



The Only Informational Resource
for Michigan Physician Assistants

Michigan PA



Great News!

Governor Snyder Signs SB 384

On Tuesday November 8th 2011, Governor Rick Snyder signed SB 384 into law! The new law is now known as:

Public Act 210 of 2011.

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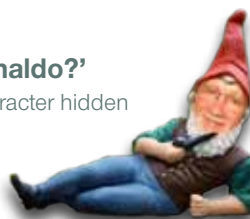
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'Where's Ronaldo?'

Look for this character hidden
in the newsletter.



MAPA's Mission

The Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants is the essential resource for the Physician Assistant profession in Michigan and the primary advocate for PAs in the state.

MAPA's Vision

The Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants is committed to providing quality, cost-effective, and accessible health care through the promotion of professional growth, enhancement of the PA practice environment, and preservation of the PA/physician team concept.



President's MESSAGE

Brian M. Gallagher, MSPA, PA-C

MAPA is Proud to Announce a NEW Partnership with AMR

On November 30, 2011 the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants (MAPA) signed an Administrative Services Agreement with Association Management Resources (AMR) of Ann Arbor to take over the daily operations, conferences and publications for MAPA. We are excited to work with the dynamic, knowledgeable, efficient and professional staff that AMR has to offer and eagerly anticipate the growth of MAPA as a result.

On December 31, 2011, our business partnership with the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) Physician Services Incorporated-Association Management (PSI-AM) will come to an end and close out more than a decade of service which helped to elevate MAPA to the next level as a professional organization. PSI-AM elected to terminate our agreement and Michael Sparkia, MSMS Director of Subsidiary Services, submitted this statement: "It should be noted that the decision to terminate this agreement is based solely on a strategic business decision and has no bearing on the good relationship that has been fostered between MAPA and the Michigan State Medical Society."

MAPA's Board of Director's were fully prepared to make this transition in management. We held two full Strategic Planning sessions recently that focused solely on identifying MAPA's customers, their primary needs and how MAPA will be able to meet those needs in the future. We had already investigated other management opportunities for MAPA and it was clear to us that Association Management Resources was the best company available to help meet our member's needs and for future growth of MAPA.

We will be transitioning to AMR through the month of December and will be fully live on January 3, 2012. The MAPA offices will be closed from Friday December 23, 2011 – Tuesday January 3, 2012 to complete the transition. If you have any questions that need immediate response please contact me via email at BGallagherPAC@hotmail.com.

This transition is a great and wonderful opportunity for MAPA to expand and improve its services to our members. We ask for your patience during this transition and promise that 2012 will bring new and exciting things to MAPA!

Have a happy and safe holiday season and thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve and represent you, the PAs of Michigan!

Sincerely,

Brian M. Gallagher, MSPA, PA-C
MAPA President 2011 - 2012

This transition is a great and wonderful opportunity for MAPA to expand and improve its services to our members.

Governor Snyder Signs SB 384 *continued from cover*

This legislation is the direct result of the Michigan State Medical Society, Michigan Osteopathic Association and Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants coming together to improve the efficiency of Michigan's health care system. The three groups identified barriers that inhibit patient access to care, place patient and healthcare worker safety at risk and prevent the physician/PA team from operating at its maximum efficacy. Sen. James Marleau introduced the legislation (SB 384) to remove these barriers known as the Michigan Patient Access to Care and Safety Initiative (MI PACS). This legislation unanimously passed the Michigan Senate in May and the House of Representatives in October.

The key aspects of the new law are:

1. A physician may delegate to a PA the ability to round on patients in public institutions, nursing homes, hospitals, extended care facilities, ambulatory clinics, etc.
2. Removed the restriction of a physician being able to delegate to a PA prescribing of schedule II medications in all settings.
3. A physician may delegate to a PA the ability to sign a form requesting physician signature, with the exception of a death certificate.
4. A physician may delegate to a PA the ability to order restraints.
5. The PA's name and the supervising physician's name will be included on the prescription label for prescriptions written by the PA.

This law significantly impacts both physicians and PAs and legally removes the barriers that have impeded the efficiency and effectiveness of the physician/PA team. The result is increased patient access to care, increased patient satisfaction and improved safety. All aspects of the law have been given immediate effect except for full schedule II prescriptive authority. The State of Michigan has to notify the DEA of the change in the law. The DEA must process the request through their computer system and PAs will have to submit an updated Physician Delegation Form and DEA Registration Form requesting a change, if you do not already have schedule 2 and 2N authority.



Gov. Rick Snyder signing with Sen. James Marleau watching

You **CANNOT** write a 30 day prescription until the DEA has officially recognized the new law. We hope this process will be completed within a months' time. Once the DEA has processed the law, the new forms and fax numbers will be available on MAPA's home page (www.michiganpa.org).

A thank you is extended to the hard work of the Legislative Committee, our lobbyist- Mike DeGrow and to our board of directors/ volunteers who helped make this possible. A thank you is also given to all those PAs who donated to PAMPAC, these donations were used efficiently and helped support legislators who moved this bill through the Michigan legislature. It is very exciting to be a PA in Michigan and this law is proof of what can happen when the physician/PA team comes together and improves patient care for the citizens of Michigan. This is also clear evidence of what MAPA does to advocate for Michigan PAs.



GVSU PA Students Promote the Profession

The GVSU classes of 2012 and 2013 worked together to promote the PA profession in the community during this year's PA week. There were many groups that performed a variety of activities to promote awareness of the PA profession and educate people about the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. From setting up information tables to speaking at the Pre-PA club meeting or writing appreciation letters to GVSU faculty and preceptors, our classes made quite an impact in our community.

During PA week this year, an event called ArtPrize ran concurrently here in Grand Rapids. A few thousand artists participated and hundreds of thousands of people came to explore the art set up throughout the city. This gave many of the PA students a great opportunity to talk to the public who were downtown; some made a questionnaire about diabetes risk assessment and distributed them to the patrons of the art festival. Other students made a survey and polled the public about their knowledge of the PA profession or handed out pamphlets about the PA profession and talked about the 'art of medicine.'

Many students went to local classrooms and taught kids and adolescents about how to stay healthy and about the role PAs play in healthcare. One group went to a 5th grade class and spoke to them about the heart and about heart health while another group went to a high school anatomy and chemistry class to talk about the PA profession. Some students went to an elementary school and taught second graders about germs and proper hand washing and hygiene techniques and others taught middle school kids about what a PA is and how to become one.



The teacher of this middle school commented, "It was a blessing to have such a professional and organized group of people present to our school. You have made a lasting impact on the children of Grand Rapids University Preparatory Academy. Many of the students see what it takes to become a successful person and are now motivated to become physician assistants like yourselves! Thank you for all of your hard work."

Our biggest and most successful PA week event this year was a 5K Run/Walk to raise money for Oasis of Hope. Oasis of Hope is a free clinic in Grand Rapids whose mission is 'to provide hope through low cost/free medical care and basic life-skills education to the economically disadvantaged and uninsured of the west-side of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in Jesus' name.' The 5K was held at GVSU's Allendale campus, with the help of almost every student in the first and second year class. There were over 80 volunteers and over 175 runners or walkers participating and with the hard work of many PA students and through the contributions of multiple sponsors, we were able to raise \$5,650 for Oasis of Hope.

As a finale to PA week, some of the second and third year students attended the MAPA conference. We were able to take part in the student quiz bowl, donate party supplies for the kids at Camp Quality and attend many lectures that will prepare us for the upcoming challenges we will face in both clinical rotations and the workplace.

Overall, PA week 2011 was a great experience for all of the PA students at GVSU. It gave us a chance to go out into the community and promote our profession to others and bond with our peers as we take pride in the profession that we have chosen.





MAPA Presents the 2012 Spring CME Conference

MAPA has a new focus for the spring meeting and have decided to change it to a CME conference, concentrating on issues that relate to the professional side of the PA profession. This years' conference will be held **Friday March 9, 2012** at the **Baronette Renaissance Hotel** in Novi, Michigan.

Come and join your colleagues, peers and office personnel for information that is necessary for your practice. Topics to include CPT billing/coding, reimbursement, EMR and more that will help you advance and become more efficient in the PA profession.

Visit MAPA's website for registration and exhibitor application forms; breakfast and lunch is included with your registration fee. Overnight hotel accommodations information is available on the registration form and should be made by attendee.

Conference organizers plan to request 8 hours of Category I CME credit.



SOURCES/LINKS/SPONSORS/CONTACTS:

Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants: MAPA at 1-517-336-1498 or www.michiganpa.org

American Academy of Physician Assistants: AAPA at 1-703-836-2272 or www.aapa.org

National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants: NCCPA at www.nccpa.net

Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant: ARC-PA at www.arc-pa.org

Michigan Department of Community Health for PA License at www.michigan.gov

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) License at www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov

Michigan Physician Assistant Foundation (MI PAF) at www.mipaf.com

The background of the page is a dark, moody image featuring a stethoscope and several pills. The stethoscope is positioned diagonally across the frame, with its chest piece resting on a surface. Several pills, some whole and some broken, are scattered around the stethoscope. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of brown, black, and grey, accented by the yellow text.

Accountable Care Organizations

The Affordable Care Act (a.k.a., health reform law) includes a number of items that assist health care providers and hospitals improve the safety and quality of patient care and make health care more affordable. The thought is to focus on the needs of patients and connecting payments to outcomes; this will help to improve the health of individuals/communities and slow the growth of health care costs. Any patient who has several health care providers understands the frustration of fragmented and disconnected care. Fragmentation and unnecessary testing are two of the major factors that are driving up the cost of health care. Lawmakers search for ways to reduce the national deficit and an easy target is Medicare. As baby boomers enter retirement, the costs of programs for elderly and disabled Americans are expected to soar. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) this year released rules to help better coordinate care for Medicare patients through **Accountable Care Organizations** (ACOs). These ACOs create incentives for health care providers to work in concert to treat an individual patient across care settings. ACOs are designed to remove the burden of health care coordination from the patient and improve the partnership of health care providers and patients in making health care decisions.

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Accountable Care Organizations *continued*

What are Accountable Care Organizations

An ACO refers to a group of suppliers and providers of services (e.g. hospitals and health care providers involved in patient care) that work together to coordinate care for the patients with Medicare. The structure of an ACO is important; it must be physician-led, primary care-centered and patient-focused systems of care. Encouragement to work together is at the foundation of an ACO, and at the same time, discouraging supplier induced demand while rewarding an organization for providing high quality care.

The goal is to deliver seamless, high-quality care for Medicare beneficiaries with a patient-centered organization where the patient and provider are true partners in care decisions.

An ACO is a network of doctors and hospitals that share the responsibility for providing care to patients. As an example, think of buying a home theater system. When you go to the store to buy this system, you need to buy different components to make the home theater work properly. An ACO would bring together the different component parts of care for the patient- primary care, hospitals, home health, specialists, etc. - and coordinate these components to work well together. The improvements in quality and costs can be achieved by collaborative and coordinated nature of the delivery system itself and is rewarded from quality outcomes, not for the volume of services.

Need and Benefits of Accountable Care

Today's Medicare patient has five or more chronic conditions that could include diabetes, arthritis, hypertension, congestive heart failure and kidney disease. These patients receive care from several health care

providers that can lead to uncoordinated care, duplication of care, patients not receiving the care they need or they are at an increased risk for medical errors. It is estimated that nearly one in five Medicare patients discharged are readmitted to a hospital within 30 days. The question begs to be asked: "Could this readmission been prevented if out-of-hospital care was more aggressive and coordinated?" Accountable Care Organizations are a new idea for managing Medicare patients. Medicare spends three times more per beneficiary in some areas than it does in others and yet there is no clear evidence that these additional dollars yields higher quality or

better outcomes. Medicare's traditional fee-for-service system, doctors and hospitals are paid more when patients get more tests or procedures performed. This current system tends to promote high-volume, high-intensity health services without regard for the coordination or quality of the care provided. To create accountability, the current system will need to be transformed into a system that pays providers based on outcomes (quality) and value (efficiency). If a system could create savings incentives, keep costs down, determine benchmark quality levels and focus on prevention and careful management of chronic diseases, then providers would get paid more for keeping their patients healthy and out of the hospital.

Projected Medicare savings for the proposed regulation for ACOs over a three year period is as much as \$960 million.

Shared Savings

Under the proposed rule, Medicare would continue to pay health care providers for items and services currently under the original Medicare payment services. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) would also develop benchmarks or measurable outcomes/endpoints for ACOs against which their performance is measured. If an ACO meets or exceeds these benchmarks, it will receive a share of the savings; if the endpoints are not met, they may be held accountable for the losses. The Medicare Shared Savings Program will reward ACOs that lower growth in health care costs while meeting performance standards on quality and putting patients first.

Measuring Quality Improvement

The amount of shared savings an ACO receives is tied to the outcome of five proposed quality standards that affect patient care:

- Patient/caregiver experience of care
- Care coordination
- Patient safety
- Preventative health
- At-risk population/frail elderly health

Outcome measures must reflect the goals that ACOs are being incentivized to achieve. Ideally, these measures should support improved population health, improved patient experience and lower per capita cost. The benchmarks for quality outcomes are still being formulated, from which savings will then be shared.

Barriers and Challenges for Organizations

Rarely in the U.S. can you find health care systems that are highly integrated and organized, which have proven to be adept

at managing costs and quality. ACOs have challenges in front of them for expansion and integration of care, while curbing costs and providing quality health care. These include:

1. Multispecialty group practice formation- Aligning specialties is difficult due to disparities in payment and income.
2. Patient population size- A larger population size will enhance outcome measurements and management of costs.
3. Culture- Patient-focused, physician-led culture is vital, along with continuous assessment, improvement and flexibility which is tied to success.
4. Resources- Are resources available to ensure accountability?
5. Staffing- Finding enough primary care providers for the ACO is critical; specialty-focused practices have supplanted primary care.
6. Consistent measures- Quality measures are varied amongst providers.
7. Market- Position within a market can vary widely for an ACO.
8. Legal- ACO collaboration and integration will need to address the Sherman Act anti-trust laws, anti-kickback laws and the physician self-referral Stark laws.

Is an ACO a HMO in Drag?

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) are fully integrated delivery systems, where the insurer, physician groups and hospitals are part of one integrated organization and that care is provided to only those who are insured by that organization. An ACO aims to replicate the performance of an HMO by holding down costs but avoid the HMO control of patient referral patterns.

Potential Pitfalls

On the surface, the ACO health care model may seem attractive to most, because of cost-containment and coordinated health care delivery, yet rushing to implement this

idea has met with some trepidation. There still remain questions on business strategies and quality benchmarks for hospitals and systems to address prior to 'jumping on board.' Economists worry that the race to form ACOs could create a significant downside: hospital mergers and provider consolidation. Positioning and integration of hospitals, systems and practices will leave fewer doctors and independent hospitals for patients to choose from. This integration will yield a greater market share and leverage for these health systems for negotiations with insurers and eventually increase health care costs. ACOs could also fall prey to anti-trust and anti-fraud laws, which limit market power and prevent increased prices for services and stifles competition.

Health Care Reform Necessity

The health care system in America is the most expensive in the world but, unfortunately, it does not deliver the best

care it can; there are many areas of waste and duplication. The current fee-for-service method of paying for health care (Medicare) can create incentives for providers to deliver more care, but not better care. The Affordable Care Act (HR3590) aims to steer health care systems away from this method and towards a coordinated, preventative model of health care delivery; in other words, to become accountable for the quality and cost of health care in America. ACOs were developed as part of a payment system that rewards quality outcomes and stewardship of health care resources to help rein in health care costs. By design, ACOs should act as a reform tool by incentivizing more efficient and effective care; combating overutilization and overbuilding of health care facilities and technology. By organizing health care teams, technology and knowledge around patient needs, accountable care can help the system realize its full potential. **PA**



**MAPA IS PROUD TO
ANNOUNCE
ITS NEW WEBSITE!**

WWW.MICHIGANPA.ORG

**THE WEBSITE WAS BUILT FROM THE GROUND
UP AND IS SUPERIOR TO THE PREVIOUS MAPA
WEBSITE.**

**THIS NEW WEBSITE ALLOWS YOU TO EASILY
UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, PAY
YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES AND READILY SEE
UPCOMING EVENTS AND READ BREAKING
MICHIGAN PA NEWS.**

**IF YOU HAVEN'T YET, PLEASE VISIT THE NEW
MAPA WEBSITE, YOU WILL BE SURPRISED!**



MAPA FA'11

CME Conference Wrap-up

The recent 2011 MAPA Fall CME Conference that was held at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa proved to be one for the record books; there was a new attendance record for both registrants and exhibitors.



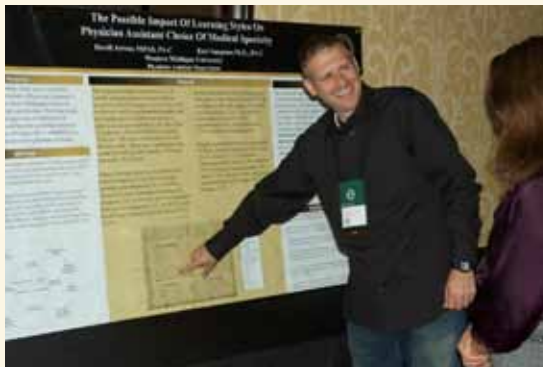
On the first night of the conference, MAPA hosted a welcome reception. This reception gave conference attendees a chance to meet and greet MAPA board members and an opportunity to donate to PAMPAC. The conference charity, Camp Quality Michigan was present to accept donations for kids with cancer, throughout the conference.

During Friday's Issues & Answers, MAPA President Brian Gallagher gave a "State of the Academy" address. Brian mentioned the Academy's successes with the new MAPA website and SB 384. Friday evening celebrated the 20th anniversary of the MI PA Foundation and a win of the Student Quiz Bowl by CMU.





Saturday evening started with the MI PA Foundation silent and live auctions, with all proceeds benefiting Michigan PA school scholarships. The night ended with the Members Banquet that was infused with Mardi-Gras flavors and casino games.



The CME Committee wants to thank the MAPA board and PSI- Association Management for their support of this conference. Our most sincere appreciation goes out to all attendees and exhibitors. To view more conference pictures, visit the MAPA website at www.michiganpa.org under the drop down tab of member center- photo gallery. We hope to see all of you and more at MAPA's 2012 Fall CME Conference that will be held October 11-14, 2012 at Soaring Eagle Conference Center in Mt. Pleasant.

ACS- Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

By: Chris Noth, PA-C *It was a day in October* that the forecast yielded a warm and picture perfect fall day.

It was a day in October that the parking lot for this event was a sea of pink shirts and volunteers.

It was a day in October where teams with tongue-n-cheek names like 'Bosom Buddies', 'Breast Savers', 'Hakuna-ma-Tatas', 'Breast Brigade', 'Friends 4 Knockers', 'Save Second Base' and 'Breast Friends' took to walk for a cause.

It was a day in October that prior to the start of this walk; a breast cancer patient gave her account of the journey she has endured, from diagnosis to awareness and through therapy.

It was a day in October that breast cancer survivors amongst the audience were identified and celebrated, after which a 5K walk through the town of Owosso took place.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) helps sponsor over 350 walks with over 700,000 participants a year for breast cancer. Breast cancer affects 1 in 8 women and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women. It is from funds raised at walks like this that inch us closer to a cure for this disease.

It is this month of October that is identified as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but the awareness of this disease needs to be daily. There is nothing more devastating than a patient receiving the diagnosis of cancer. It is from these types of events in which money is raised and awareness is highlighted. This is not a one person campaign because this disease affects all of us through family members or friends who have been afflicted by this cancer.

It was a privilege for my wife and me to take an hour and ask for donations in order to "Make Strides Against Breast Cancer."



WHO AM I?

I can give you a 'locked-in' syndrome

I cause quadraparesis, dysphagia, dysarthria and diplopia

I'm associated with alcoholism, stem cell transplant and burn victims

Correcting me too quick leads to similar poor prognosis

(answer in next 'MichiganPA')

(previous Q₃ answer: Meniere's Disease)



quarterly
quiz
question

PAMPAC

The Physician Assistants of Michigan Political Action Committee (PAMPAC) supports PAs in Michigan by using donated funds to support political leaders who are sensitive to the needs of Michigan PAs. Previously donated funds from this year were used to support two Michigan legislators who helped to usher SB 384 through the senate and house of Michigan. This bill helps remove barriers to PA practice and increase access to health care in Michigan. During the recent MAPA Fall CME Conference, we reached our goal of \$5000 in donations. These funds will go a long way in helping further our interest with key legislators in Michigan who support PAs. Below is a list of contributors including the entire MAPA board.

CHAMPIONS (>\$200)

Rick Kedzerski
Anthony Santini
Ron Stavale
Brian & Theresa Gallagher
Chris & Peggy Noth
Bill & Krisinda Palazzolo
Eric Vangsnes
Heather Klopp
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Vaughn Begick	Rene Hernandez
Jill Tallman	Doug Howell
Karen Harkins	
Matthew & Deanna Dillon	
Melissa Glasser-Edwards	

Thank you to all who donated. We are always accepting donations. Donating to PAMPAC is an investment in your future.

Quick Note:

The MAPA offices will be CLOSED Dec. 23 – Jan. 2 for the transition and move to our new management company.

Quote:

"Remember upon the conduct of each depends the fate of all."

Alexander the Great
356-323 B.C.
Ancient King of Macedon



Submitted by Don Gemus, PA-S

WSU Class of 2013 Update

Even though our class is finishing the second semester of PA school and learning more than we could have imagined, we are keeping the spirit of generosity and volunteerism alive. As a class, we became invested in a local cause that benefits children called Operation Christmas Child. This cause asks for products that would help give children some basic items that they would otherwise have to do without. Items collected included gloves, socks, toys and personal hygiene products that are placed in shoeboxes and given to needy children. Our class sold over \$200 worth of bake sale items on campus and we were able to send out 18 shoeboxes full of necessary items.



We are also involved in hosting a non-perishable food drive to benefit the Gleaners Community Food Bank; the class has brought in over 80lbs. of food the first day. We are also planning a fund raiser in partnership with UDM PA program this month to benefit 'The Dream Project': 2009 AAPA Humanitarian of the Year- Julie Malacusk's orphanage in Mozambique Africa.

Continuing Medical Education



MAPA's Annual Legislative Day

Soon you will be able to sign up for the 2012 MAPA Legislative Day that will convene on **Wednesday May 16, 2012** at the Radisson Hotel and Convention Center in Lansing. Great strides have been achieved over the last few months for PAs in the state of Michigan as it relates to ability to practice. Governor Snyder signed SB 384 into law and this will help increase access to care for Michigan residents. Lectures will surround this new law and other topics relevant to PAs.

The cost is free to MAPA members and we will be requesting 5 hours of Category I CME credit. Visit MAPA's website for further details.

MAPA has developed a discount prescription assistance program that will help uninsured and underinsured patients afford their medications. This prescription assistance program is made possible and funded through the support of pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies. The pre-activated prescription card is free to download from the new MAPA website (www.michiganpa.org) and can produce savings of up to 75% at more than 56,000 pharmacies nationwide and is ready for immediate use.



MAPA DISCOUNT RX CARD

Everyone is eligible with no income or age restrictions, plus, the Rx card has no expiration date. The program has an 'Open Formulary' which means that all medications are eligible for a discount through this program.

Program Highlights

- Cards are FREE to all MAPA members and their patients
- No enrollment forms, restrictions, waiting period, exclusions or claim forms to file; and it covers pre-existing conditions
- Lowest price feature
- Can be used by patients with Health Savings Accounts (HSA), high deductible plans and Medicare Part D

There are additional services that discounts apply to by using this MAPA Prescription Rx Discount Card. These include prescription eyeglasses, teeth whitening, diabetic supplies, Choice Plus Dental plans, LASIK surgery and US Hearing Plan for hearing aids.

To order cards for yourself and your patients, either call 517-290-4258 or visit the MAPA website at www.michiganpa.org and the program is on the home page for your convenience.

A total of 157 Members have joined MAPA since September 2011:

Sarah Abdella	AFM	Flushing, MI	Christina Hopps, PA-S	STU	Kentwood, MI
Ayyub Ahmad, PA-C	FEL	Sterling Heights, MI	Hope Howard, PA-C	FEL	Marshall, MI
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Farah Arafat, PA-C	FEL	West Bloomfield, MI	Stephanie Illian, PA-S	STU	
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Jaime Berkley, PA-C	FEL	Farmington Hills, MI	Allison Jones, PA-C	FEL	Williamston, MI
Cinnamon Bice, PA-S	STU	Shelbyville, MI	Michael Julian, PA-S	STU	Warren, MI
Kristy Breidinger, PA-C	FEL	Saginaw, MI	Marisa Karcz, PA-S	STU	Farmington Hills, MI
Sydney Bridges, PA-S	STU	Grand rapids, MI	Synthia Karpack, PA-C	FEL	Plymouth, MI
Cristy Burghardt, PA-S	STU	Mattawan, MI	Amanda Kelly, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Brandi Buskirk, PA-C	FEL	Grand Blanc, MI	Meredith Kent, PA-C	FEL	Grand Rapids, MI
Karen Byers, PA-C	FEL	Brownstown Twp., MI	Christine Khamis, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Amber Carbone, PA-S	STU	Hudsonville, MI	Anna Kim, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI
Kathryn Castiglione, PA-S	STU	St. Clair Shores, MI	Steffanie Kimber, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI
Michael Charney, PA-S	STU	Walker, MI	John Kittredge, PA-C	FEL	Mishawaka, IN
Caitlin Clemence, PA-S	STU	Lake Orion, MI	Emily Kluck, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Cheryl Coaker, PA-S	STU		Tricia Krumpholz	AFM	Brighton, MI
Emily Corba, PA-S	STU	Novi, MI	Stefan Kuipers, PA-S	STU	Holland, MI
Jeff Cornell, PA-S	STU	Grosse Pte. Park, MI	Jenni Kunik, PA-C	FEL	Mt. Pleasant, MI
Jacob Coughlin, PA-C	FEL	Kalamazoo, MI	Meggan Lentz, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI
Erin Crandall	AFM	Livonia, MI	Daniel Lomasney, PA-S	STU	Warren, MI
Tina Crook, PA-C	FEL	Charlevoix, MI	Jennifer Lombardo, PA-C	FEL	
Charles Dillay, PA-C	FEL	Fowlerville, MI	Gina Lorelli, PA-C	FEL	Farmington Hills, MI
Taylor Dillman	AFL	Brooklyn, MI	Trisha Manion, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI
Lindsay Dyer, PA-S	STU	Royal Oak, MI	Chelsea Maraldo, PA-S	STU	Macomb, MI
Bethany Eastman, PA-C	FEL	Grand Rapids, MI	Joanna McCann, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Daniel Ebenhoeh, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI	Sarah McColley, PA-C	FEL	Rockford, MI
Matthew Edwards, PA-S	STU	Birmingham, MI	Natalie McCormick, PA-S	STU	Grand Blanc, MI
Ogechi Ejelonu	AFM	Troy, MI	Erin Meehan, PA-S	STU	Dafer, MI
Alicia Fedrigo	AFM	Livonia, MI	Courtney Mich, PA-C	FEL	Bay City, MI
Frank Ferritto, PA-C	FEL	Fayetteville, NC	Michael Michalak, PA-C	FEL	Saginaw, MI
Jeffery Filter, PA-C	FEL	Roscommon, MI	Katie Millerwise, PA-C	FEL	Canton, MI
Angela Fiorillo, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI	Mary Millican, PA-C	FEL	Jackson, MI
Wesley Fisher, PA-C	FEL	Cheboygan, MI	Stuart Nathan, PA-C	FEL	West Bloomfield, MI
Maribeth Fisher, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI	Scott Nielsen, PA-S	STU	Lamont, MI
Andrew Freeborn, PA-C	FEL	Traverse City, MI	Robert Norman, DO	AFL	Tampa, FL
Delmer Garcia, PA-C	FEL	Caledonia, MI	Leila Obeid	AFL	Troy, MI
Mandy German, PA-C	FEL	Belding, MI	Ryan Olivero, PA-C	FEL	St. Clair Shores, MI
Sara Gibrael, PA-S	STU	Royal Oak, MI	Tara Oneill, PA-C	FEL	
Timothy Goralski, PA-S	STU	Rockford, MI	Sarah Pankow, PA-S	STU	Hemlock, MI
Patrick Hartsig	AFL	Shelby Twp., MI	Matthew Paradiso	AFL	
Megan Hass, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI	Aliya Pasik, PA-S	STU	West Bloomfield, MI
Samantha Hasso, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI	Jenny Piller, PA-C	FEL	Bridgman, MI
Carey Hendrickson, PA-C	FEL	Marquette, MI	Lindsay Pipkin, PA-S	STU	White Lake, MI
Sarah Henkes	AFM	Ann Arbor, MI	Philip Pokorski	AFM	Detroit, MI
Genevieve Hinkley, PA-C	FEL	Clarkston, MI	Andrew Power, PA-C	FEL	Hudsonville, MI

Elizabeth Prantera, PA-C	FEL	Royal Oak, MI
Abby Presley, PA-S	STU	Elkhart, IN
Ashley Presser, PA-S	STU	Sterling Heights, MI
Janice Quick, PA-C	ASM	Chesterfield, VA
Emily Rames, PA-C	FEL	Royal Oak, MI
Kristin Ramus, PA-S	STU	Brooklyn, MI
Sarah Raubinger, PA-S	STU	Troy, MI
Cynthia Ravari, PA-C	ASM	Sugar Land, TX
Maria Remus, PA-C	FEL	DeWitt, MI
Jenna Robidou, PA-C	FEL	Macomb, MI
Benjamin Robine, PA-C	FEL	St. Clair Shores, MI
Corey Robson, BS	AFL	Allen Park, MI
Cynthia Rockwell, PA-C	FEL	Battle Creek, MI
Kimberly Rosebrugh, PA-C	FEL	Whitmore, MI
Elaine Schell, PA-C	FEL	
Leah Schiller, PA-S	STU	Clarkston, MI
Suzy Schmeltz, PA-C	FEL	Belleville, MI
Dorothy Schmidt, PA-C	FEL	Northville, MI
Kristin Schneider, PA-S	STU	Bear, DE
Sarah Shaba, PA-S	STU	Shelby Twp., MI
Ronald Sinco, PA-C	FEL	Canton, MI
Laura Sinistaj, PA-C	FEL	
Debra Sjoquist, PA-S	STU	Grand rapids, MI
Robert Slates, PA-C	FEL	Portage, MI
Courtney Smith, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Megan Springstead, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Sarah Stockwell, PA-S	STU	Portage, MI
Linda Storey, PA-S	STU	Livonia, MI
Lindsay Stover, PA-S	STU	Swartz Creek, MI

Troy Stutz, PA-C	FEL	Kalamazoo, MI
Drew Theuerkauf, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Jacklyn Thibert, PA-S	STU	Ann Arbor, MI
Deana Thompson	AFL	Shelby Township, MI
Cherisse Tornga, PA-C	FEL	Holland, MI
Lauren Toro, PA-S	STU	Lake Leelanau, MI
Brian Trojniak, PA-C	FEL	White Lake, MI
Brian Upper, PA-S	STU	Grosse Pte. Woods, MI
Amy Ureel, PA-C	FEL	Wixom, MI
Ruth Vander Ark, PA-C	FEL	Holland, MI
Lynette VanderScheer, PA-C	FEL	Grand Rapids, MI
Jillian Veeneman, PA-S	STU	
Phillip Villanueva, PA-S	STU	
Pranjali Wakade, PA-C	FEL	Grand Blanc, MI
Katie Wakeman, PA-C	FEL	Midland, MI
Mary Walter	AFM	Kalamazoo, MI
Lauren Walters, PA-S	STU	Clinton Twp., MI
Jessica Wasson, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Lauren Weessies, PA-S	STU	Kalamazoo, MI
Cody Wenzel, PA-S	STU	Cedar Springs, MI
Jennifer Wildey, BS	AFL	Oakland Twp., MI
Jennifer Wiley, PA-S	STU	
Audrea Williams, PA-C	FEL	Houghton, MI
Katie Wright, PA-C	FEL	Wellston, MI
Angela Young, PA-C	FEL	Clawson, MI
John Young, PA-S	STU	Portage, MI
Gretchen Zajac	AFM	Canton, MI
Nathan Zалenski, PA-S	STU	Grand Rapids, MI
Tahani Zindani, PA-C	FEL	Bloomfield Hills, MI

PLANNER

AAPA's CORE/Capitol Connection

DATE: February 17-18, 2012
SITE: Washington, DC
INFO: www.aapa.org

MAPA's 2012 Spring CME Conference

DATE: March 9, 2012 (Friday)
TIME: 8am - 5pm
SITE: Baronette Renaissance Hotel-
Novi, MI

MAPA's Legislative Day

DATE: May 16, 2012 (Wednesday)
TIME: 8am - 2pm
SITE: Radisson Hotel- Lansing, MI

EVENTS / SEMINARS / CLASSES / CONFERENCES

AAPA's 40th IMPACT Conference

DATE: May 26-31, 2012
SITE: Toronto, Canada
INFO: www.aapa.org

MAPA's Future Fall CME Conferences

2012 Soaring Eagle Conference Ctr.
(Oct. 11-14)
2013 Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
(Oct. 10-13)
2014 Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
(Oct. 9-12)
2015 Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
(Oct. 8-11)
2016 Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
(Oct. 13-16)

... to all the contributors of material for the 'MichiganPA' newsletter over the last year. I am impressed with how well the newsletter represents PAs of Michigan. List of 2011 'MichiganPA' contributors:

Suzanne York, PA-C, MPH	Brian Gallagher, MSPA, PA-C	Jim Kilmark, PA-C
Kevin Brokaw, PA-C	Mary Huyck, PA-C	Ron X. Stavale, PA-C
Marc Moote, PA-C	Mike DeGrow	Valerie S. Sammut, PA-S
R. Dave Doan III, PA-C	Melissa Graham, RD, PA-C	Kathy Dobbs, PA-C
Christine Oldenburg-McGee, PA-C	Andy Booth, PA-C	Andrea Jones, PA-S
Mark David Wiles, PA-S	Abby Rogers, PA-C	Jenna McLosky, MS, CGC
Gregor Bennett, PA-C		

Again, a special thank you is given to Tammy Soule, MAPA's Academy Administrator and Hannah Dingwell for their help in making this newsletter better each issue. To Mike Richmond in MSMS Design, for your ideas and helping to make this newsletter a premier PA resource.



'The Last Word...'

Did you ever notice that when you extend a hand or smile to someone, appreciation is reflected back for these simple gestures.

Giving a few hours of your time to help out a 'cause' or 'effort' can have a profound effect on the recipient and volunteer. Being a volunteer is helping out others in need with your time or services without expectation of payment. There are many ways someone can volunteer; in their community, schools, relief efforts, healthcare and in MAPA. Many parents donate their time to help out in their children's school and we have seen stories of people cleaning up debris from a city lot or transforming a vacant space into a kids' playground.

We have also been witness to people rushing into dangerous regions to offer relief to those stricken from natural disasters. Others donate their time and expertise in free health clinics that help to serve the uninsured and needy; of which, there are several in Michigan that are in constant need of PA support. There are others who donate their time and knowledge to MAPA, yes MAPA. Our state academy is entirely made up of volunteers who lead us and advocate for our profession.

Volunteerism is rarely a one-time occasion, more often than not, it is an on-going need and duty. We have heard of Michigan PAs that have volunteered for the Haitian Relief, poverty in Africa and Habitat for Humanity or at the free medical clinics within the state. Volunteerism is the backbone of MAPA, all of the board positions and committees are filled with PA volunteers and we are in constant need for volunteers for these positions. This is a way for you to give a few hours of your time or lend a hand and give back to your profession; it's needed!

I want to wish everyone a Happy Holidays, be safe and responsible.

Chris Noth, PA-C
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