

MSSC NEWS



July
2017

Physicians
who care for ...
our patients,
our community,
and our profession.

MSSC
MEDICAL SOCIETY of
SEDGWICK COUNTY

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Council candidates share stances on health issues and city's role

Candidates in Wichita City Council races had an opportunity recently to give their views on such health care issues as the city's role in promoting public health, funding bicycle and pedestrian paths, raising the age for buying tobacco, including e-cigarettes in the clean air ordinance, and increasing health equity.

The health care forum, July 18 at the Scottish Rite Center, featured seven of eight candidates in Districts 1, 3 and 6. The forum was sponsored by the MSSC, Health ICT, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, the Health Alliance, Project Access and others, with assistance from the League of Women Voters. Becky Tuttle, chair of the Health & Wellness Coalition, moderated the event attended by about 60 people.

District 1 has a busy field of Brandon Johnson, Janet Wilson, Michael Kinard and John Stevens all seeking to replace Lavonta Williams, who cannot run again because of term limits. The top two vote-getters in the Aug. 1 primary advance to the Nov. 7 general election.

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City Council District 1 candidates, above, and District 3 and 6 candidates, left, with forum moderator Becky Tuttle.

New center focuses on infant mortality

A new center at KU School of Medicine-Wichita will focus on the difficult issue of infant mortality, building upon work done through the MSSC-sponsored Maternal Infant Health Coalition and Safe Sleep Task Force.

Cari Schmidt, director of research in KUSM-Wichita's Department of Pediatrics, is director of the Center for Research on Infant Birth and Survival (CRIBS). MSSC member Dr. Stephanie Kuhlmann, pediatrics hospitalist and associate professor in the department, is director of implementation, a role intended to "turn research into action."

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Meeting to peer into odd, innovative life of Dr. Mütter

The next MSSC members meeting will feature a look into the quirky world of 19th century surgeon Thomas Dent Mütter.

Author Cristin O'Keefe Aptowicz will talk about Mütter on Oct. 24 at the joint meeting of the MSSC and the Jager Club. Aptowicz says the doctor "revolutionized American medicine with his daring surgical work, his pioneering use of anesthesia, and his life-long advocacy of a compassion-based vision of medicine."

Her 2014 book, *Dr Mütter's Marvels: A True Tale of Intrigue and Innovation at the Dawn of Modern Medicine*, was a NY Times best-seller.



Aptowicz became fascinated with Dr. Mütter's medical oddities, and then with the man himself.

Join the Jager Club

Began in the 1960s to honor Wichita's first pathologist, the Jager Club focuses on medical history. It holds four dinner meetings a year, with an annual joint meeting with the MSSC in October.

Call KUSM-Wichita Academic & Student Affairs at (316) 293-2603 to learn more. Membership forms and other info are available by going to www.kumc.edu and searching for Jager Club.

STAY INFORMED AND STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MSSC



The MSSC works each day to find medical news of local, state and national interest and then share it with members through its Facebook and Twitter posts.

The key step for staying up to date with the MSSC is to like the MSSCOnline on Facebook or follow it on Twitter @MSSC_Wichita. Please let us know if there are particular topics you would like to see us follow.



July President's Message



by Denis Knight, DO —

A January New York Times article documented why Americans need to take the opiate crisis seriously, noting 33,000 people died in 2015. Overdose deaths kill as many people as car crashes, and deaths from heroin alone exceed those of gun homicides.

The lives lost are not simply the homeless, nameless and faceless persons in the forgotten quarters of society but our children, our brothers and sisters, our mothers and fathers. With a problem so widespread, hardly anyone can look at their own family and not see this scourge. Even more alarming is that what little public funds are available for detoxification and treatment could be cut further by our legislators on Capitol Hill.

At the recent AMA Annual Convention in Chicago, I heard much discussion of proposals to address the opiate epidemic. Nevertheless, as physicians we still are responsible for prescribing opiates for those patients needing them. Treatment of pain related to cancer and end of life care seems to be without much debate. Likewise, it isn't controversial for nurses in licensed facilities to dispense opiate analgesics for rehabilitation and long-term care. Most agree that patients receiving acute care in a hospital can safely receive opiates for pain.

The dilemma we face in the outpatient setting is how to properly treat the chronic non-cancer pain of patients for whom no surgery or definitive treatment exists to ease their pain and improve their quality of life. The simple response by many physicians is that they simply will not prescribe opiates. While every provider has the right to practice as they see fit, this response does not address how to deal with chronic non-cancer pain.

In my practice, the vast majority of patients needing opiates have chronic back pain. They usually have well-documented degenerative disc disease and or have undergone surgery that did not relieve their pain. I am not suggesting my approach is the best or

the only way to prescribe opiates, but these are recommendations that physicians in Sedgwick County can follow to protect their patients from injury or diversion of the drugs to others.

- When opiate analgesics become part of the chronic non-cancer pain care plan, it's important to craft a medication use agreement – a contract, if you will – with the patient receiving these dangerous drugs. The agreement specifies an agreed upon amount of pills per month and establishes that only one physician and one pharmacy, in most cases, will be used.
- A screening tool of questions that can help identify overuse, abuse or diversion should be prepared and used at the start of treatment and at regular intervals thereafter.
- KTRACS is an excellent online prescription-monitoring program that verifies the patient's access to opiates in Kansas and posts the names of all providers and pharmacies involved with controlled substances.
- Any use of opiates should be monitored with drug screens, urine usually but frequently serum sampling as well, to ensure patients are not using illicit drugs or non-prescribed controlled substances or diverting the opiates to others.
- Make clear that you, the physician, have responsibility for treating the chronic pain and that an urgent care center or emergency department is not the place to seek relief.
- Urge patients to secure the medications in a locked location, ideally a safe that is heavy enough it cannot be carried off, with a key or combination only possessed by the patients themselves. We expect loaded guns to be secured in such a manner and opiate analgesics are just as dangerous.
- Finally, when these policies are violated, the physician must have the courage to say the medication is being used improperly and then withhold the opiates.

We cannot protect the citizens in Sedgwick County from themselves and their poor decisions, but we can treat chronic non-cancer pain within reasonable parameters while abiding by the dictum, "First do no harm."

Earl Mills scholarships available

The Earl L. Mills Educational Trust is accepting applications from practicing physicians for scholarship funds to support additional study in medicine lasting 4-12 months at an approved institution or to attend local educational seminars offering post-graduate opportunities. Applicants must have practiced in Kansas for at least five years and be a member of a medical group no larger than five. The deadline is Aug. 31, 2017. To request an application, call Stephanie Clausen with INTRUST Bank at 383-1912.

Medical Service Bureau has new director

The Medical Service Bureau, which links low-income Sedgwick County residents with prescription medications with prescription medication and vision care assistance, has a new executive director.

Aaron Walker joined the bureau June 1, replacing Jean Hogan. Walker's experience includes many years with Youthville and most recently as vice president of strategic development at United Methodist Healthy Ministry Fund in Hutchinson.

The nonprofit bureau, established in 1937 by a group of MSSC physicians, served 3,798 eligible clients last year. It provides vouchers for medications and diabetic supplies, as well as arranging for eye exams and eyeglasses. The bureau, 1530 S. Oliver, Suite 130, takes walk-in patients and referrals from physicians. Medical practices can obtain forms by calling 683-7559. Learn more at www.msbmedlinks.org.

CRIBS *continued from page 1*

The statewide center's goals include conducting research and disseminating best practices to others working in infant mortality and related fields, such as safe sleep. Schmidt said efforts statewide have been fragmented and the good work occurring is often isolated. The center hopes to bring researchers, individuals and organizations together and increase the impact of their efforts.

CRIBS is putting together a board of directors and seeking grants. Its first major goal is organizing a summit next spring or early summer. Input gained there will help guide initial areas of emphasis and identify groups and individuals interested in collaborating.

Schmidt and Dr. Kuhlmann have worked with the MIHC and Safe Sleep Task Force. The Kansas Infant Death & SIDS Network participates in both, and a KIDS Network's fund-raiser, the Haley's SIDS Scramble golf tournament, will help launch CRIBS. The center will receive a portion of the proceeds from the Aug. 28 scramble (see kidsks.org to sign up, learn more). KU Wichita Pediatrics is presenting sponsor of the scramble.

Schmidt, KIDS Network Executive Director Christy Schunn, Dr. Kuhlmann and Dr. Zachary Kuhlmann have worked extensively on safe sleep issues, including toolkits for doctors' offices and safe sleep instructor training. The experiences led them to want to broaden their focus to infant mortality as a whole.

"We all recognize that you have to hit maternal and infant health from several angles and you need a very wide approach with a broad, collaborative model," Dr. Stephanie Kuhlmann said. "With the center, we hope to tie together resources and be more impactful."

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
[AT] Additional Training
[F] Accredited Fellowship
[F*] Unaccredited Fellowship

NEW APPLICANTS

Fadi Al Muhaisen, MD
[BC] Pediatrics
Children's Mercy Hospital
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[R] Diagnostic Radiology
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[F] Hand Surgery
Advanced Orthopaedics Associates
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[BC] Internal Medicine
[F] Cardiology
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[R] Ophthalmology
Greene Vision Group
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ROSTER UPDATE

Keep your 2017 Roster current with this information:

CHANGES

Maged El-Zein, MD
Janel Harting, MD
Victor Salloum, MD
Chloe Steinshouer, MD
Son Truong, MD
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Travis Stembridge, MD
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REINSTATE TO ACTIVE

John D. Knudtson, MD
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3600 E Harry 67218

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Stephen Olson, MD

RETIRED

Bruce Bammel, MD
Dennis Buth, MD

DROPPED

(all moving out of state)

Todd Brubaker, DO
Daniel Davis, MD
Wenny Jean, MD
Somsupha Kanjanauthai, MD
Edgar LeClaire, MD
Cinderella Radu, MD
Jeremy Tamir, MD

Reserve MSSC roster now and save

Order forms for the 2018 MSSC Roster have been sent out. Place your order before Aug. 15 and avoid late fees. To order, please visit msscconline.org and click on the Order Roster link on the right side for an order form.

Roster verification forms have been sent to members. Please make sure your information is current and send any updates so the info appears correctly. For questions, contact Katherine

Murphy at 683-7670 or katherinemurphy@med-soc.org.

The 2018 Roster will feature something new – expanded advertising. The ads help defray MSSC costs and maintain membership affordability. Color ads are being sold on back and inside covers and section dividers. To learn more, click on the Roster Advertising link on the right side of the MSSC website or contact Denise Phillips at 683-7558 or denisephillips@med-soc.org.

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Managing Editor: Phillip Brownlee, executive director

Drs. Scott, Thornhill-Scott earn honor from Inter-Faith Ministries

MSSC members Drs. Thomas Scott and Fannette Thornhill-Scott will be honored Aug. 17 with Inter-Faith Ministries' Peace by Piece Award for their medical and community service here and around the globe. The Scotts, who met in medical school, will receive the award recognizing grass-roots efforts to make a difference at Inter-Faith's 65th Annual Humanitarian Awards Dinner.



Dr. Scott, an allergy and asthma specialist with Via Christi Clinic, mentors young people through Kappa Leadership League, Coleman Middle School and the LINKS program. Dr. Thornhill-Scott, a pediatric hospitalist at Wesley Medical Center, has worked to reduce infant mortality and set up the Nananom Foundation to promote health care access and education in the U.S. and in Ghana, West Africa.



Since 1951, Inter-Faith Ministries has given the awards to honorees demonstrating "devotion to others, dedication to making the community

better, perseverance in the face of difficulty, strong faith, and a commitment to using their time and talents to help those in need."

Forum *continued from page 1*

With two candidates, District 3 and 6 won't have primaries. District 3 incumbent James Clendenin faces William Stofer, while in District 6 Cindy Claycomb opposes Sybil Strum. Strum was not at the forum.

The candidates addressed questions provided ahead of time and ones from audience members, who asked about public transit and mental health funding and whether the Board of Health should be appointed and city-county run instead of having county commissioners serve as the board as they now do.

Candidates praised growth in bike and walking paths. Their appeal to young people and as economic development tool were mentioned by Johnson, Claycomb and others. "People will stay and invest here," Johnson said, and Wilson observed "millennials want to bike and walk" and not own cars. Clendenin was proud of the city's investment, but noted budgets are tight. Stevens called current spending "adequate."

When asked whether the city should raise the age to buy tobacco products from 18 to 21, differences emerged. "You can't legislate good behavior," said Stover, adding he favored prevention instead. Several candidates noted they felt conflicted, since 18-year-olds can vote, fight wars and drink. That, Kinard said, made him want to keep the age at 18, a stance Stevens also held. Other candidates favored the age rise. Virtually all candidates clearly favored including e-cigarettes in the regulation of indoor smoking.

Access to health care came up repeatedly, arising through questions about making farmers markets easier to set up (streamline it, most said) and the city's role in promoting Community Health Improvement Plan goals. Regarding CHIP, answers ranged from a strong role from Claycomb, Johnson, Clendenin and Wilson to a more collaborative one (Kinard, Stofer) to Stevens' belief that, while the city should cooperate, public health is "a county function."