

MSSC NEWS

KMS forms opioid panel with KHA, sets guiding principles for doctors

The Kansas Medical Association and Kansas Hospital Association have established a joint KMS-KHA Committee on Opioid Misuse to better understand and address the problem in the state and find ways to reduce and treat it.

The KMS board approved the committee at its December meeting, and gave the panel the mission to:

- Review data on opioid use and prescribing in Kansas.

- Identify factors affecting substance use disorder rates.
- Identify resources or strategies that may help physicians and hospitals address challenges related to opioid misuse.
- Discuss ways to reduce the harmful impact of opioid misuse.

Dr. LaDonna Schmidt of Lawrence, KMS president-

continued on page 4



**January
2018**

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GAIN greater understanding of financial statements and financial ratios from fellow MSSC member Dr. David Norris, who writes and lectures about financial literacy.

LEARN about internal controls, separations of duties and other valuable procedures and policies from Marshal Hull, a CPA and partner with Regier Carr & Monroe, LLP.

HEAR about tools from banks – such as positive pay, digital lock boxes and direct remit – that can prevent fraud from Nicole Schaar, a vice president at Bank SNB.

EXPLORE MARK ARTS at 13th and Rock. In addition to the program, drinks and hors d'oeuvres by Scotch & Sirloin, you'll have a chance to tour the striking prairie-style building.



Coran Y. Fugit photo

WHEN: Tuesday, Feb. 6. Social time 5:30 p.m.; program 6-7 p.m. **WHERE:** Mark Arts, 1307 N. Rock

COST: \$10 **RSVP:** by Friday, Feb. 2. Email denisephillips@med-soc.org or call 683-7558

* The Medical Society of Sedgwick County is accredited by the Kansas Medical Society to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Medical Society of Sedgwick County designates this live activity for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Legislators, MSSC committee go to work

The Kansas Legislature opened for business Jan. 8, and the MSSC Legislative Committee is beginning its work for the session as well.

The committee, which monitors health-related legislative activity and advocates on behalf of patients and the practice of medicine, will hold its first meeting of the year on Jan. 19. The committee usually meets twice a month during the session, and consults with and receives updates from Rachelle Colombo, KMS director of government affairs. Members vote to set MSSC legislative policy, deciding whether to be for, against or neutral on pieces of legislation.

Predicting the issues that can arise in Topeka is no exact science,

continued on page 4



Rep. Brenda Landwehr talks to KMS' Rachelle Colombo and Dr. John McMaster at the legislative dinner in November.

January President's Message



by Jed Delmore, MD —

Instead of discussing the latest government regulation or health care headline – I'm sure there will be plenty of that as the year moves along – I wanted to start my first column with something personal.

At the end of a long day, perhaps 12 years ago, my partner and I, along with a pair of resident physicians, were making rounds (at a time when rounding twice daily was common). Our final patient was a previously healthy, 59-year-old woman with recurrent ovarian cancer.

A CT scan earlier in the afternoon demonstrated worsening pleural effusions, and I was explaining the options of thoracentesis vs. pleurodesis. The pros and cons of each were explained, and I emphasized that draining the pleural fluid would provide temporary relief, but chemotherapy should follow to reduce the risk of rapid recurrence.

Shannon (not her real name) was attentive and asked appropriate questions. She was a successful businesswoman, used to assessing options and making a logical decision. After 30 minutes of discussion, we agreed to place a PleurX catheter and resume chemotherapy.

As we prepared to leave, Molly, a second year Ob-Gyn resident, smiled at Shannon and exclaimed, "I love your pajamas." I looked back at the multicolored satin pajamas and thought they were indeed pretty. I also noticed how Shannon's expression immediately changed from contemplative to wide, bright smile.

While the rest of us looked on, Shannon explained to Molly that the pajamas were a gift from her daughter who was coming to visit from Chicago that evening. Molly then explained that pajamas

would be more useful than a nightgown, should a chest tube be needed. They both agreed Shannon's daughter should buy her some more pajamas.

Although I was supposed to be the educator that day, we finished rounds with me acquiring more knowledge than I imparted. I hope most of us care providers feel that we are caring, compassionate and attentive. But the fact is, matters other than direct patient care – such as electronic charting, documenting quality measures, and teaching – may detract from what we trained to do. Regardless of whether we are delivering encouraging or discouraging news to our patients and their families, the situation is stressful. We take much for granted, such as that data is the most important part of the discussion.

Since that afternoon with Shannon, though, I have tried to follow Molly's lead. I will ask who is responsible for the crayon drawing taped to the head of the bed or inquire about the flower arrangement or framed family portrait on the bedside table. I may even compliment the out-of-control grandson playing with the bed controls.

Where once I was reluctant to become too inquisitive regarding my patient's life outside medical care, I have proven that I am trainable and can still learn. That said, I still haven't exclaimed, "I love your pajamas!"

I tell this story not only because it taught me a great deal about being a physician but also because it is how I will approach my year as president of the Medical Society of Sedgwick County. It is a role – an honor – that will require me to be trainable.

During the year, I encourage fellow members to share their concerns and views on issues that matter to them and the practice of medicine. Some of those issues may be hiding in plain sight, like those colorful pajamas, and need to be brought to my attention. So please do.

Chehab and Maksoud help author journal report on heart scaffolds

MSSC members Drs. Bassem Chehab and Aziz Maksoud were part of national panel of interventional cardiologists assessing the status of biodegradable heart scaffolds in the December issue of the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

The article, "The State of the Absorb Bioreabsorbable Scaffold: Consensus From an Expert Panel," discusses the Absorb biodegradable scaffold, which came on the market as an alternative to permanent metallic stents. Abbott Vascular, maker of the Absorb scaffold, announced in September that it was ending distribution of the product due to low sales, although research on their efficacy continues.

The paper noted that concerns about heightened thrombosis risks were valid and needed further study, while noting similar concerns arose during the first generation of metallic stents. It concluded that the need for biodegradable scaffolds remains and that refined procedures and more rigorous patient selection could likely address or mitigate some concerns about the scaffolds.

Drs. Chehab and Maksoud, who practice with Cardiovascular Consultants of Kansas, were among 45 physicians serving on the expert panel.



Dr. Chehab



Dr. Maksoud

Human trafficking focus of Jan. 23 event by Wichita Women in Health Professions

To boost awareness of how to identify and prevent human trafficking, Wichita Women in Health Professions is focusing on the topic at its Jan. 23 event.

The event is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Sunflower Room at KU School of Medicine-Wichita, 1001 N. Kansas. Register now at <https://eventactions.com/eareg.aspx?ea=Rsvp>.

Panelists include Karen Countryman-Roswurm, executive director of the WSU Center for Combating Human Trafficking; Tina Peck, program coordinator of Forensic Nursing Services at Via Christi Hospitals; Cathy Turner, president and CEO, Hope Ranch for Women; and Karla Armbrister, outreach manager, Wichita Family Crisis Center.

Wichita Women in Health Professions formed last year at KUSM-Wichita to provide networking, mentoring and professional development opportunities for physicians and other health providers. To learn more, contact Julie Galliard at (316) 293-3560 or jgalliard@kumc.edu.

Stay UpToDate via KUSM-W library

Through the support of the Earl L. Mills Educational Trust, the George J. Farha Medical Library at KU School of Medicine-Wichita can offer on-site access to UpToDate, an online medical information resource. UpToDate provides information and answers to patient care, diagnosis and treatment questions at point of care. The information is written by a faculty of experts. Call the library at 293-2629 for information.

Central Plains' Duncan taking lead of Health ICT

Shelley Duncan, who assumed leadership of the Central Plains Health Care Partnership and its Project Access program last summer, is adding management of fellow MSSC affiliate Health ICT to her duties.

In the role, Duncan takes over from Michael Hunter, who left this month to become director of Recovery Village at Palmer Lake, a 110-bed drug and alcohol rehabilitation center in Colorado. In June, Hunter had replaced founding program manager Becky Tuttle, who became the Greater Wichita YMCA's development director.



Duncan

Health ICT is a KDHE-funded initiative designed to reduce obesity, diabetes, heart disease and stroke in Sedgwick County. It collaborates with other organizations in efforts that include workplace wellness, drafting and promoting collaborative practice agreements between doctors and pharmacists, and promoting healthy eating and active lifestyles.



Since 1999, Project Access has coordinated medical care for uninsured low-income Sedgwick County residents.

"Project Access and Health ICT have complementary missions, and there are possible synergies in managing the programs together," said Duncan. "Both programs fill vital community needs. Project Access provides care for those who otherwise would go without it, and Health ICT focuses on the challenging issue of chronic health problems."

Health ICT was founded by the MSSC in 2015, after the Sedgwick County Commission refused a four-year federal grant administered by KDHE. Duncan thinks that at least some of the grant, now worth about \$580,000 a year, will be renewed. Health ICT has three employees: Dr. Justin Moore, medical consultant, and project coordinators Matt Thibault and Julianne Walker.

Lakin appointed chief medical officer of KDHE, gives up seat in Legislature

Gov. Sam Brownback has appointed MSSC member and Kansas state Rep. Greg Lakin as chief medical officer of the Kansas Department of Health & Environment.

With the Jan. 3. announcement, Brownback also appointed Darian Demovish as interim secretary of KDHE, replacing the resigning Susan Mosier. Lakin resigned his seat in the 91st District, covering parts of Valley Center, Maize, Kechi, Park City and Wichita, when the Legislature returned for the 2018 session on Jan. 8.

"Dr. Lakin has the perspective of serving as a front line medical provider for the last two decades," Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer, a physician, said in a news release. "He will be a great addition to our team at KDHE."

Lakin has worked with patients suffering from drug and alcohol addiction as well as in family and emergency medicine and skilled nursing and long-term care, and. He owns Center for Change and is medical director for Valley Hope Rehabilitation Center.

KDHE oversees the privatized Medicaid program, KanCare, along with the Department for Aging and Disability Services. The agencies are working to extend KanCare for another five years.



Dr. Lakin

Kansas Journal of Medicine's new issue

The latest issue of the Kansas Journal of Medicine is online. Go to kjm.kumc.edu to see articles and case studies on topics including satisfaction among rural doctors caring for patients speaking only Spanish, adolescent vaccinations, pediatric farm injuries, a community-centered approach to diabetes treatment, barriers to using Medicaid smoking-cessation benefits, and safety recommendations among all-terrain vehicle dealers and track owners. MSSC members whose work was published include **Drs. James Haan, Kari Harris, Gretchen Homan, Gretchen Irwin, Justin Moore, Jon Schrage and Tiffany Schwasinger-Schmidt.**



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Legislature *continued from page 1*

but this session is not expected to be as active as some, as state finances and the school funding order from the state Supreme Court are likely to dominate legislators' attention.

Dr. Kevin Hoppock, chairman of the committee, thinks the opioid issue and insurance coverage for telemedicine are certain to come up this session. "You can be certain that we will get to weigh in on scope of practice issues, Kancare 2.0, Medicaid expansion, and a host of yet to be defined issues affecting our practices and our patients," he said.

During November's annual MSSC legislative dinner, attended by about 20 area representatives and senators,



Dr. Kevin Hoppock, chairman of the MSSC Legislative Committee, discusses priorities with area representatives and senators.

Dr. Hoppock said that, with K-TRACS, "Kansas is ahead of the curve on prescription drug abuse" but that the medical community must work to keep that system strong and funded.

Dr. Hoppock also reiterated support for increased health care access for Kansans and thanked legislators for their willingness to discuss and ultimately pass a bill to expand Medicaid. Another issue likely to be discussed is the push to create an osteopathic medical college in Wichita, he

said, adding that the shortage of residency training spots is a greater problem than a shortage of medical students.

Dr. Hoppock and the committee welcome input from fellow MSSC members on legislative matters. Other members are **Dr. Steen Mortensen**, vice chairman, and **Drs. Kent Bradley, Joe Davison, John Gallagher, Jay Gilbaugh, Thomas Klein, John Lasak, John Lohnes, Christopher Moeller, Terry Poling, Thomas Rosenberg, Jon Schrage, Travis Stenbridge, Jason Taylor, and Adrian Walling**. Trish Youngman and Kim Schrage represent the MSSC Alliance on the committee.

MSSC Annual Meeting: A visit from the presidents and bidding for a good cause



KMS President Dr. Robert Gibbs and AMA President Dr. David Barbe with 2018 and 2017 MSSC Presidents Drs. Jed Delmore and Denis Knight.

The MSSC Annual Meeting on Dec. 5 gave members a chance to mingle, hear from state and national medical leaders and dip into checkbooks to support the cause of Project Access. Dr. David Barbe, president of the American Medical Association, provided an update on the AMA's activities and mission, while noting he "cherishes the times I get to come back" to Wichita, where he did his family medicine residency. During the evening, the annual Wine with a Purpose silent auction – featuring some beer as well – raised \$3,900 to support Project Access' mission of coordinating care for uninsured Sedgwick County residents.



Dr. Knight announced that Dr. Braden Foster is this year's recipient of the Dr. Joe Meek Physician Leadership Award.



Drs. Estephan Zayat, Andrew Hentzen and Christina Nicholas at the annual meeting.

Opioids *continued from page 1*

elect, and Reta Baker, CEO of Fort Scott's Mercy Hospital, are co-chairs of the committee, said KMS Executive Director Jon Rosell. He said committee members are being appointed, and expected some from Wichita.

A letter sent late last month to legislators by KMS and KHA noted the formation of the committee and that, since K-TRACS began nearly a decade ago with the collaboration of health care providers, state opioid prescribing rates had steadily dropped along with prescription opioid deaths. The organizations offered to serve as a resource for lawmakers on the opioid issue and legislation related to it.

Last month, the KMS board also approved a set of guiding principles involving use of opioids and a physician's ability to make decisions in their patients' best interests. They include:

- Accurately assessing and effectively and safely treating patients is the goal and responsibility of every physician. Physicians are

best able to make clinical judgments about each patient's needs. Statutory or other prescribing limitations fail to account for a patient's unique medical condition.

- Standards of care and clinical guidelines should be established by physicians, enforced by the Board of Healing Arts and informed by scientific study.
- Prescribers should receive specialty-appropriate, evidence-based continuing education on the management and treatment of pain, prescription drug diversion, misuse and addiction, and strategies clinicians can use to minimize the incidence of drug misuse.
- Policies aimed at addressing opioid misuse should be developed with state-specific data.
- K-TRACS should continue to be provider-led to remain an effective resource for clinicians.

See a full version of the principles is at www.kmonline.org/files/KMS_Principles_Opioid_Misuse.pdf

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Society who know a good and sufficient reason why any of the following applicants are not eligible for membership are requested to communicate with the Medical Society of Sedgwick County, 683-7557

[BC] Board Certified [R] Residency [F] Accredited Fellowship
[AT] Additional Training [F*] Unaccredited Fellowship

NEW APPLICANTS

Dian Feng, MD

[BC] Pathology
Heartland Pathology
OFF: 636-5666 / FAX: 636-2777
9300 E 29th St N S-208, 67226

Desirae Friend, DO

[BC] Family Medicine
HealthCore Clinic
OFF: 691-0249 / FAX: 691-9939
2707 E 21st North, 67214

Richa Lakhota, MD

[BC] Pediatrics
Pediatrx Medical Group
OFF: 962-8580 / FAX: 962-8581
550 N Hillside, 67214

Tara L. Richardson, MD

[R] Psychiatry
KUSM-Wichita
OFF: 293-2635 / FAX: 855-476-0305
1001 N Minneapolis, 67214

Elizabeth L. Wink, MD

[BC] Family Medicine
Via Christi Clinic
OFF: 773-4500 / FAX: 773-4555
13610 W Maple, 67235

Bart J. Winter, DO

[BC] Family Medicine
Wichita Family Medicine Specialist
OFF: 858-5800 / FAX: 858-5850
800 N Carriage Pkwy 67208

ROSTER UPDATE

Keep your 2018 Roster current with this information:

CORRECTIONS

Deborah Kroeker, MD name change to **Deborah Alliston, MD**

Rami Mortada, MD

FAX: 888-698-4752

Paul W. Murphy

OFF: 636-2888

Darrell Youngman, DO

OFF: 684-0393

CHANGES

Hector Fernandez, MD

Primary specialty - General Surgery

Denis Knight, DO

Medical Director
Physician House Calls of Kansas
OFF: 312-0002 / FAX: 854-5644
Email: denisdwightknight@icloud.com
3450 N Rock Rd S-503, 67226

Thomas C. Reals, MD

Robert J Dole VA

OFF: 685-2221

5500 E Kellogg, 67218

REINSTATED TO ACTIVE

Jaime Oeberst, MD

Sedgwick County Forensic Science Center
OFF: 660-4800 / FAX: 383-4535
1109 N Minneapolis 67214

BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

Justin Fernandez, MD - Internal Medicine

RETIRED

Hewitt Goodpasture, MD

Anthony G. A. Pollock, MD

Naomi N. Shields, MD - 1/31/2018

Alan Moskowitz, MD

DROPPED

These doctors moved out of the area.

Kevin M Marberry, MD

Densey Matthew, MD

Mihail Subtirelu, MD

Lina Huerta-Saenz, MS

In Remembrance

MSSC extends its condolences to the families of Drs. Albarracin, Albert, Argosino and Michelbach.

Internist Alan Albarracin, MD, died Dec. 28, 2017.

Dr. Albarracin graduated from Cebu Institute of Medicine in the Philippines in 1972. He completed residencies in pathology at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1975 and internal medicine at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway, N.Y., in 1979. He practiced in West Virginia and Scott City, Kan., before beginning practice in Wichita in 1991.



Urologist Gerald Albert, MD, died Nov. 17, 2017.

Dr. Albert graduated from University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston in 1997. He completed an internship in general surgery in 1998 and a residency in urology in 2003, both at the University of Tennessee in Memphis. He practiced in Memphis until 2005, when he joined Wichita Urology Group.



Rodolfo Argosino, MD, died Nov. 24, 2017, in Leawood, Kan. Dr. Argosino earned his medical degree at the University of Santo Tomas in the Philippines in 1963. He completed his general surgery internship at Nassau Hospital in New York in 1971 and his residency at New York Medical College/Metropolitan Hospital Center in 1976. Dr. Argosino came to Kansas in 1977, and had a general surgical and primary care practice in Wichita and Belle Plaine. He retired in 2012.



Albert Michelbach, MD, died Nov. 22, 2017,

in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Dr. Michelbach graduated from Tulane Medical School in New Orleans in 1961. He completed his internal medicine residency at KU School of Medicine in Kansas City in 1965 and then practiced in Wichita for four years. Dr. Michelbach then completed a cardiology fellowship at KU in Kansas City in 1970. He resumed his internal medical practice, with an emphasis on cardiology, in Wichita.



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Managing Editor: Phillip Brownlee, executive director



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(L to R) Ghiyath Tabbal, MD, Ravi Bajaj, MD, Assem Farhat, MD, Shilpa Kshatriya, MD, Husam Bakdash, MD, Wassim Shaheen, MD, Hussam Farhoud, MD, Abid Mallick, MD, Charles Beck, MD (not in photo) and our two newest physicians: Venkata S. (Subbu) Boppana, MD and Zaher Fanari, MD.

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