 2015
- ONN Radio PR campaign to educate the public on Foot Pain, Sports Injury, Heel Pain and Diabetes – 2015
- Centennial focus in Academies with photo opportunities
- Centennial logo static clings for your office to announce you as a member of OHFAMA
- Centennial logo stemless wine glass favors
- Centennial Gala commemorative program publication in 2015
- · Strategic Planning August, 2015
- Embroidered member lab coat patches for current members and students to wear
- A number of member cost-saving services: Quantus Solutions credit card processor; CareWorksComp workers compensation discount; Recovery One collection services; Accu Medical medical waste disposal; HedgeHog web development; practiceXeleration social media and marketing; and Heartland HR and payroll services.

As your profession continues to evolve and change, we will be there for YOU! OHFA-MA is committed to providing our members with top quality, timely information, critical contact information and increased visibility to drive patients to our member offices for foot and ankle care. Thank you for renewing your membership and for supporting OH-FAMA. As we continue our centennial year celebration in 2015, know that the OHFAMA staff is here to serve and inform you and be your number one resource to ensure your success in practice.

A Note of Thanks

It is with sincere gratitude that I extend thanks to each of you for your kind words of condolence to me and my family on the loss of my husband, Randall G. Rumberg. Your cards, emails, flowers or phone calls were treasured during a difficult time. Please know that we appreciated your thoughtfulness.

Calendar

2015

October 22-25 Super Saver Seminar Marriott Cleveland Airport I Cleveland

November 5-7 GXMO Training OHFAMA Headquarters I Columbus

November 13 1:00-5:00 PM Budget/Finance BOT Embassy Suites Airport I Columbus

November 13-14 OHFAMA House of Delegates Embassy Suites Airport I Columbus

November 14 12:30-1:30 PM Board of Trustees Embassy Suites Airport I Columbus

2016

January 14-16 NWOAPM Scientific Seminar Kalahari I Sandusky

February 18 Budget/Finance BOT OHFAMA Headquarters I Columbus

February 20 Foot and Ankle Surgery Symposium Embassy Suites Airport I Columbus

> March 11-13 No Nonsense Seminar Holiday Inn I Independence

> > April 9 Sports Injury Clinic TBD I Columbus

April 15 Coding and Financial Institute TBD I Columbus

June 9-11 The Annual Foot and Ankle Scientific Seminar Hilton at Easton I Columbus

For more calendar information please visit the Event's webpage at www.ohfama.org

Fall 2015 | OHFAMA · 5

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MEMBER BENEFITS OHFAMA Helped Members Control Workers' Compensation Costs with \$30,571 of Savings in 2015

We are now in the time of year when employers are looking at their workers' compensation program for the next policy year. Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association members have begun to receive quotes in the mail for group rating plans for 2016. Our association's mission is to add value to our membership by providing members with the tools they need to do business. The CareWorksComp workers' compensation program is a key part of meeting that objective for OHFAMA.

In partnership with CareWorksComp, OHFAMA has a strong workers' compensation group rating program. Collectively, our members who participate in the Group Experience Rating program save an annual average of \$510 on their workers' compensation premiums. For the current 2015 policy year, Ohio Foot and Ankle members who participate in our group rating program are estimated to save \$30,571 in workers' comp premiums. Additionally to the savings, the local presence of CareWorksComp provides our members with extensive consulting expertise in workers' compensation claims management, hearing representation, unemployment cost control services and much more.

Put OHFAMA to work for you! For a nocost, no-obligation program analysis, simply call Beverly Westover, Ohio Foot and Ankle Program Manager at CareWorksComp. Beverly can be reached at (800) 837-3200, ext. 57169 or via email at beverly.westover@careworkscomp.com. You may also request a quote electronically at www.careworkscomp.com/groupratingapplication/ea.

Please remember that the Group Rating **deadline is November 23rd** of this year.

Polite Practices for Collecting Patient Payments

Providers can expect to collect only 50 to 70 percent of an insured patient's balance after he or she is treated. Studies have shown that a patient is 90% likely to pay before they see their physician, 70% likely at checkout and then it drops to 40% after they leave the medical practice.

Improved office protocols like the following tips may help:

1. Train your Front Desk staff.

- Collect unpaid balances when the patient calls to make an appointment.
- Collect copays and balances at the time of service
- 2. Offer More Payment Options.
 - Cash & Checks are a good start.
 - Do you have OHFAMA's Quantus fully integrated merchant terminal? Patients can pay by credit card in your office and over the phone.
 - Review your EOBs & collect balances from our overdue patients.

Continuing to Set the Standard in Podiatric MRI Services

Extremity Imaging Partners (EIP) continues to serve as one of the country's leaders in podiatric specific MRI services. Through specialization in the niche foot and ankle MRI market, EIP has formed strong relationships with key members of the podiatric community to ensure that this valuable technology is available to as many Ohio podiatric patients as possible. Our centers have scanned over 70,000 foot and ankle patients and we continue to enhance our MRI services through the use of new technology and focused process improvement. EIP is honored that so many physicians and patients continue to choose EIP for their podiatric MRI needs.

In order to maintain our high standard of care and prepare for the implementation of ICD-10 coding, EIP has instituted a number of technology and process improvements over the past few months. Our new radiology image and report viewer system, Novarad, is fully integrated into all of our MRI centers. Referring physicians can access their EIP MRI patient results from their PC or mobile device at their convenience. In addition, EIP has completed the necessary updates to our reimbursement system to accommodate ICD-10 coding requirements.

EIP offers nine conveniently located centers in the state of Ohio, including our



Excellence in Podiatric MRI

newest facility inside Kent State's CFAC Midtown office.

We are always looking for opportunities to expand our service so feel free to contact us if you think your area would benefit from an EIP MRI center.

OHFAMA is grateful for EIP's long time support as an Industry Affiliate partner.

oHFAMA MEMBER BENEFITS NAP is Important and We Don't Mean a Snooze!

We Do It All For You ...

What is N.A.P.? In internet slang it could mean Not A Problem. However, in search engine optimization (SEO) terms, NAP is an acronym that stands for Name, Address and Phone number. Sound simple? It's a basic concept, but it has huge implications on how your business is ranked by the major search engines.

Valid Citations Drive Online Authority

Every mention of your business on the internet is a citation. There doesn't even have to be a link to your website. Just think of the hundreds of ways your company name can appear – here are just a few:

- Your website
- · Your blogs
- Social media
- · Online phone directory
- · Yelp and other local directories
- Chamber of Commerce listing
- · Industry association
- · Charity sponsor
- Angie's List
- County business index
- Business partners

Don't Be Caught NAPping

A good exercise is to check – and correct if necessary – all your practice's citations. We at practiceXeleration urge you to Google your business and examine each search result. Check that your business name, address and phone number appear exactly the same each time - including punctuation and spaces. If you find inconsistencies, fix them! You can set up a FREE account and edit the information so that it matches your website. The time you invest in this task will pay you back in increased citations which means higher ranking in local search engine results which means more visitors to your website.

PracticeXeleration offers a unique, turnkey marketing solution for physician practices. Our goal is to maximize your visibility on major search engines like Google, Yahoo and Bing, and to produce communications with engaging content to reach end users – your existing and prospective patients. Local Search Engine Optimization (Local SEO) – Custom (Unique) Blogging Every Week – Social Media Management – Quarterly Enewsletters – And much more. The best part? . . . We Do It All For You!

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practice **Xeleration**

Here's what's important!

Search engines like Google use citations to rank your website in a user search. The more valid citations you have, the higher your business will rank in a local search. A higher ranking means more website visitors. Here's the catch: citations are only valid if they exactly match your business name along with address and phone number. If the name is off just a bit: think "Central Foot Doctor" vs. "Central Foot Doctors" - no match so no citation. If your phone number appears on your website as "123-456-7890" but citations show "(123) 456-7890" - no match.

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OHFAMA MEMBER BENEFITS A Simple Website Checklist!

Quite often, the question arises, "How can I improve my website?" The effectiveness of your website is obviously an important concern and the answer constantly changes as technology evolves. There are a few staples to a great website that you should be aware of as you begin evaluating your website. This concise checklist will point you in the right direction for enhancing your existing website, or serve as a guideline for the creation of a new website. The following items may require the assistance of your web provider, however they are very simple installations and should not incur a heavy cost, if any at all, to your account.

On The Content Side

Up-To-Date Content: It is important to frequently update information on your website including staff members, contact information, hours, locations, and especially new services or technologies provided. This is not only helpful for users, but it also alerts Google that you are constantly updating your web presence, which makes you a more suitable search result!

2

Call To Action: A Call to Action is prominent on the page and directly asks the website visitor to contact your office, either through a form submission or phone call, to schedule an appointment.



Visible Phone Number & Address: This is preferably located in the header of the website and highly visible on each page.



Integrated Blog: Keeping a blog updated on your website is an essential aspect of a competitive website. The reason being Google's favorability toward websites that consistently generate unique content. Google ranks these websites higher based on the quantity of content and perceived benefit to the website visitor.

On The Tech Side

Social Media Links: The website should include links to all of your social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Yelp, Zocdoc, etc) to connect users to your social accounts, but also tie together your web presence as a whole.

Google Analytics & Google Search Console: These are free tools provided by Google that, once installed, provide an intelligent view of your website's performance. Google Analytics will generate real-time reports of website visitors and the path they took to find your website. Google Search Console is integral for submitting sitemaps to Google, which enhance your indexing, therefore making your website more visible.

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- · tony@teamhedgehog.com; or
- www.TeamHedgehog.com

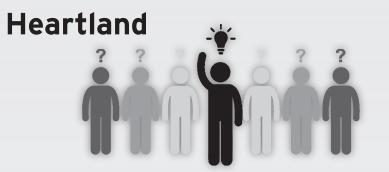
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Practice located in Kettering, OH, a south suburb of Dayton, OH. The practice is a medical and surgical podiatric practice and the hospital is one of the country's top 100 and is 5 minutes away with full podiatry privileges available. The office location that is 1,700 sq ft with 5 treatment rooms, and all have hydraulic chairs. Yearly gross is \$500,000. Special equipment includes oxygen and nitrous oxide piping in all rooms, central vacuum, a call light box system, WiFi and EMR, full phone system in each room, a compounded topical medication lab, x-ray, ultrasound imaging machine, and a Cutting Edge Mix 5 therapeutic laser. The building is over 6,000 sq ft of medical office space, in 5 areas, and is for sale under separate ownership. For more information please call (937) 293-6896 or email Imalusky@woh.rr.com.



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Sarah Abshier, DPM Drew Belpedio, DPM Scot Bertolo, DPM Animesh Bhatia, DPM Timothy Brown, DPM Jack Buchan, DPM Jack Buchan, DPM Jarauld Ferritto, DPM Roderick Fuller, DPM Scott Giamo, DPM Jane Graebner, DPM David Kaplansky, DPM Robert Mendicino, DPM Bill Munsey, DPM Carly Robbins, DPM

Eastern Academy

Michelle Anania, DPM Edward Bak, DPM John Chiaro, DPM Vincent Cibella, DPM Edward Cosentino, DPM Mitch Dalvin, DPM Larry DiDomenico, DPM Kenneth Emch, DPM Thomas Kunkel, DPM James LaPolla, DPM Joseph Lewis, DPM Gene Pusateri, DPM Mark Smesko, DPM

Mideast Academy

Edward Benedict, DPM Richard Hofacker, DPM Karen Kellogg, DPM Renne Mackey, DPM Leslie P. Niehaus, DPM Kenneth Nixon, DPM John Roseman, DPM

Midwest Academy

Bridget Brondon, DPM Marc Greenberg, DPM Gerald Perelman, DPM Lisa Nicely, DPM John Stevenson, DPM Darby Wehrley, DPM Susan Yu, DPM

North Central Academy

Chris Bohach, DPM Daniel Duffy, DPM David Hintz, DPM William Latham, DPM

Northeast Academy

Robert Bair, DPM Joseph Favazzo, DPM Vincent Hetherington, DPM Kevin Kane, DPM Debra Thornton, DPM Howard Waxman, DPM Kelly Whaley, DPM

Northwest Academy

John Clarke, DPM Thomas McCabe, DPM Corey Russell, DPM Kathryn Schramm, DPM Pamela Sheridan, DPM

Southern Academy

Brian Ash, DPM Renee Ash, DPM Ruth Ann Cooper, DPM David Zink, DPM

Additional Contributors

Daniel Leite, Lobbyist James McLean, MBA Donnalyn Moeller, DPM Luci Ridolfo, CAE Jimelle Rumberg, PhD, CAE

LEGISLATIVELY SPEAKING . . .

Ohio's got issues!

The Ohio Ballot Board finalized the language for the issues that will be on the ballot this fall. Take a quick look at the measures that will be before every Ohio voter in November:

ISSUE 1 Reforming state's redistricting process

Issue 1 aims to bring more balance to how Ohio's House and Senate districts are drawn. Included in the initiative is the creation of a bipartisan commission tasked with creating politically competitive boundaries.

ISSUE 2 Prohibiting constitutional monopolies

Spearheaded by a resolution passed by the Ohio House, Issue 2 would prohibit special interests and entities from amending the state's constitution to create monopolies, oligopolies or cartels, thus protecting Ohio's chief governing document and free-market competition.

ISSUE 3 Creating marijuana monopoly in Ohio

Groups from all across the political spectrum have already come out against Issue 3. Opposition has ranged from the legalization of marijuana to the fact it gives exclusive marijuana growing rights to a small group of investors, creating a marijuana monopoly in Ohio.

ADD YOUR NAME TODAY!

CALLING CARDS



Happy Birthday, OHFAMA!

YOU CAN BE PART OF OHFAMA HISTORY . . .

Place Your Calling Card as Member Congratulations for our OHFAMA History Book

Help convey your congratulations by placing a Calling Card Ad for our Centennial History publication (release date is June 2016). The cost is \$30 per square.

Please fill out the adjacent form and remit \$30 for each card ordered.

Select your card and OHFAMA will do the rest.

Congratulations on the Centennial of OHFAMA

Dr. Bruce G. Blank

Sample A

Best Wishes on the Centennial of OHFAMA

Alan J. Block, DPM

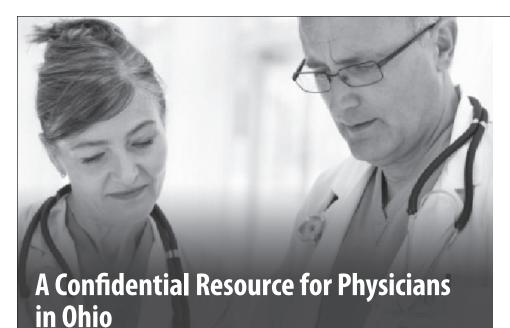
Sample B

Congratulations OHFAMA

Dr. Corey Russell

Sample C

Name to be listed on calling card					
Check Enclosed (<i>preferred</i>) Credit Card (Visa, MC, AMEX) #					
Code Expiration Date					
Address for credit card					
City	State	_ Zip			
Centennial History Publication Ad @ \$30 (2016): (Select) 🗌 Sample A; 🗌 Sample B; 🗌 Sample C					
Total \$					



The Ohio Physicians Health Program is not a licensing or disciplinary authority but is required to operate under legislative guidelines. Referrals are accepted from many sources and can also be made anonymously.

The Ohio Physicians Health Program (OPHP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that assists physicians and healthcare professionals who may be affected by substance use disorders or issues. OPHP facilitates health and wellness of healthcare professionals to enhance patient care and safety.

Services include intervention assistance, screening, referring for evaluation and treatment, and ensuring the treatment adheres to regulatory guidelines. Monitoring and recovery documentation services, education, support and advocacy are provided. OPHP assists with substance use disorders, disruptive behavior, mental health, stress, burnout, sexual boundary issues, and other health-related problems.

OPHP provides services to physicians who qualify for Ohio's "One-Bite" rule, created in 1987 by the General Assembly to carve out a one-time "one-bite" exception for residents and physicians. The rule allows them to escape the State Medical Board of Ohio intervention, excusing anyone from reporting their impairment as long as treatment is completed at a board-approved treatment provider, maintain sobriety, violate no other provisions of the Ohio Medical Practice Act, and adhere to all statutory requirements.

A doctor who is ineligible for the "One-Bite" exemption faces many challenges, including increased rates or dismissal from malpractice companies, exclusion from insurance panels, credentialing issues, Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement difficulties, and employment instability. OPHP provides support and advocacy for those involved in the monitoring program to help address their issues.

By increasing awareness of the "One-Bite" rule, OPHP aims to decrease the likelihood that regulatory involvement and/or disciplinary action is necessary. In an effort to educate the healthcare professionals in Ohio, lectures are provided on substance use disorders, opiate prescribing issues, and Ohio's "One-Bite" rule; and, educational presentations are available for hospitals, medical staffs, professional associations, academies, spousal groups, and anyone interested in learning more on this topic. The "One-Bite" rule encourages self-referrals, voluntary treatment completion, and early intervention to avoid patient care issues.

If you need more information on program services, Ohio's One-Bite rule, or to make a referral, please contact the OPHP office at (614) 841-9690. The knowledgeable staff can provide resources to assist you in finding information regarding substance use disorders, treatment options, and education. If you are interested in providing a tax deductible donation to the organization, please visit www.ophp.org for additional information.

More than 29 million

people in the United States have diabetes.1

1 in 4

people with diabetes may experience a foot ulcer at some point in their lifetime.²

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1. http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/data/statistics/2014statisticsreport.html. Accessed 5/22/15. 2. https://www.clinicalkey.com/topics /endocrinology/diabetic-foot.html. Accessed 5/22/15.

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TAKING THE NEXT STEP Baby Steps

CMS Required Training

Many of our providers are receiving letters from Medicare Advantage plans about Provider Compliance Training.

All employees who handle Medicare business must take the training.

So long as your employees have taken compliance training thru the CMS Medicare Learning Network (MLN) website, or any other CMS-approved training module, they do not have to re-take this training.

For training materials and more information on CMS employee training requirements please visit http://www.cms.gov/ and search for "MLN Provider Compliance".

You can also contact MLN directly by emailing them at: MLN@cms.hhs.gov.

CMS Will Reimburse ICD-10 Mistakes for One Year After Transition Deadline

The CMS has made a concession in the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10. For one year past the Oct. 1, 2015 deadline, the CMS will reimburse for wrongly coded claims as long as that erroneous code is in the same broad family as the right one. There had been concerns among providers that they wouldn't be paid if they made minor mistakes trying to implement the new complex coding system.

The American Medical Association, a longtime critic of the Obama administration's mandate to move from ICD-9 to ICD-10 coding for medical diagnoses and inpatient hospital procedures, has announced its teaming up with the CMS to make the transition easier for providers. Source: PM News July 08, 2015 #5,413

MyCare Plans Maximum Visits

Some MyCare insurance plans have a maximum number of visits that will be covered each year. Once this maximum amount of visits has been met, a Prior Authorization is needed on each additional visit.

Please contact the MyCare plan to check on patients' benefits.

Referred or PA?

There's been some confusion lately about the difference between a Referral and Prior Authorization. We'd like to help differentiate the two:

Referral

The directing of a patient to a medical specialist by a primary care physician. When the patient's insurance company says a referral is required this is something that must come from the Primary Care Physician. The PCP is stating the medical need for this condition to be treated by a specialist.

*Also make sure that the referral is for "consult" & "treat." Otherwise the insurance company will pay the E/M but deny the service because the referral did not include treatment.

Prior Authorization

A cost containment measure that provides full payment of health benefits only if the medical treatment has been approved in advance.

When the patient's insurance company says a prior authorization is required, this is something that must be requested from the insurance company. The provider must be pre-approved to treat the patient.



VVPMA MEMBER MEMORIAM Late West Virginia Podiatrist to be Inducted into Huntington Wall of Fame

The City of Huntington Foundation has selected five new inductees for the Greater Huntington Wall of Fame for 2015.This year's inductees are Troy F. Brown, Nancy J. Carter, Dr. H. Darrel

Darby, David A. Glick, and Richard Michael Kirtner. The late H. Darrel Darby, DPM, was born in Quinwood, West Virginia.



H. Darrel Darby, DPM

He worked as a coal miner prior to attending Anderson University Indiana, Marshall University in Huntington, and the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine.

In 1999, Dr. Darby was named one of America's Most Influential Podiatrists by Podiatry Management Magazine. In 2004, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Citation from the American Podiatric Medical Association. In 2002, The Herald-Dispatch honored Darby as its Business Innovator of the Year. Darby developed his international company DARCO International in 1987.

Source: The Herald-Dispatch [8/23/15] and PM News [August 25, 2015 #5,454]

WVPMA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jerry Hadrych, DPM WVPMA President

A Time To Reflect

First let me start off by extending our deepest sympathies to Dr. Jimelle Rumberg in the recent loss of her husband. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family in this time of sorrow.

We are fast approaching the last quarter of 2015, and IDC-10 deadlines are here. The APMA Coding Resource Center (CRC) is a great tool to help your practice transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10. This is a subscription service but well worth the cost.

Since WV switched from Region 8 to Region 4, and with the assistance of Dr. Rumberg's guidance and experience, the WVPMA has a clear vision and is on track. WVPMA has a new website http://westvirginiapma.weebly.com and a new email address westvirginiapma@gmail.com.

We would also like to extend a Mountaineer Welcome to our newest members: Phillip Slampak, DPM in New Martinsville; Jamie Hall Jasper, DPM in Logan; Brandi Craft, DPM in Huntington; Seth Craft, DPM in Huntington; John Garan, DPM in Wierton; and, one reinstatement David Franke, DPM.

Our meeting schedule for the remainder of 2015 and into 2016 is as follows: our next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015 via video conference at 7 pm; January 16, 2016 meeting will be in Charleston, WV; April meeting via video conference; June 9-11 conference with the WV Annual meeting on June 11 in Columbus, Ohio; and October 6, 2016 meeting with election of new officers. Please make note of these dates for 2016 and refer to the WVPMA Web site http://westvirginiapma.weebly.com for updates.

Thanks again to Dr. Rumberg for all of her hard work in getting WVPMA on track. We appreciate her efforts. Good luck with ICD-10.

Jerry Hadrych, DPM WVPMA President

Save The Date



2015 October 14, 2015 Video Conference at 7:00 PM

2016

January 16, 2016 Winter Meeting | Charleston, WV Holiday Inn Express Civic Center

April 21, 2016 Video Conference at 7:00 PM

June 9-11, 2016 The Annual Foot and Ankle Scientific Seminar Columbus, OH

June 9, 2016 PICA Lecture | (with Premium Renewal Discount of up to 15% for attendance)

> June 11, 2016 WV Annual Meeting

October 6, 2016 Video Conference at 7:00 PM and Election of Officers

Reference the WVPMA Web site http://westvirginiapma.weebly.com for updates. Our email address is westvirginiapma@gmail.com



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