



# Montgomery County Medical Society

a fax & email newsbrief for Montgomery County  
Medical Society members only



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Visit your MCMS web site, [www.montmedsoc.com](http://www.montmedsoc.com)

**Save the Date: MCMS Installation & Dinner June 2** – Join in this family affair at one of Montgomery County’s jewels, the Elmwood Park Zoo, 1661 Harding Blvd., Norristown. Dr. Frederic Becker will be installed as the 163<sup>rd</sup> president of the Montgomery County Medical Society and five members will be recognized for their 50 years of service to the profession. The honorees include L. Stewart Barbera MD, S. Joseph Cardamone MD, David M. Ellis MD, Doris T. Freudenberg MD, James J. O’Brien MD and James W. Thompson MD. The speaker for the evening will be Rep. Josh Shapiro, 153<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, Montgomery County.

**MCMS Will Host Annual Legislative Dinner in Harrisburg** – Your board of directors will host a dinner with the Montgomery County legislators on May 3 in Harrisburg. If you are interested in building relationships with your county legislators, join the MCMS Political Task Force and e-mail your interest to [montmedsoc@verizon.net](mailto:montmedsoc@verizon.net). Small informal meetings with legislators are planned throughout the year.

**Your MCMS Board Works for You** – The MCMS Board of Directors will hold its next meeting, Tuesday, May 4, 6 p.m. All members are encouraged to become involved by working on one of three task forces – membership, political or public relations. Get to know the physicians who represent you. Go to the MCMS website, [www.montmedsoc.com](http://www.montmedsoc.com) to see who represents you.

**Lansdale Hospitalist Joins MCMS Board** – Jay Rothkopf MD, an Abington Health Lansdale Hospital physician, was one of three recently elected to the Montgomery County Medical Society Board of Directors. Born in Philadelphia, Dr. Rothkopf grew up in Fort Washington. He has been with the Abington Memorial Hospital family for seven years, starting as an intern in June 2003. For almost a year, he has been at the Lansdale location. The Temple University School of Medicine graduate is a member of the Pennsylvania Medical Society and the American College of Physicians. His interests include reading, writing short stories, running and cooking. He adores his wife Debbie and soon-to-be three year old and one year old sons. In the coming weeks, you will learn more about the other new board members in *The Pulse*.

**CMS Will Host Calls on RAC** – Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Service announced it will host nationwide calls on the Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) programs. To date, with some very limited exceptions, the RACs have not conducted any physician audits. They continue to focus on hospitals. However, physicians should be aware that the RACs are approved to conduct physician audits and may do so at any time. The remaining nationwide calls include

\*May 4, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Nationwide RAC 101 Call for Home Health and Hospice Providers, 1-877-251-0301

\*May 5 1 p.m. 2:30 p.m. Nationwide RAC 101 Call for DMEPOS, 1-877-251-0301

\*May 12 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Nationwide RAC 101 Call for Physicians, 1-877-251-0301

**AMA Opposes RAC Expansion** -- On March 10, President Barack Obama announced expanded fraud and abuse control initiatives for Medicare, Medicaid and other federal programs, including an Executive Order that directs all federal agencies (not just the health care agencies) to expand and intensify their use of the Recovery Audit Contractors (RACs) program, which currently only operates in the Medicare fee-for-service program. He announced that using these audits government-wide will return at least \$2 billion to the federal government over the next three years. AMA policy opposes expansion of the RAC program and the AMA will continue to express strong concerns about the program to both Congress and the Administration. Future Medicare RAC expansions will be focused on Medicaid and the Medicare Advantage program. For information on the RAC program see [www.cms.hhs.gov/rac](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/rac) and [www.ama-assn.org/go/regrelief](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/regrelief) and select "Recovery Audit Contractors."

**Need CME? Don't Let Non-Compliance Cost You** – Two new issues of Counter Details, a CME activity from the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED), are now available. Both activities are designed to provide patient safety and risk management CME credits to help you comply with state requirements. Visit [www.pamedsoc.org](http://www.pamedsoc.org) to view the publications. On the PAMED homepage, go to newsletters. The two-year license CME renewal period is up on Oct. 31, 2010, for DOs and Dec. 31, 2010, for MDs. By then, physicians will need 100 hours of CME, 12 of which must be in patient safety and risk management. For DOs, 20 must be AOA Category 1-A. MDs must have 20.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*<sup>TM</sup>. The Pennsylvania Medical Society offers a number of CME activities to help you get there. Visit [www.pamedsoc.org/cme](http://www.pamedsoc.org/cme) to browse activities by topic and [www.pamedsoc.org/newsletters](http://www.pamedsoc.org/newsletters) to browse by publication. All of our activities are designed to meet patient safety and risk management requirements.

**Online CME Your Speed ?**– There is a useful resource of online continuing medical education courses at the Annotated List of Online Continuing Medical Education, visit [www.cmelist.com/list.htm](http://www.cmelist.com/list.htm) There are links to more than 300 Online CME sites offering more than 13,000 CME courses and more than 22,000 hours of CME credit. The list is updated regularly as new online CME sites and courses become available. There is no charge for accessing the list and no registration is required.

**Red Flags Rule Reminder** – The Federal Trade Commission extends enforcement and delays the Red Flags rule until June 1, 2010. The AMA has been urging the FTC and Congress that physicians are not "creditors" and should not be subject to the rule. For more information on the FTC's decision, <http://www2.ftc.gov/opa/2009/10/redflags.shtm> .

**Want the Full Story on Health System Reform** -- The AMA posted a resource document on its health system reform web site that may be helpful. It is a consolidated version of the two federal health system reform packages that were recently signed into law, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the subsequent reconciliation bill. The document is available at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama1/pub/upload/mm/399/ppaca-consolidated.pdf>.

**PAMED Offers Employment Contracts Review Service** – The contract review service links you with a private practice attorney who can provide a comprehensive review of your employment contract. The participating attorneys have agreed to charge members a discounted rate for their services. Contact Cheryl Fultz with PAMED for more information, [cfultz@pamedsoc.org](mailto:cfultz@pamedsoc.org) .

**Patients Want to Find You** – Make sure you are signed up with [Find-A-Physician](http://www.pamedsoc.org), the Pennsylvania Medical Society online referral service, [www.pamedsoc.org](http://www.pamedsoc.org) . It's free, and only members are listed. But if you've never completed or updated your Member Profile on the website then patients aren't seeing information about you. There are only three steps to new referrals:

--Log in to [www.pamedsoc.org](http://www.pamedsoc.org). (Need help logging in? First-time users should create an account. Previous users should use Login Help to recover usernames or passwords.)

--Go to [Member Profile Updates](#)

--Make sure you include as much information as you wish to be available. (You can also choose to NOT have your information show.)

For more help, email [stat@pamedsoc.org](mailto:stat@pamedsoc.org) or call (800) 228-7823.

*You're receiving this special announcement as a member of the Montgomery County Medical Society. If this is incorrect or you have a new e-mail account, please contact MCMS at (610) 878-9530.*