



DENVER MEDICAL BULLETIN

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DMS Meets Mayoral Candidates to Discuss City's Health

Members of the Denver Medical Society Board of Directors invited several of the Denver mayoral candidates to meet with them in April to discuss health care issues facing the City and County of Denver. In a tightly contested race, DMS Board members felt it was important that candidates hear from the Denver physician community their concerns and perspectives on issues of access, preventive care, and creation of healthy communities, among other issues. Although many of the issues physicians struggle with in their practices everyday are not ones that can be addressed at the local government level, the Board wanted the candidates to understand the deep concern physicians have for the communities they serve and the many factors that impact the health of their patients everyday.

Access to quality health care services was discussed in light of the recent relocation of several hospitals outside of Denver, as well as the challenge of finding care for uninsured patients and the existing capacity constraints within the Denver Health system. Participating physicians identified specific access problems such as inappropriate utilization of emergency departments that diverts resources from truly urgent and emergent cases, along with a lack of good alternatives for patients with mental health needs, including a failure of coordination between mental health and physical health care delivery. The challenge of funding care for indigent patients and the need for continued City

support for Denver Health led to a discussion of the need for additional resources from surrounding communities and the state to provide adequate coverage for this population.

Board members engaged candidates on the need to approach health care and health care cost containment from the perspective of healthy communities that encourage and support personal responsibility and good decision making for individual health, beginning at the level of the public school system through the use of zoning and economic development incentives to create community infrastructure that encourages exercise, healthy eating, and a positive lifestyle. One creative suggestion offered was to allow the use of food stamps at farmers' markets to incentivize incorporating fresh produce into peoples' diets.



From left in green shirt DMS Board member, Blaine Olsen, MD; mayoral candidate, James Mehia; and Board member, Aaron Burrows, MD, discussed access to quality health care services at Denver Health, among other topics, recently.

Encouraging residents to grow their own healthy produce was another topic to counter the “food deserts” found in some parts of Denver. Participants also touched on the need for continued tweaking of rules governing the distribution of medical marijuana, which was generally considered to be out of control in the community.

Board members emphasized the desire of Denver physicians to serve as a resource to the City as these complex health care issues move forward and to emphasize the willingness of the physician community to participate in creative problem solving. Candidates welcomed the opportunity for dialogue and appreciated the thoughtful yet enthusiastic input. Regardless of the outcome of the election, DMS has made it clear that it can be a valuable partner in moving Denver toward becoming a healthier city.



Curtis Hagedorn, MD, DMS Treasurer; Tamaan Osbourne-Roberts, MD; and Stephen Sherick, MD, DMS Board member, share their thoughts on healthy communities.



Michael Hancock, current Denver City Council member and mayoral candidate, discusses issues of importance to doctors.

Thanks to the DMS members who were able to participate in these discussions: Naomi Fieman, MD, President; Curtis Hagedorn, MD, Treasurer; Lucy Loomis, MD, President-elect; and Board members Stephen Sherick, MD; Aaron Burrows, MD; Blaine Olsen, MD; Patty VanDevander, MD; as well as DMS members Tamaan Osbourne-Roberts, MD, and Robert Sawyer, MD.

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Denver Medical Bulletin: Naomi M. Fieman, MD, DMS President and PublisEHR / Michael B. Keller, MD, Chair of the Board / Lucy W. Loomis, MD, President Elect / Curtis L. Hagedorn, MD, Treasurer / Kathy Lindquist-Kleissler, Executive Director / Barbara Kamerling, Program Director. The **Bulletin** is the official publication of the Denver Medical Society, established April 11, 1871, as the first medical society in the Rocky Mountain West. Published articles represent the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official policy of the Denver Medical Society. All correspondence concerning editorial content, news items, advertising and subscriptions should be sent to: The Editor, **Denver Medical Bulletin**, 1850 Williams Street, Denver, CO 80218. Phone (303) 377-1850. Fax (303) 331-9839. web www.denvermedsociety.org. Email: dms@denvermedsociety.org. Postmaster: Send address changes to 1850 Williams Street.

DMS General Membership Meeting

“Optimizing Your Future in a Rapidly Changing Market Place”

Panelists:

Jay Want, MD, Chair
Center for Improving Value in HealthCare
(CIVHC)

Peter McNally, CEO, Banner Health

Jenn Dailey, Founder
Hawkview Partners Company

To RSVP call 303-377-1850 or
email dms@denvermedsociety.org.

Exempla St. Joseph Hospital
Russell Pavilion

1835 Franklin Street, Denver
Stern Elder Room

Thursday evening, June 9, 2011

6:00—7:00 Hors d’oeuvres, wine,
beer, networking
7:00 Buffett Dinner
7:30—9:00 Program

DMS Young Physicians Meeting

“The Evolving Healthcare Environment: Who’s Doing What with Whom?”

The Denver Chophouse & Brewery, 1735 19th Street

Wednesday evening, May 11, 2011

You are welcome to bring a guest.

To **RSVP** call 303-377-1850 or email dms@denvermedsociety.org.

This program generously
sponsored by



Special appreciation to the
American Medical Association
for support of this program.



Advanced Physician Leadership Program

The Colorado Medical Society and the Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership (RIHEL) have teamed up to deliver the Advanced Physician Leadership Program (APLP) for Colorado physicians. The objectives of the program are to:

- Strengthen the ability of physicians to assume leadership roles within both the profession and communities across the state; and
- Grow a cadre of Colorado physician leaders who are trained, willing and confidently able to serve as champions to ensure access to cost-effective, quality and safe care.

APLP attendees will receive expert training from RIHEL's nationally renowned faculty on leadership, collaborative leadership, teamwork, systems thinking and social and emotional intelligence. They will receive support for leadership growth and advocacy actions and learn facts about access to care in Colorado, tested messaging strategies about access to health, and how to advocate for access to health through unpaid media. They will network and work with physicians who are equally committed to improving health.

This yearlong training program consists of four retreats that will each begin on a Friday evening and end midday Sunday. The first retreat will take place Sept. 23-25, 2011, in Glenwood Springs. The other retreats are scheduled for Dec. 16-18, 2011, in Tabernash, March 2012 in Denver (specific date to be determined), and June 22-24, 2012, in Florissant.

CMS and RIHEL are seeking physicians from across Colorado who want to grow their leadership potential, ensure access to health care and bring a diversity of perspectives and experiences to this program. A competitive application process will be used to select 40 physician participants. Scores depend upon the stated conviction, insight and leadership potential demonstrated in the answers to application questions. The application deadline is May 31, 2011. Use this link to apply: <http://www.cms.org/strategic-priorities/APLP/>.

Tuition for the program along with all retreat meals and lodging costs will be free to participating physicians thanks to a generous grant from the Colorado Trust through its *Building Public Will to Achieve Access to Health* initiative.

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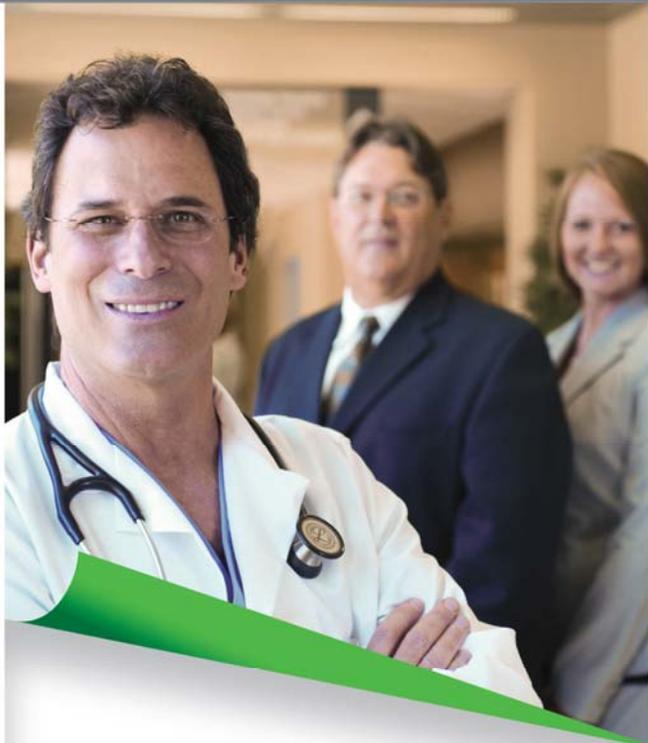
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Colorado EHR Selection Summit

The Denver Medical Society encourages its membership to take advantage of this program brought to you by CO-REC (Colorado Regional Extension Center). The Summit will focus on providing physicians with the ability to participate in EHR demonstrations using clinical scenarios, which will better equip you to assess EHR products as you consider the option of working with a vendor. There will be 12 products demonstrated by 11 EHR vendors. All are CORHIO/CO-REC approved integration EHR vendors that have gone through a rigorous evaluation process.

May 20, 2011, 8:00 AM—4:45 PM through May 21, 2011, 8:00 AM—noon

Denver West Marriott, Golden, Colorado

AGENDA

Friday, May 20th

- 8:00—8:30 Summit Registration
- 8:30—9:30 Opening Remarks
Robyn Leone, Director of CO-REC
- 9:30—10:30 Vendor Exhibit Reviews
- 10:30—12:00 EHR Scenario Demonstrations
- 12:00—1:15 Lunch Presentation:
Keys to Selection Scoring & Criteria
- 1:30—3:00 EHR Scenario Demonstrations
- 3:15—4:45 EHR Scenario Demonstrations
- 5:00—6:30 Networking Reception by athenahealth

Saturday, May 21st

- 8:00—9:15 Breakfast & Presentation:
Successful EHR Planning Strategies
- 9:45—11:15 EHR Scenario Demonstrations
- 11:30—12:00 Closing Remarks

**Registration fees: \$20 per solo practitioner
\$40 per practice—up to 4 attendees**

To register go to

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011ehrsummit>

EHR VENDORS:

Allscripts
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athenaClinicals
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13%
dividend for
Colorado
members
in 2011

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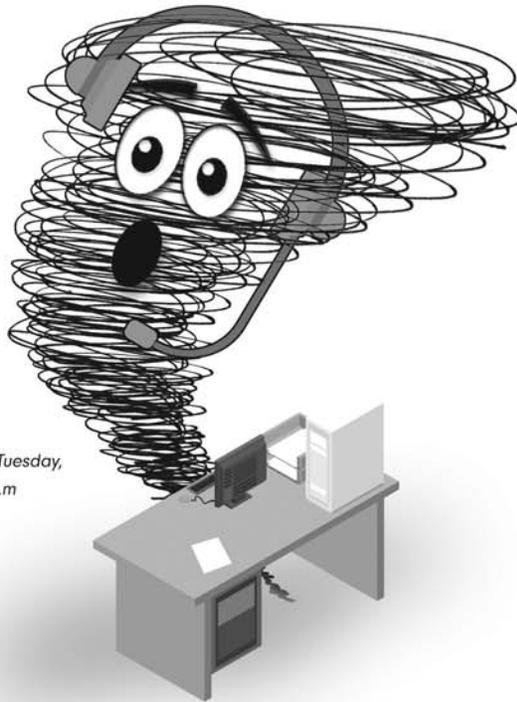
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