Happy Holidays!

From your friends and colleagues at the Clark County Medical Society

A Public Health Approach to Gun Violence

In an interview with CNN, Clark County Medical Society Member Dr. Deborah Kuhls talks about strategies to decrease gun violence.

Page 14

2018: A Year in Review

With the new year just around the corner, we look at some of the events and programs the Clark County Medical Society provided for our members in 2018.

Pages 10-11

Highlights from the 2018 Midterm Election

With the election over, the Clark County Medical Society and our partners at the Nevada State Medical Association gear up for the 2019 legislative session.

Page 25
After the infamous Libby Zion case, there was a movement to limit medical resident work hours. At that time, our General Surgery program had us doing in-house call 3 days a week, and typically working upwards of 120 hours a week. Our older attending physicians thought we were soft, as they used to be in-house every other night. There was an old joke about that as well; the Resident would complain to the old surgery chairman, and he would exclaim, “Why are you complaining, you are missing half the pathology?!?” While amusing, there is a hint of truth to this statement. Clinical medical and surgical training is an apprenticeship. There is a didactic element, but most of the learning comes from hands-on experience. This is especially important with diseases that may not always present in a straightforward manner (i.e.; the acute abdomen, syphilis, etc.). It is also important if there is a specialized skill set, where proficiency is directly related to repetition such as invasive procedures or surgery. Experience presents the most difficult thing to teach young residents: judgement.

The movement to reduced work hours highlighted many aspects of our medical education system. The hospitals received money from the government for residents and interns. These trainees did the work of three full time employees, and were also generally powerless to do anything about less than adequate conditions in certain hospitals. There was a brief discussion of having the United States model look more like the system in the United Kingdom, where there the hours were the same but spread over a longer period. The government did not want to fund extra years of training, so what was adopted were various regulations about not working more than 80 hours in a week, leaving the hospital after an overnight shift, and others. Often the residents themselves did not like these rules because they may have worked a patient up, have seen them and their family multiple times, and the patient was going to the operating room, but now, because of the rules, that resident may not be able to see the disease process that they have been studying. The patients often did not like care that was more fractured, as the residents often spent more time with the patients, and were perceived as, “their doctor,” even more so than the attending. One of my most unfavorable praises to hear as a resident when I call about a patient was, “I don't really know the patient, I'm just covering”. This became more commonplace as the day shift signed out to the “Night Shift Blue, (or Red, or whatever), Team.” The rules continued to be in place, and we started to see unintended consequences.

Multiple studies have shown that these restrictions have had a detrimental effect on medical training. Resident well-being has been unchanged or only somewhat improved. Board scores have not improved -- in fact they have mostly decreased. There has been a significant decrease in educational proficiency. The impact of these rules is far reaching; it is estimated that the graduating general surgery resident is missing 1,000 cases from previous graduating trainees. This is a large amount of cases, especially when considering that most patients seen do not go to the operating room. This lack of experience is having palpable results.

Many graduating general surgeons do not feel ready to operate independently. This, after five clinical years (and usually additional research years), of training. Many surgery chairmen find the surgeons reporting for their sub-specialty fellowship do not have the necessary skills. This is such a significant problem, that some institutions are offering an experience year program -- this is not a fellowship that leads to a certificate, it is a year spent acquiring enough cases to be competent. This is an example of well-intentioned people impacting in areas outside of their area of expertise.
We can now look back on this as a failed experiment, and there are now studies going on about reintroducing hours back into the training program.

Medical and surgical training is hard. It is supposed to be. One needs to know how to function and make critical decisions even when deprived of basic necessities (sleep, food, etc.). This is not a rite of passage to enter the medical fraternity; what is needed is not just the addition of hours back, but the addition of appropriate experience. As a resident, if someone told me that I could just operate for 100 hours a week, I would be thrilled. It was all the other work that went with it that was less palatable. The tasks of rounds, evaluating patients, and reading the X-rays are important. The menial tasks of drawing blood in the middle of the night, wheeling your patient to radiology, and the redundant paperwork (now made worse by the Electronic Health Record), are those things that should be eliminated.

We need to get back to the basics of the patient and the physician. It is there, guided by their fellow residents and attendings, where the trainee garners the experience to become the doctor they set out to be. We can all remember individual patients, or instances that continue to impact our practice and ourselves to this day. It is upon us in the medical profession to make that happen for them, so that they may have the appropriate experience in the appropriate educational environment. That would be the balance that would help us all.

Jeffrey Roth, M.D.
President
Clark County Medical Society

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CCMS & NSMA

December 11
CCMS Membership Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

December 17
NSMA Medical Practice Commission Meeting
6:00 p.m. | Las Vegas & Reno

December 18
CCMS Board of Trustees Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

December 19
NSMA Public Health Commission Meeting
6:00 p.m. | Las Vegas & Reno

December 24-25
CCMS Office Closed

December 31 - January 1
CCMS Office Closed - New Year’s

January 2
Student & Resident Outreach Committee Meeting
5:30 p.m. | CCMS Office

January 3
CCMS Nominating Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

January 7
CCMS Bylaws Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

January 8
CCMS Membership Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

January 9
Community Health & Public Relations Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. | CCMS Office

January 10
NSMA Government Affairs Commission Meeting
6:00 p.m. | Las Vegas & Reno

For a full list of upcoming CCMS Events and committee meetings, go to www.clarkcountymedical.org/calendar
Happy Holidays from the team here at the Clark County Medical Society! Tis the season to celebrate and be joyful for the blessings in our lives and our organization. There is much to celebrate here at CCMS, including advancements in technology, our strong leadership and Board of Trustees, our partners, and of course you, our members.

Without you, there would be no Clark County Medical Society. As you celebrate this holiday season, we hope you will take time for yourself and your loved ones. Physician burnout is not just an industry ‘buzzword’, but is an unfortunate fact and byproduct of our current health care industry. Physician’s wellness is an important topic that CCMS is committed continuing to address as we work to make Southern Nevada the best place to practice medicine. During this time of year, it is easy to get caught in the hustle bustle of parties, shopping, and the pressure of finding the right gift on top of already demanding careers, so please invest in yourself and take time to do something that is meaningful to you. CCMS is here to help support you, your practice, and your patients.

Need ideas to help show gratitude to your teams? Here are several ideas to celebrate hard work and relieve the stress over the holidays:

- Have lunch catered from a special restaurant or host a themed potluck
- Take your team out to dinner
- Close your office early and give your team a two-hour head starts on celebrating or shopping
- Pick a day and give back to our community by volunteering as a team for a local charity
- Implement a gag gift exchange to add some laughs around the office or a white elephant gift exchange
- Coordinate a Secret Santa’s or Secret Snowflakes gift program
- Write a personal holiday greeting to each team member and wish them a happy holiday in face to face. A genuine showing of gratitude goes a long way.

And, now that we just added to your never-ending to-do list and should-do list, here are six ways to help you avoid some of the stress from holidays past, and create more space for truly savoring the reason for the season:

1. Schedule Regular 'Breath-Stops' ... find a few minutes each day to breathe
2. Don’t “Should” On Yourself. ... you can only do what you can do
3. Create New Traditions. ... find the joy and make it happen
4. Think Outside the (Gift) Box. ... how about making charitable gifts in honor of those who have everything
5. Express More Gratitude. ... write a personal letter to family members, valued team members. These notes will become treasured.
6. Turn off your phone when not on call and enjoy the moment.
7. Lighten Up & Have Some Fun!

From all of us here at The Clark County Medical Society, we wish you joy, peace and season greetings.

Alexandra P. Silver
Executive Director

Alexandra P. Silver is the Executive Director of the Clark County Medical Society and can be reached at Alexandra.Silver@clarkcountymedical.org or 702-739-9989 ext. 101

LET’S GET SOCIAL
Don’t forget to follow Clark County Medical Society and let us know when your practice has news!
A synopsis of the November 20th Board of Trustees Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Roth at 6:13 pm.

**Action Items:**

**Minutes: by Dr. Roth**
The Minutes from the October 16, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve the October 16, 2018 minutes (M/S approved: Reeves/Baron)

**Financial Report: by Dr. Kuhls (submitted written report after meeting, provided Verbal Report with notification of written report to follow.)**

**Verbal Report:**
- Income for this month $17,195, which includes approximately $1,371 from last month due that was deposited after the October BOT meeting.
- We are waiting for some dues from active members to come to CCMS, we do not have the exact amount but are expecting it to be on-target with the invoices sent out last month.
- Total expenses are $31,778, which is slightly higher than last month due to a combination of expenses.
- On page 3 we have profit/loss previous year comparison, note that on the income side we have a relative shortfall compared to last month, the majority of that being dues from active members.
- This is likely because we were slightly delayed to sending out bills during the transition to a new membership system.
- The net ordinary income is different by about the same amount.
- The new accountant has verified that the balance sheet is correct, current assets $238,443.87.
- On page 7 there is a final accounting of the Resident Job Fair, with a net income of $3,300, with in-kind of approximately $1,900.
- On pages 8 & 9, you'll find reports on where we are this month compared with last year.
- Last year, the bills went out in September instead of October, but the first month collections look to be in line with last year's first month.
- NSMA expects CCMS to have somewhere in the range of $22,000 in collections for Nov 1 – 15, with the second half of the month sent in the beginning of December.

**Written Report:**
Profit & Loss Highlights (Pages 1-2)

Income Highlights (Round numbers)
- 1600 Building fund income is not changed since last month on the report but $1500 will appear on the October report (Past presidents stone).
- 3310 Dues from active members - $3737.36. Dues expected next month.
- 3335 Newsletter advertising -$5010.
- 3345 Rental income - $1450.

Expense Highlights (Round numbers)
- 4000 Operating expenses – $15,132

Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison (Pages 3 and 4)
- 3310 Dues Active members - $34,482 less than last years dues YTD. Dues notices delayed due to systems conversion

Monies in the bank as of October 31, 2018 are $235,941.37

Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual July through October 2018 (Page 9)
- 3365 – Pictorial directory ad sales is $3450 YTD compared with $20,000 budget, so $16,550 shortfall
- 3310 – Dues from active members is $5297 YTD compared with $42,960 budget, so $37,662 shortfall
- Total Income - $54,803 behind budget, largely due to delay in sending dues.
- Total Expenses are $37,376 lower than budget
- Net Income – Actual YTD net income is -$84,133, compared with -$66,706 in the budget

Motion to approve the November Financial Report (M/S approved: Reeves/Hani)

Applicants to go before the BOT: (no applicants/report submitted)

**Medical School reports:**

TUNCOM: by Dr. Meeks
- Touro is delighted to announce the new dean Dr. Wolfgang Gilliar, Dr. Gilliar is the immediate past dean of the NY Institute of Technology college of osteopathic medicine, one of the largest in the country with over 300 students. He will begin his term on January 1st. He is an internationally recognized educator and academic physicist, he is double boarded in physical medicine and rehab, and neuromusculoskeletal osteopathic manipulative medicine. He received his Bachelors of Science in biochemistry and honors physics from University of Arizona, and his osteopathic degree from the Michigan State College of Osteopathic Medicine.

After his residency in PMNR at the national rehab hospital in Washington, he directed the traumatic brain injury unit at Tufts Medical School in Boston. He later became clinical faculty at Stanford where he received two teaching awards. He's written over 20 books or book chapters, and many...
The Southern Nevada Health District is encouraging everyone to take a prediabetes test (available on the www.DoIHavePrediabetes.org website), speak with a health care provider about their risks of developing disease, and to take steps to reverse prediabetes. The Health District and its community partners offer education, self-management classes, and support for people with diabetes.
and their families as well as programs that can help people lower their risk of developing type 2 diabetes. In the United States, approximately 84 million people have prediabetes, and nine out of 10 of them do not know it.

The Health District’s Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion offers a free, online diabetes prevention program called the Road to Diabetes Prevention developed specifically for people with prediabetes or who are at risk for diabetes. The six-session course is available in English and Spanish. It teaches participants about risk factors and how to make simple lifestyle changes. Participants can sign up for the Road to Diabetes Prevention program on the Get Healthy Clark County or the Viva Saludable’s Programa de Prevención de Diabetes en línea webpages. Additional diabetes self-management tips and resources are also available on these sites, including the Nevada Diabetes Resource Directory and a Diabetes Workshop Registration Form.

November 15 – Great American Smokeout – The Great American Smokeout has provided an opportunity for smokers to commit to leading healthier lives for more than 40 years, and the Southern Nevada Health District has cessation resources, tools, and information to support them in their journey. The Great American Smokeout provides smokers with an opportunity to kick the habit for at least one day with the hope that it could lead to a permanent change. The Health District encouraged tobacco users to take up the one-day challenge that can lead to a long-term plan to quit for good. The Health District promoted its GetHealthyClarkCounty.org website, along with its cessation resources, information about tobacco products, smoke-free living, and smoke-free meeting spaces.

Nationally, cigarette smoking rates have declined significantly since 1965 when it was 42 percent to less than 14 percent in 2017, according to the CDC. In Clark County, 15.6 percent of adults smoke cigarettes. The CDC estimates that if the smoking rate among youth continues, approximately 5.6 million Americans under the age of 18 today will die early from a smoking-related illness. Use of alternative tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, continues to increase among young people with an estimated 13 percent of Clark County high school students reporting that they used e-cigarettes in a 30-day period in 2017. According to the CDC, scientists are still learning about the long-term health effects of e-cigarettes. The e-cigarette aerosol that users breathe from the device and exhale can contain harmful substances.

State residents can contact the Nevada Tobacco Quitline 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) from a Nevada area code to access a free, phone-based service for anyone age 13 or older. Callers will speak with a ‘coach’ who can offer quitting assistance in any language. The Quitline is available Monday – Sunday, 4 a.m. – 10 p.m. (PT). Through the Quitline program, people may be eligible to receive a free supply of nicotine replacement patches, gum, or lozenges. Coaches will determine eligibility to receive the free therapy. In addition, Quitline coaches can provide information about dealing with stress and fighting cravings, as well as coping with weight gain and other issues that occur when people attempt to quit smoking.

CCMS Alliance: by E. Hansen (written report submitted)
- November Luncheon at Royal India Bistro was a success.
- Holiday Scholarship project is ending and will transition for the annual Spring Fashion Show.
- Save the date for Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the Four Seasons.
- December Luncheon will be at Carmines at the Forum Shops on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 11:30 am.
- We will be collecting the following items at the December Luncheon: Toiletries, school supplies for college students, sensory toys for kids and adults, small hand-held flash lights and monetary donations of $5, $10, $20. These items will be donated for a Holiday Cheer to Sunshine Nevada, UNLV Project Focus, and New Vista.
- Our Team Alliance partnered with Dr. Troy Watson and Sam’s Cub for SoleHealers event to help size and hand out donated socks and shoes to homeless people at Zappos campus last Friday.
- The Alliance will be attending the HEALS Holiday Party next week and will be doing a raffle to benefit the Holiday Scholarship Project.
- We have started collecting items for our Spring Fashion Show Silent Auction.

AMA: by Dr. Jameson (written report submitted, with verbal additions during meeting)

Verbal Report:
- The AMA has passed a new anti-harassment policy by emergency resolution in response to incidents of sexual harassment.
- Dr. Jameson will take a look at any existing CCMS anti-harassment policies to ensure that they are in line with the AMA policy.
- AMA started a new program re-imagining medical education for medical school students, and now have 32 schools involved in working on innovative ideas for medical schools.
- They have now started new program re-imagining residency initiatives to enhance the readiness for going into practice by establishing new curriculum and experiences, and to improve the well being of residents going into practice.
- The AMA has set aside $15 million in grants for medical schools and residency programs to develop innovative projects to improve residency experiences, and is collecting proposals for organizations that seek to collaborate on such initiatives. They are looking to fund at least 8 projects.
- On January 3, they will post requests for proposals. On January 16, there will be an informational webinar to learn more about the new GME. Proposals will be due February 1.
- CCMS Staff will send out information to the BOT regarding this program.
Written Report:
From November 9th-13th I attended the AMA Interim meeting as a Nevada delegate. I was a part of Reference Committee J “Medical Services and Reference Committee K “Science and Public Health”. During this time the following topics were discussed: Aligning Clinical and Financial Incentives for High-Value Care, Increasing Patient Access To Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Creating—and sustaining—Patient-Centered Medical Home Practices, and Hospital Closures and Physician Credentialing.

Aligning Clinical and Financial Incentives for High-Value Care (Joint report between Reference Committee J and K).
On Tuesday November 13th this joint report was presented and the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) adopted the report's recommendations on how to align the clinical and financial incentives for high-value care and use a Value Based Insurance Design (VBID) a partial solution at is consistent with current longstanding AMA Policy. The AMA also adopted the following policies to promote affordable access to high-value care.
- Support VBID plans designed with “clinical nuance,” recognizing that medical services may differ in the amount of health produced, and that the clinical benefit derived from a specific service depends on the person receiving it—as well as when, where, and by whom the service is provided.
- Support initiatives that align provider-facing financial incentives created through payment reform and patient-facing financial incentives created through benefit-design reform, to ensure that patient, provider, and payer incentives all promote the same quality care. Such initiatives may include reducing patient cost-sharing for the items and services that are tied to provider quality metrics.
- Support requiring private health plans to provide coverage for evidence-based preventive services without imposing cost-sharing on patients.
- Support implementing innovative VBID programs in Medicare Advantage plans.
- Support legislative and regulatory flexibility to accommodate VBID that preserves coverage without patient cost-sharing for evidence-based preventive services and allows innovations that expand access to affordable care, including changes needed to allow high-deductible health plans paired with health savings accounts to provide pre-deductible coverage for preventive and chronic care management services.
- Encourage national medical specialty societies to identify services that they consider to be high-value and collaborate with payers to experiment with benefit plan designs that align patient financial incentives with utilization of high-value services.
- Delegates directed the AMA to develop:
  - Educational tools that prepare physicians for conversations with their patients about the scope of preventive services provided without cost-sharing and instances where and when preventive services may result in financial obligations for the patients.

Increasing Patient Access To Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (Resolution 902, presented by Reference Committee K).
- On Tuesday November 13th Reference Committee K presented this resolution because most sexual assault victims go to the emergency room and since ER physicians see 3 patients an hour it is almost impossible to conduct a two-hour Medical Forensic Examination (MFE) on a sexual assault victim. Involvement of sexual assault nurse examiners—registered nurses who have completed specialized education and clinical preparation to perform MFEs—and other trained and qualified clinicians, is associated with higher rates of psychological recovery for survivors and offender prosecution due to better collection of forensic evidence.
- Although several programs for access to a medical forensic examination exist around the country, many communities, especially rural locations, may not have access to these services. To improve access for patients, delegates adopted new policy to “advocate for increased post-pubertal patient access to sexual assault nurse examiners, and other trained and qualified clinicians, in the emergency department for medical forensic examinations.”

Creating—and sustaining—Patient-Centered Medical Home Practices (Council on Medical Services Report 3, presented by Reference Committee J)
On Wednesday November 14th the Council on Medical Services presented Report 3 which focuses on primary care and the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) are “bedrocks of high-quality patient-centered care. Costs of PCMH are significant and increasing access as well as improving care will also be costly.

To help alleviate the costs the delegates proposed the following policies:
- Urge the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to assist physician practices seeking to qualify for and sustain medical home status with financial and other resources.
- Advocate that all payers support and assist PCMH transformation and maintenance efforts recognizing that payer support is crucial to the long-term sustainability of delivery reform.
- Encourage health agencies, health systems, and other stakeholders to support and assist patient-centered medical home transformation and maintenance efforts.

These recommendations were adopted by the HOD.

NSBME: No report submitted
- Dr. Havins noted that there is a Board Meeting on November 30, 2018.
• There will be disciplinary cases coming before the board regarding violations of AB 474, which will be public record after the meeting.
• Cat noted that the NSBME has drastically rewritten their regulation on discipline for the opioid law, which NSMA supported at the work session last month and it will go for full hearing in December. This regulation stipulated that only CME would be mandated for violations, but the NSBME could add additional consequences.
• Under the new regulation, the NSBME can take into consideration the degree to which physicians make a “good faith” attempt to comply with the law.
• This is still pending.
• Dr. Roth thanked the members of the CCMS & NSMA who helped affect this legislation.

NSBOM: No report Submitted

Committee reports:

CHPR & Sub-Committees: by Drs. Hunt and Reeves (written report submitted)

CME: Physician Burnout Debrief
• 29 event attendees (27 Member, 2 Non-Member)
• 47 total registrations online
• Net income: $3,336.18
• AMA Resource Flyer included in BOT Packet

Physician Education Needs Assessment
• The CHPR Committee is in the process of creating a survey to gauge interest in a variety of potential CME and lecture topics for 2019.
• Potential CME Topics for next year presented by the members of the BOT include: Opioid CME, Malpractice/Risk Mitigation, Suicide CME (potentially as a dual CME & CLE), Business of Medicine, educational topics targeting Residents & Students, Strategies to Beat Administrative Burden, State & Federal Healthcare Legislation Update, Infectious Disease Update, Health Care for All/One-Payer System, and ways for loan repayment for students.
• Dr. Baron noted that CCMS is already providing quality education on transitioning to practice for medical residents during the Resident Job Fair.
• The BOT proposed programs for both transitioning medical students into residency, and residents into practice.
• Dr. Kuhls noted that they currently do a Graduating Student Seminar; perhaps CCMS could help identify topics that would benefit that program.

CCMS Website
• Traffic to the CCMS Website is steadily increasing over the past few months, now averaging 1,200 – 1,500 unique visitors a month, and approximately 2,000 page views per month. This is expected to slowly increase as we gain more media placements and push more content to the website.
• Information and resources gathered during the Burnout CME planning are being combined into a new “Physician Wellness” resource page on the CCMS website, including presentations, relevant articles, and links to outside physician resources such as the AMA.
• Key Google Search terms driving traffic to the website are “clark county medical society”, “ccms”, “stop the bleed las vegas”, and “ab 474”.
• Josh has added a chat integration to the homepage of the website to help answer visitor’s questions

County Line Distribution to Hospitals
• The CHPR Committee is looking into delivering extra copies of the County Line Magazine into local doctor’s lounges in order to spread news of what CCMS is doing, and hopefully drive membership. The added cost would be approximately $250/month for 100 additional copies, and approximately $1,500/month for an additional 1000 copies. We would also need to develop a system for distributing them to these areas, and decide what our metrics for success would be (i.e. surveying, increased referrals, increased web traffic).
• There are discounted spaces available for Holiday Greetings.

Medical Student & Resident Sub-Committee: by Dr. Wint and Claire Chen – Chair of MSRC (report submitted)

MSAR 11/07/18 meeting cancelled due to staffing constraints
• Awaiting details on Touro/UNLV mixer venue; tentatively Parkway Tavern (Flamingo)
• Awaiting completion of paperwork to host CCMS subcommittee student initiatives talk at Touro
• Mentorship program updates to come in future months
• Students and residents have enjoyed attending the Meet the Candidates Night, Volunteers in Medicine Gala, Physician Burnout CME and many more!

MedPAC: No Report Submitted

Past Presidents Council: No Report Submitted

Building: No Report Submitted

Delegates and Membership: by Dr. Reeves (Report Submitted)

Delegates
• Dr. Reeves encourages the BOT to participate as delegates at the NSMA Annual Meeting.
• The NSMA Medical Practice Commission needs more Southern members.

Membership
• CCMS CURRENT MEMBERS PER LAST REVIEW: Total: 1539,
  Members 759, Part-time Members 15, PA’s 6, Residents 45, Students 600
• CCMS database has been scrubbed, with a final version to be sent to NSMA Database going to weblink for new upload.
• Renewals will be communicated to committee by CCMS staff.
• References are no longer required per Membership Committee vote in alignment with WCMS current

Membership
procedures.
- CCMS staff to research medical boards and generalized research of prospective member. Information will be included in packet to committee for their consideration. New member application to include language similar to credentialing applications to encourage disclosure of transparency of licensing indiscretions. If applicant does not disclose information during the application process, it is being considered that CCMS assess a $50 administrative processing fee.

2018-2019 Membership goals
- Attaining membership - consider surveying membership of their needs.
- New member to receive “Welcome Packet” that includes letter from President and Executive Director, CCMS Pin, Directory, and MBA list.
- Committee asked Prospects to be emailed to CCMS, Membership and Engagement Coordinator to assist with pipeline management.
- CCMS Staff are establishing an SOP and identifying a point of contact within prospective new groups to assist with gathering physician/PA Data. Group pricing may be considered if agreed upon.
- New Corporate Partners include: Legalshield, Nevada Ballet, Schooley Mitchell and Tickets at Work. The Committee would like the BOT Members to consider other services that could be beneficial to the membership.
- The Membership Committee is looking at ways to engage graduating medical students and keep them as members as they transition into residency.
- The Membership Committee will look into including membership collaterals in credentialing packets, and to write to new licensees quarterly based on information from the State Boards.

NSMA: by C. O'Mara (written report submitted with verbal notes)

Verbal Report:
- Day at the Legislature is Feb 25, members can RSVP online.
- Members who are interested in the planning of the Legislative Stop the Bleed can contact Cat to be included in the process.
- Cat has been put on a task force to figure out potential physician responses to gun violence, which may include mandated CME on firearms or proposals on how gun violence can be addressed by physicians, as well as a general EHR task force. Any members who are interested in participating or providing input are encouraged to participate in the Medical Practice Commission.
- The NSMA Government Affairs Commission is creating a member survey on prior authorization to collect data and patient impact anecdotes from a physician’s perspective.
- Through the Nevada Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. Kuhls has received a grant to conduct a Stop the Bleed event at legislature.
- Cat will set up a call for any members who are interested in gun violence issues to give their input.

Written Report:
- The second round of membership invoicing has gone out and we are steadily receiving payments for renewals. Our LTP chairs continue to work with WCMS and CCMS on group memberships.
- AMA delegation attended the Interim House of Delegates last week. We continue to grow our presence at the AMA. Student member, Neha Agrawal was elected as a delegate to the national student section and resident Helene Nepomuceno was elected as a delegate to the Resident Fellow Section. This allows them to be credentialed as delegates and to sit with our Nevada delegation. Congratulations to Neha and Helene!

Legislature
- Monday February 25, 2019, Nevada Physician’s Day at the Legislature - Please plan to join us in Carson City. We will be starting to ask for RSVPs this month.
- We are working towards a Stop the Bleed event at the Nevada legislature, hopefully in collaboration with the Nevada chapter of the ACS. If you are interested in participating in that please let Cat know - we are forming a planning committee.
- In an effort to connect Las Vegas physicians in with the legislature, Cat and Richard Perkins could come to Las Vegas during the session to give an in-person update/Town Hall. We wouldn't be able to plan the logistics but please let us know if that is something CCMS would like to have.

2018-2019 meetings have been scheduled. See attached, please let us know if you would like to participate in any commissions. The legislative core group begins meeting on Monday evenings in February.

Other key days:
- Saturday January 26, 2019 - WCMS installation of Dr. Reed Dopf, Reno, NV
- September 14-16, 2019 NSMA Annual House of Delegates, Reno, NV

President’s Report: by Dr. Roth
- Dr. Roth had the privilege of meeting with Dean Penn for lunch to see what needs Roseman University has that CCMS could help with.
HealtHIE Nevada is a private, nonprofit, community-based organization dedicated to connecting providers across our state. We believe sharing medical information instantly, safely and accurately improves the quality of care.

**HealtHIE Nevada can:**
- Improve coordination of care
- Reduce hospital readmissions
- Enhance patient outcomes
- Increase patient satisfaction
- Decrease duplicate testing and procedures

**FIND OUT MORE:** Learn about how HealtHIE Nevada can help reduce your organization’s operational costs by calling **855-4-THE-HIE (855-484-3443)** or emailing **hie@healthinsight.org**.
It’s been an eventful year at the Clark County Medical Society! We’ve added two new members to the team (soon to be three), upgraded our County Line Magazine and CCMS website, and hosted a series of great events and programs for our members and the community as a whole. Before we hit the ground running in 2019, let’s look back on some of the incredible things your medical society has been up to:

**Internship Programs**

2018 saw the largest number of participants for each of the Clark County Medical Society’s internship programs! These initiatives help educate members of the community on the realities of practicing medicine in Southern Nevada, and give your patients insight into the day-to-day life of a medical practitioner. The Adult MiniMED Internship program focused on engaging community stakeholders and business leaders in learning more about the practice of medicine in Las Vegas, while the Youth MiniMED Internship gave over 70 local high school students a chance to further their interest in a career in medicine by shadowing CCMS physicians. To get involved in these great programs join the Community Health & Public Relations Committee – learn more by calling us at (702) 739-9989 ext. 105, or emailing us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

**Continuing Medical Education**

At CCMS, it’s incredibly important that we help our physician members with access to quality CME programming on relevant topics, and none could have been more relevant than this year’s offerings. In January, our Suicide Prevention CME presented by Dr. Lesley Dickson drew over 90 attendees to gain the now mandatory credits. With more and more physicians facing the new regulations presented by AB 474 in the beginning of 2018, CCMS hosted a free CME on complying with the new law with the help of Dr. Don Havins and Dr. Joe Hardy. Rounding out the year, our Community Health & Public Relations Committee planned and executed a 2-hour ethics CME on dealing with the rising issue of Physician Burnout, prompting a whole new CCMS initiative to develop Physician Wellness resources for our members. To get involved in these great programs join the Community Health & Public Relations Committee – learn more by calling us at (702) 739-9989 ext. 105, or emailing us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

**Town Halls**

The Clark County Medical Society is always at the forefront of issues facing our physician members, and thanks to the hard work of our Government Affairs Committee we were able to get feedback and learn about the concerns of our members at an incredibly informative town hall on what was then the new opioid law, AB 474. Through the questions and participation of our members and many other local physicians, the Clark County Medical Society and our partners at the Nevada State Medical Association were able to directly address some of the concerns with the bill with our local and state government. In addition, we had the pleasure of partnering with the Las Vegas Medical District entitled “Meet the New Face of Health Care”, which highlighted the bright future of medicine in Southern Nevada by taking a look at our growing medical education programs. To get involved in these great programs join the Government Affairs Committee – learn more by calling us at (702) 739-9989 ext. 105, or emailing us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

**Legislative Advocacy**

Thanks to our dual membership with the Nevada State Medical Association, CCMS members had advocates working at all levels of government in order to help address legislative issues that can affect their practices and their patients. Successes included:

* Secured Governor’s veto of an insurance bill banning balance billing and capping fees for out of network health care services to the insurer’s economic advantage.
* Negotiated with the Governor’s office to ensure new opioid legislation preserves clinical judgment and avoids draconian prescribing caps found in other states.
* Improved a collaborative pharmacy bill ensuring that physician’s oversight and clinical judgment directs the patient care and clarifying in Nevada law that pharmacists do not diagnose.
* Secured provision to reduce the time a pharmacist has to notify an ordering physician of the substitution of any
interchangeable biosimilar drug to three (3) days.

• Negotiated a common-sense revision to a proposed partnership bill allowing physicians and psychologists to form partnerships and still protects the tenets of Nevada’s implied prohibition of the corporate practice of medicine.

• Defeated a measure criminalizing and prohibiting a physician from performing a procedure deemed to reassign the anatomical sex of a patient, including relocating the urethral meatus, unless the child assented to the procedure.

• Successfully removed physicians from a bill assessing a “provider tax” on all physicians to leverage monies for Medicaid funding.

And many more. We are looking forward to working with our partners at the state association to ensure physician voices are heard during this year’s legislative session, and we encourage any physicians who would like to get involved to join the Government Affairs Committee and attend the Physician’s Day at the Legislature on February 25th in Carson City. To get involved in these great programs join the Government Affairs Committee – learn more by calling us at (702) 739-9989, or emailing us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

Student & Resident Outreach

Student & Resident Outreach has been a CCMS programming priority this past year, as we aim to not only train the next generation of medicine at our fantastic medical schools, but to keep them here throughout residency and fellowship. This year we were proud to add a medical student position and medical resident position to our Board of Trustees with full voting rights, so that we can further engage and support the next generation of Southern Nevada physicians. Thanks to the hard work of our Medical Student & Resident Outreach Committee, we are looking forward to adding a medical student mentorship program as well as medical student mixers sponsored by Southwest Medical Associates, so that students of all schools can begin their professional relationships and develop roots here in Las Vegas.

In addition, our annual Resident Job Fair was a smashing success, with featured presentations on contracts and licensure, interviewing for your first job as a doctor, and managing your finances as you move into practice medicine. The event concluded with a Job Fair where local medical residents were able to meet some of the great medical employers here in the valley in order to make sure our next generation of doctors practices here and serves our community. To get involved in these great programs join the Community Health & Public Relations Committee – learn more by calling us at (702) 739-9989, or emailing us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

Community Involvement

October 1 2017 affected the lives of thousands of people not only living in Las Vegas, but who were visiting from around the world. In remembrance of that tragedy, the Clark County Medical Society hosted two Stop the Bleed trainings in order to empower our citizens to help in life-threatening situations. The first course focused on training the general public with basic bleeding control techniques, while the second course offered the opportunity for medical professionals to become eligible to teach Stop the Bleed courses, increasing the number of people in the valley exponentially who can save lives in a crisis until help arrives.

In addition to involvement with the patients in our community, 2018 saw the introduction of the first CCMS President’s Roundtable – a biannual meeting of the leaders of medical specialty societies to foster communication and collaboration among medical professionals in Southern Nevada. To make sure your specialty organization is represented in the next President’s Roundtable, contact us at (702) 739-9989 or email us at alexandra.silver@clarkcountymedical.org.

Looking Ahead

All in all, it’s been a great year at the Clark County Medical Society, but we can’t wait to do even more for our members in 2019. As we work on a new and improved database, increased communication and feedback from our membership, and new and exciting programs and benefits for our members.

We’ll enjoy a bit of time off over the holidays, but are looking forward to getting back at it in 2019 -- thank you for a great year!
Happy Holidays!

From the Board of Trustees of the Clark County Medical Society and our CCMS Staff, we wish you a fantastic holiday season with your friends and family and look forward to seeing you in 2019!

We believe no one should end the journey of life alone, afraid or in pain.

www.nah.org
702.733.0320

LegalShield
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You deserve affordable legal and identity theft protection. Unexpected legal questions and identity theft issues arise every day, and with LegalShield on your side, you will have access to experienced law firms and attorneys as well as licensed investigators skilled in identity theft monitoring and restoration. No matter how traumatic or trivial the issue, you'll have the power to get legal and identity theft advice and services when you need them, all so you can worry less and live more.

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Independent Associate
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lloydringgold@legalshieldassociate.com
Dr. Roth also met with Provost Shelley Berkley to discuss challenges Touro is facing going forward, particularly with the legislature coming up.

Dr. Roth also spoke with Dr. Meeks about the Nevada Osteopathic Association about some potential collaborative opportunities.

A President’s Roundtable was held on November 7, which included presidents of other specialty and sub-specialty societies to address issues facing physicians. Some global issues included KODIN, Medicaid Reimbursement, and balanced billing. The next roundtable will be in 6 months to assess progress.

Dr. Roth and Alexandra continue to meet 1:1 with Dr. Burkhead to discuss the operations of CCMS.

Executive Director: by A. Silver (report submitted with verbal additions)

Verbal Report
CCMS continues to seek out potential corporate partners for added value to members.

Written Report:

Staffing Update
• Janice is no longer with CCMS, effective 11.1.18.
• Job posting has been posted and shared with partners and collaborators and interview process is underway to hire a replacement to start ASAP.
• New office protocol is being adopted to ensure proper controls and policies/procedures are being followed with current staff/new staff moving forward.
• Please bear with staff as we transition to a new era at CCMS. We appreciate your understanding, patience and support.

Upcoming CCMS Holiday Closings
• Thursday, November 22-Friday, November 23
• Monday, December 24-Friday, December 28
• CCMS team is heading to Reno for 1 staff meeting for Membership/Marketing on December 4th for 1 day mini-staff meeting with NSMA/Washoe.

Update Member Benefits
Association Health Plan – CCMS is working on offering Plan rolling out on a plan for CCMS Members starting January 1. Stay tuned for more details.

Installation Dinner
• Seeking Sponsors – please respond to Alex’s inquiry to follow.
• Conducting venue search.

Spread the News
If you are not following us and engaging with CCMS you should be. We are on Facebook, twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. Please take 2 minutes and follow CCMS on all social media outlets. Please follow us personally and have your practices do the same.

New Business:
• Maran and Dr. Hunt are in the process of restarting the Speaker’s Bureau, if any CCMS Members would like to be involved in that process they are encouraged to reach out directly.
• Physician’s Day at the Legislature is February 25, members who are interested should reach out to Dr. Baron or Alexandra directly.
• The WCMS Installation Dinner is January 26, with several BOT members attending.

Future Executive Council Meeting – December 18, 2018 6 p.m.,
Adjournment: 8:21 pm

Advertise in the County Line!

The Clark County Medical Society’s County Line Magazine is the best way to reach our membership here in Las Vegas.

Want to get your brand, event, or services in front of Clark County doctors, physician’s assistants, or practice managers? Contact us today!

For rates and size specifications, contact us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org

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CCMS Member Dr. Deborah Kuhls calls for public health approach to gun violence in CNN interview

By Josh MacEachern, Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Clark County Medical Society

In an interview with CNN on November 20, Dr. Deborah Kuhls called for a public health approach to the issue of gun violence in the United States.

“We've made great progress in decreasing the number of people who die from motor vehicle crashes,” Dr. Kuhls said. “We can use the same public health approach to address firearm injuries and deaths.”

Dr. Kuhls, a professor of trauma and critical care in the UNLV School of Medicine as well as the medical director of the University Medical Center's Trauma Intensive Care Unit was on duty the night of October 1, 2018 when Las Vegas had the deadliest mass shooting in modern American History. During her interview with CNN, Dr. Kuhls expressed how she avoids getting frustrated with the rising number of mass shootings and gunshot victims.

“I am really activated,” Dr. Kuhls said. “I don't feel like I need to throw up my hands. I’m very active in the American College of Surgeons, and we have been trying to address this issue for many years but particularly the last 4 years.”

Many physicians across the country have taken to social media in light of a comment from the National Rifle Association that they should “stay in their lane” when it comes to gun violence, prompting an online movement of surgeons posting pictures of their bloodied operating rooms with the hashtag #ThisIsOurLane.

“This is a public health crisis,” Dr. Kuhls said. “30,000 Americans die every year -- children, adults, the elderly. We expect firearm deaths to exceed motor vehicle deaths.”

As part of their work to address this important issue, Dr. Kuhls and her colleagues help run Stop the Bleed training seminars, a program with the goal of training every American in basic bleeding control techniques while also working to place bleeding control kits in public venues.

For more information about Stop the Bleed programs or trainings in Southern Nevada, contact the Clark County Medical Society at info@clarkcountymedical.org or at (702) 739-9989.

Dr. Deborah Kuhls on CNN 11/20/18

Dr. Jeffrey Roth teaching a Stop the Bleed Course for the community and medical students from Touro University Nevada & UNLV School of Medicine

CCMS News Right to Your Inbox
Are you signed up for the CCMS Email Newsletter? Get weekly roundups of health care news, CCMS events, and special membership offers by contacting us at communications@clarkcountymedical.org
HEALTH DISTRICT UPDATE
Promoting Safe Sleep Practices

Joseph P. Iser, M.D., DrPH, MSc | Chief Health Officer, SNHD
Member since 2013

By early November of this year, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department had investigated the sleep-related deaths of 23 infants in Clark County. Five of these deaths occurred in the month of October, and most of these tragedies involved co-sleeping with a parent.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports there are approximately 3,500 sleep-related deaths among infants in the United States each year. While this number has declined dramatically from the 1990s when recommendations to place babies on their back to sleep were introduced, many women still follow unsafe sleep practices. According to the CDC, 22 percent of mothers reported not placing their baby on his or her back to sleep, 39 percent of mothers reported using soft bedding when placing babies to sleep, and 61 percent reported sharing their bed at some time with their infant.

Safe sleep awareness is a priority for the Southern Nevada Health District and its Maternal-Child Health programs. It has ongoing partnerships with community organizations, along with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health and Washoe County Health District to educate parents and caregivers on safe sleep practices that are proven to reduce infant deaths. Forty-five percent of caregivers report they did not receive the correct advice on safe sleep practices. Health care providers can do their part by keeping up-to-date on the latest recommendations provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and by advising caregivers about the recommendations. Health care practitioners can ask their patients about how they place their babies to sleep, any challenges they may have following the recommendations, and work with them to find solutions.

There are tips to share with parents and caregivers to help ensure babies sleep safely:

- Infants up to 1 year of age should be placed on their backs to sleep (naps and nighttime).
- Use a firm sleep surface, such as an approved crib or bassinet, with a tight-fitting sheet.
- Keep soft bedding, blankets, pillows, bumper pads, and soft toys out of the baby’s sleep area. Room share, but do not bed share with babies. Room-sharing decreases the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) by as much as 50 percent.
- Do not smoke during pregnancy, and do not smoke or allow smoking around your baby.
- Do not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs during pregnancy.
- Breastfeed your baby. Babies who are breastfed have a lower risk of SIDS.
- Do not cover your baby’s head or allow your baby to get too hot.
- Offer your baby a pacifier at nap time and bedtime. Wait until breastfeeding is going well before offering a pacifier.
- Do not use commercial devices, including monitors, wedges, or positioners that are marketed to reduce the risk of SIDS.
- Visit your baby’s doctor for regular checkups. Your child will receive important immunizations to help prevent disease.
- Do supervised tummy time with your baby to facilitate healthy development.

The exact cause of SIDS isn’t known. However, research demonstrates the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related infant deaths can be reduced when parents and caregivers implement safer sleep and health-related practices.

Approaching this topic with parents can be sensitive. It is recommended that health care providers have an open and nonjudgmental conversation with families about their sleep practices. Many parents have deeply personal ideas about the best way to sleep with their child, and it is important to share the information and risks involved without scaring them or driving them away.

Suicide Prevention

Friday, February 15, 2019 at Paris Hotel in Las Vegas

1:30—2:30 PM: “Is Suicide Preventable? Lessons From Robin Williams’ Death” by J. Michael Bostwick, MD

2:30—3:30 PM: “Essentials of Suicide Assessment: Why Bother?” by J. Michael Bostwick, MD

Suicide Prevention CME will be available and meets the requirement of AB105*

Offered as part of NPA’s 24th Annual Psychopharmacology Update course, February 13-16, 2019 at Paris Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

Three options to meet this requirement:
1) Sign up for the whole Update Course, February 14-16, at www.nvpsychiatry.org
2) Sign up for Friday, February 15, all day and 8 CME credits by going to www.nvpsychiatry.org
3) Sign up for just the 2 hours in the afternoon at a prorated fee by going to https://www.eiseverywhere.com/2019suicideupdate

Online registration is now open. For any questions, please call 1-877-493-0007 or go to www.nvpsychiatry.org.

*The 2017 Nevada Legislature added all physicians to the requirement to obtain 2 hours of CME in suicide prevention. The requirement applies within two years after initial licensure and thereafter every four years. Unfortunately this no longer meets the Ethics requirement.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of the University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine and Nevada Psychiatric Association. The University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine is accredited by the ACGME to provide continuing medical education to physicians. This live activity is approved for 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits ™.
The Clark County Medical Society Alliance (CCMSA) had a busy month; we had a great turn out at the November luncheon at Royal India Bistro. Our members had a chance to dress in their best Indian outfits while enjoying a delicious fine Indian meal. Our Team Alliance partnered for the 4th year in a row with Dr. Troy Watson and Sam’s Club for Sole Healers event at the Zappos Campus where we helped the homeless with socks and shoes to protect their feet. Alliance members helped the recipients shop for a pair of shoes and or size their feet to receive a pair of shoes and socks.

We are thankful to many individuals and businesses in the community for their continued support in helping us in our mission to raise funds for our Holiday Scholarship Project. The donations will go towards Nursing and Medical Student scholarships. Please make sure to drive safely on our freeways and busy intersections while looking up at your individual or company name and or logo alongside CCMSA on billboards throughout Las Vegas and Henderson communities with a holiday greeting on your behalf.

The CCCMSA continues to transition each year from one project to the next. We transition immediately from the Holiday Scholarship Project to raise funds for the Spring Project: The Annual Fashion Show Luncheon and proceeds this year will go towards the three nonprofit Organizations that help individuals affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). We announced last month that Sunshine Nevada, Project focus at UNLV and New Vista would be the recipients.

We invite all to attend our December Luncheon at Carmines Italian Restaurant inside the Forum Shops on Tuesday, December 5, 2018 at 11:30am. We will be collecting toiletries, school supplies for college students small hand held flashlights, monetary donations and sensory toys to benefit the three organizations mentioned.

We wish everyone a Wonderful Holiday Season.
CCMS Docs Prepare for Physician Day at the Legislature

By Josh MacEachern, Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Clark County Medical Society

The 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature will begin on February 4th, and the Clark County Medical Society (CCMS) along with our partners at the Nevada State Medical Association (NSMA) invite our members to join us for Physician Day at the Legislature on Monday, February 25.

Join us in Carson City for a unique opportunity to meet with Nevada Legislators to evaluate proposed legislation that will impact the practice of medicine and patient care in Nevada.

As part of our ongoing mission to serve physicians and their patients with responsibility and integrity, CCMS and NSMA proudly represent the concerns of physicians at all levels of government. We work to advocate on the behalf of our members, engage them with the political process, and work with their representatives to ensure that legislative changes to the practice of medicine are done with the input of practicing physicians.

Politicians and special interest groups sometimes quickly push legislation that can seriously impact your practice, and as we often say here at CCMS, if you don't have a seat at the table, you're on the menu.

Consider joining us for Physician Day at the Legislature, and stand by your fellow physicians as they evaluate the new rules and regulations that will be proposed during the 2019 legislative session -- rules and regulations that may directly affect your practice for better, or for worse.

Don't miss this opportunity to have face-to-face conversation with your legislators and have your voice heard!

If you have questions about Nevada Physician Day at the Legislature, or would like to RSVP to participate in this important event, please contact the Clark County Medical Society at communications@clarkcountymedical.org, or RSVP online at www.nvdoctors.org/membership/events

Must be a member to attend.

RSVP Online at www.nvdoctors.org/membership/events
Henderson Hospital Earns National Award for Quality

Highlighting its nationally recognized achievements in patient safety and quality, Henderson Hospital was named a Top General Hospital by The Leapfrog Group for the first time. The Leapfrog Top Hospital award is widely acknowledged as one of the most competitive honors American hospitals can receive, and the designation is awarded by The Leapfrog Group, an independent hospital watchdog organization. Josee Gill, Director of Quality for Henderson Hospital, will attend the Top Hospital Awards Dinner and Ceremony tonight at 5:30 p.m. EST.

The Top Hospital Award comes following the hospital’s "A" Hospital Safety Grade, also from the Leapfrog Group, this fall.

“When we opened on October 31, 2016, our team understood that our culture was based on keeping patients safe during every single patient interaction, which equates to hundreds of touchpoints during a patient’s visit,” said Sam Kaufman, CEO/Managing Director. “It begins with our environment and extends to our hands-on patient care, our analysis of big data to continually find ways to improve, the behind-the-scenes work by pharmacists and nursing staff to prevent medication errors, and ongoing education with our hospital team and medical staff on policies, protocols, technology and bundles (a series of particular steps) for better outcomes.

“To receive the Top General Hospital award is a testament to the hard work and commitment of our employees and medical staff,” said Kaufman. “It is one of the greatest awards we can receive in our hospital’s young history.”

Performance across many areas of hospital care is considered in establishing the qualifications for the award, including infection rates, maternity care, and the hospital’s capacity to prevent medication errors based on 2018 data. The rigorous standards are defined in each year’s Top Hospital Methodology.

“Being acknowledged as a Top Hospital is an incredible feat achieved by less than six percent of eligible hospitals nationwide,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “With this honor, Henderson Hospital has established its commitment to safer and higher quality care. Providing this level of care to patients in Henderson and other patients throughout Southern Nevada requires motivation and drive from every team member. I congratulate the board, staff and clinicians, whose efforts made this honor possible.”

To qualify for the Top Hospitals distinction, hospitals must submit a Leapfrog Hospital Survey and achieve highest performance in its category. The selection of Top Hospitals 2018 is based on surveys from nearly 1,900 hospitals. To see the full list of institutions honored as 2018 Top Hospitals, visit www.leapfroggroup.org/tophospitals.
Join a Committee
More Involvement, More Impact

The Clark County Medical Society (CCMS) invites all members in good standing to participate in one or more of the standing committees. This offers members an opportunity to work with other physicians and influence CCMS policies on issues of interest.

You may choose to participate in more than one committee. We solicit active participation from committee members to achieve the most success in shaping the CCMS. Committee assignments begin in September and end in June 30th of the following year. Please provide a first and second choice of the committee that you are most interested in and email to membership@clarkcountymedical.org.

Name: __________________________ Phone: __________________________

Email: __________________________ Fax: __________________________

CCMS Standing Committees:

☐ Board of Trustees (Elected Position Only) – CCMS at 702.739.9989
☐ Building Committee
☐ Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Committee
☐ Community Health & Public Relations Committee (CHPR)
  Sub-Committees under CHPR:
  ☐ Mini-Internship
  ☐ Speakers Bureau
  ☐ Winged Heart Awards
  ☐ Resident/Student Outreach
  ☐ Continuing Medical Education
☐ Credentials Committee
☐ Ethics & Grievances Committee
☐ Government Affairs Committee
☐ Internal Affairs Committee
☐ Membership/Credentials Committee
☐ CCMS Delegate: Participate in the Nevada State Medical Association Annual Meeting

If you have any questions about the purpose and obligations of any committee please contact the Clark County Medical Society at 702-739-9989 | membership@clarkcountymedical.org
Spring Valley Hospital Earns National Recognition for Safety in Surgery

Spring Valley Hospital has earned the Go Clear Award™ for its achievement in eliminating hazardous smoke from its surgical procedures.

The Go Clear Award is presented by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) to recognize health care facilities that have committed to providing increased surgical patient and health care worker safety by implementing practices that eliminate smoke caused by the use of lasers and electrosurgery devices during surgery. Spring Valley Hospital earned its award by undergoing comprehensive surgical smoke education and testing and for providing the medical devices and resources necessary to evacuate surgical smoke during all smoke-generating procedures. It is one of just 27 hospitals nationwide to achieve the award so far.

“This is another advancement to improve the health and safety of our patients and staff,” said Leonard Freehof, CEO/Managing Director of Spring Valley Hospital. “It reduces smoke exposure to our patients, but it also has a significant impact on our surgical staff and surgeons. Inhalation and absorbing surgical smoke over multiple surgeries over multiple days, weeks and months can affect one’s health.”

ER at Green Valley Ranch opens

ER at Green Valley Ranch, an extension of Henderson Hospital, will begin seeing patients at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12.

The freestanding emergency department, located on the southeast corner of St. Rose Parkway and Coronado Center Drive in Henderson, provides 24-hour emergency care every day of the year. It is staffed with the same medical personnel and equipped with the same diagnostic technology available in Henderson Hospital’s emergency department, including an on-site laboratory, CT scanner and imaging equipment.

“We are excited to extend our hospital into the Green Valley community,” said Sam Kaufman, CEO/Managing Director of Henderson Hospital. “We can care for the same types of emergencies and illnesses our hospital-based ER handles. Now through March are historically very busy times for area emergency departments, and we’re pleased we’re opening in time to help alleviate some of the longer wait times people may experience.”

ER at Green Valley Ranch is the first freestanding emergency department in The Valley Health System. A second facility, ER at Blue Diamond, an extension of Spring Valley Hospital, will open in summer 2019.

The address for ER at Green Valley Ranch is 2581 St. Rose Parkway, Henderson, NV.
Spring Valley Hospital Awarded Sepsis Certification from The Joint Commission

Spring Valley Hospital has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Sepsis Certification after undergoing a rigorous on-site review in August 2018. The Gold Seal of Approval® is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization’s commitment to providing safe and effective patient care.

Sepsis can be a life-threatening medical emergency, caused by the body’s excessive response to an infection. If not treated quickly and effectively, sepsis can lead to tissue damage, organ failure, amputation or death. According to the Centers for Disease Control, 178 Nevadans died from sepsis in 2016*. Nationally, sepsis accounted for over 200,000 annual deaths according to a July 2016 article in Critical Care Medicine.** The illness gained greater recognition when actress Patty Duke died in March 2016 from complications related to sepsis after her spleen ruptured.

Sepsis can be caused by bacterial infections – anything from a urinary tract infection to a nicked cuticle – but also by more serious diagnoses like pneumonia, kidney infections or bloodstream infections. “The infection generates the sepsis,” explained Leonard Freehof, CEO/Managing Director of Spring Valley Hospital. “The risk of death by sepsis increases when treatment is delayed, so much of our work focuses on the early recognition and treatment of sepsis in the emergency and inpatient settings.”

As part of the on-site review, The Joint Commission experts evaluated compliance with consensus-based national standards; the effective use of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines to manage and optimize care; and an organized approach to performance measurement and improvement activities.

Among the key initiatives in place at Spring Valley Hospital are ongoing education of the early recognition of sepsis in patient care settings and ongoing review of the key metrics associated with the early recognition of sepsis. These include rapid turn-around time on lactic acid levels that indicate the extent of the sepsis, early blood cultures to identify the infection source, and swift administration of broad-spectrum antibiotics. Quick identification and treatment of sepsis with antibiotics and intravenous (IV) fluids can save lives, decrease the severity of the illness, reduce the patients’ hospital length of stay, and increase the patients’ chances of going home instead of to an extended care facility.

To recognize the signs of sepsis, learn the TIME acronym:
T = Temperature - Is higher or lower than normal
I = Infection – May have signs or symptoms of an infection
M = Mental Decline – Might be confused, sleepy or difficult to waken or rouse
E = Extremely Ill – Severe pain, discomfort, “I feel like I might die.”

“We are proud to receive the Sepsis Certification from The Joint Commission, the premier health care quality improvement and accrediting body in the nation,” said Freehof. “The certification provides us with the framework to create a culture of excellence for those in our community.”

We’re online!

Check out the new Clark County Medical Society website to renew your membership, read the latest news, and receive notice of upcoming CCMS events.

www.clarkcountymedical.org
WHATEVER AILS YOU,

our Healthcare Professionals Advocacy Group will help you with:

✓ Board Representation
✓ Regulatory Requirements and Compliance
✓ Credentialing and Privileges
✓ Malpractice Defense
Medical community leaders discuss issues facing physicians in Southern Nevada at President’s Roundtable

By Josh MacEachern, Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Clark County Medical Society

Clark County Medical Society (CCMS) President Dr. Jeffrey Roth met with the leaders of several medical specialty societies and interest groups to discuss various issues physicians face at the first ever President’s Roundtable on Wednesday, November 7.

The event, which was sponsored by WestPac Wealth Partners, featured discussion about topics ranging from Medicaid reimbursement rates to electronic health records, and the various efforts of each specialty society to help their physicians adapt to changes in the practice of medicine.

“All of these groups are currently working individually to help address these issues,” Dr. Roth said. “The goal here is to find areas where we can cooperate and collaborate in order to improve the practice of medicine in Nevada.”

Organizations like the Nevada Psychiatric Association, the Nevada Academy of Ophthalmology, and the Nevada Chapter of the American College of Surgeons among others attended the meeting in order to look for ways to cooperate on larger issues.

“It’s a great role for the Clark County Medical Society,” CCMS Executive Director Alexandra Silver said. “A lot of our members belong to multiple specialty groups, so we are uniquely poised to help create these connections.”

CCMS will hold roundtable discussions every six months, with the next event happening in May.
Highlights of the 2018 Mid-term Election: NSMA prepares for the 2019 Legislative session

By Catherine M. O’Mara, JD | Executive Director
Nevada State Medical Association

Call it a blue wave, call it a pink wave, there is no question that the November 6 mid-term election shifted the nature of policy-making in Nevada. Citing healthcare as a primary concern, Nevada voters elected record numbers of Democrats and women in races for both federal and state office. Expect to see healthcare a key topic in Carson City come February.

For the first time in state history, Nevada will send a Congressional delegation to Washington D.C. that includes more women than men. Democratic Congresswoman Jacky Rosen defeated Republican Incumbent Dean Heller joining Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto as Nevada’s second-ever female Senator. Nevada retained Dina Titus in CD1, elected Susie Lee to CD3, and re-elected (after a defeat in 2014) Steven Horsford to CD4, all Democrats. Nevada elected only one Republican to the Congressional delegation, Mark Amodei representing CD2.

Statewide, Steve Sisolak won the race for Governor, becoming the first Democrat to take the highest state office for the first time since 1999. Democrats also won every constitutional office except Secretary of State, held by Barbara Cegavske. Democrats earned a super-majority in the Assembly winning 29 seats to the Republicans’ 13 and picked up 2 seats in the Senate, just narrowly, by 28 votes, failing to turn a third Senate seat necessary to achieve a super-majority in the Senate and a veto-proof Legislature. In the Senate, Democrats hold a 13-8 advantage over Republicans.

Nevada sends a female majority (22 of 42) to the Assembly. In the non-partisan races for Nevada Supreme Court, voters retained Lidia Stiglich and elected two additional women, Elissa Cadish and Abbi Silver, creating a female majority on the state’s highest court for the first time in state history.

Three vacancies will need to be filled by county commissions. In Assembly District 36, notorious Republican Dennis Hof, who died during the pendency of his campaign defeated Democrat Lesia Romanov. The county commissions of Nye, Clark, and Lincoln will soon appoint a Republican to that seat. But look to Democrats to fill two Senate seats vacated by Tick Segerblom and Aaron Ford. Segerblom won his race to the Clark County Commission and Ford was elected Attorney General.

Preparation for 2019 Session

We expect 2019 to be a healthcare legislative session. Since the close of last session and with the guidance of our contract lobbying team, the Perkins Company, NSMA’s Government Affairs Commission ("GAC") has been preparing our policy agenda. In February, the GAC will reform into our Legislative Core Group and will meet most Mondays through the session.

NSMA’s key policy objectives for the next session include refining the opioid law and improving public health through the establishment of a Maternal Mortality review. During the interim NSMA participated in working groups on Medicaid buy-in proposal and legislation that seeks to ban the practice of balance billing. Governor-elect Sisolak has stated that he will sign legislation that bans balance-billing, and NSMA will continue to fight for a fair resolution for patients and physicians that encourages contracting and protects access to care. We are prepared to engage in legislation challenging tort reform, pertaining to scope of practice, mandatory electronic prescribing, drug prices, funding for GME and Medicaid, and insurance issues including covered benefits, step therapy and prior authorizations, among many others.

We expect several tough fights and we encourage you to join us in our efforts by providing input on matters impacting your practice and please challenge your colleagues to join as members of CCMS/NSMA. Plan to join us in Carson City for Nevada Physician’s Day at the Legislature, Monday, February 25, 2019 in Carson City. Keep reading the County Line and watch for NSMA electronic updates on policy proposals impacting physicians. To get more involved and ensure you are receiving our updates, please contact NSMA today.

With healthcare playing a huge role in the outcome of the 2018 mid-term election, we expect insurance affordability and access to care to be at the forefront of debate both nationally and in Nevada. Whether we are working to advance patient and physician-friendly legislation or playing defense against policy proposals that seek to undermine patient care, NSMA will continue to advocate for you, our physician member!
Renew your membership by December 31st!

Members of the Clark County Medical Society and Nevada State Medical Association who are ready to continue improving the practice of medicine in Nevada can renew their dues online now at clarkcountymedical.org/renew, or by calling (702) 739-9989