

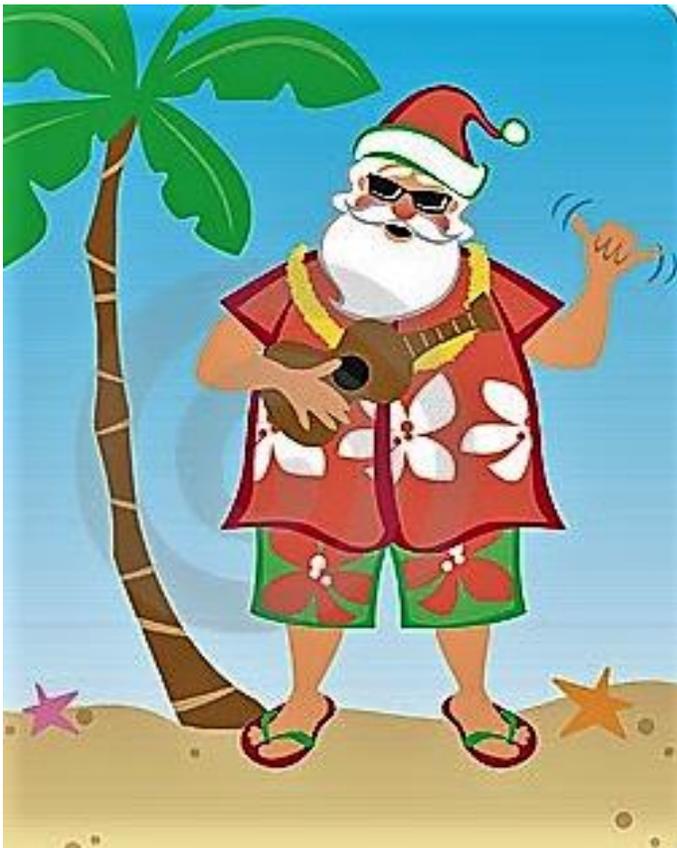


CHIROPRACTIC NEWS & VIEWS

Presented by:
Hawaii State Chiropractic Association, Inc.

Volume XIII, December 2016

Mele Kalikimaka Me Ka Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!



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NOTICE: NO DEC. 2016 GEN. MEMBERSHIP MEETING...POSTPONED!

NEXT HSCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: SATURDAY, JAN. 14, 2017, AT THE 2017 FED COMPLIANCE SEMINAR. AIRPORT HONOLULU HOTEL 3401 NIMITZ HWY, HONOLULU. AT 12:30 LUNCH BREAK

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*Joseph G Morelli Jr DC FICC, HSCA President & ACA Hawaii Delegate*

Aloha All:

I hope you and your family had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Mine was great, did it "Italian Style" as a "homage" to our great Italian-American holiday feasts that my family put on while I was growing up in Philly! Ate way too much pasta!

As I write this, there are about 20 days till Christmas! Again, a time for family and friends, and to make positive affirmations for the New Year.

I am hopeful for our profession, as we continue to make greater strides in finding our place as spine and healthcare specialists.

Overall, things seem to be moving at a snail's pace, but the good thing is we continue to move forward, gaining more and more.

So, this bring me to the recent Presidential elections, and a very interesting turn of events, namely, the election of Donald Trump.

Since I have had many years of a direct connection to the ACA in our Nation's Capital, I have seen the different machinations of how the politics adapts to each administration and its overall agenda. (Of course, our prime focus being on Chiropractic and healthcare policy).

Recently, the president-elect has made some interesting cabinet and agency head appointments.

First off is Congressman Tom Price of Georgia for Sec. of Health and Human Services. As you may know, Congressman Price is a medical doctor, (Orthopedic Surgeon).

The good news, is he is very pro practitioner, and anti-red-tape! Apparently, he was chosen because of all the heaps and heaps of red-tape regs that has burdened the healthcare industry and are known to be one of the major drivers of the increased cost of health care delivery.

I recently have had some contact with my counterparts at the ACA, and specifically the Georgia delegation. They have had a very positive relationship with Dr. Price, and are very hopeful regarding our agenda in the future. Congressman Price has helped the DC's in Georgia multiple times over the years.

Regarding the repeal & replace of ObamaCare, apparently, Dr. Price will have a strong voice in the advising of the new president. From what I have been told, he is very interested on keeping the parts of the PPACA law that seem to be working, while bringing in more competition into the healthcare market.

This may be a good thing for us here in Hawaii, since HMSA is so dominant, with almost no competition.

Being a practicing physician himself, Congressman/Dr. Price will not be angling to be a life-long bureaucrat.

The ACA is very focused on the anti-discrimination language in the PPACA statute. So far, behind the scene indications are fairly-positive. Of course, this remains to be seen as different initiatives are implemented by the new administration and Congress.

Then, there is the more controversial appointment of Ms. Seema Verma, as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Ms. Verma worked closely with VP-elect/Gov. Mike Pence of Indiana on the re-do of the Medicaid system in Indiana. The

Chiropractors were left out of the Medicaid system in Indiana, supposedly for budgetary concerns. Ms. Verma has been quoted as saying in early 2016 that 'next year will be the year for the Chiropractic profession. They should be able to get what they want in Indiana in 2017.'

This was said earlier in the year, prior to the elections, and Verma's recent appointment to head CMS as part of the Trump Administration. ACA has already made some positive outreach to her and her Indiana contacts.

As you may recall, the ACA has been working for several years for Chiropractors to gain full physician status in Medicare, and get paid for what we actually are required and licensed to do. (With full physician status, this may also gain us the ability to "opt out" of Medicare, if a practitioner so desires.)

With the new administration coming in and planning to shake up the status quo, it is going to be very interesting how things do down in DC after the inauguration. See the next article regarding the elections and Chiropractic from Chiropractic Lobbyists in DC.

Aloha & Happy Holidays,
Dr. JOE Morelli

ELECTION 2016:**WHAT IT MEANS FOR CHIROPRACTIC***By Jack Dusik, Senior Director for Federal Govt. Relations, American Chiropractic Assn.*

With a new Congress and a new presidential administration about to begin, there will be many changes and opportunities ahead for the chiropractic profession. Following is a short summary of the congressional transition, and what it may mean to us as we move forward into the 115th Congress.

Elections

While there are three undecided races in Louisiana (a Dec. 10 runoff will determine the final freshman senator, and two representatives are all expected to go Republican), broadly not much has changed in regard to control of the House and Senate. Democrats gained an additional two senators and six representatives; however, this was short of the numbers needed to take control of either chamber, which remain in Republican control under the leadership of House Speaker Paul Ryan (Wis.) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (Ky.).

In addition, as a result of retirements, candidacies for other offices and the passing of a handful of members, seven new senators and 57 representatives will take the oath of office on Jan. 3, 2017.

Looking at the departures, we can certainly expect some major changes as both the House and Senate saw the exit of significant policy leaders. In the House, the Committee on Energy and Commerce (E&C) will see significant change, as Chairman Fred Upton (Mich.) is stepping down due to term limits imposed by the Republican Party. Vying to replace him are two senior members of the committee, Reps. John Shimkus (Ill.) and Greg Walden (Ore.). Additionally, with the retirement of E&C Health Subcommittee Chairman Joe Pitts (Pa.), there will be a new subcommittee chairman on this vital committee.

At the Committee on Ways and Means--the other critically important House health committee--there are also some big departures, especially on the Democratic side of the dais. Rep. Charlie Rangel (N.Y.), a legendary policy figure, is leaving after a remarkable 46 years serving in the House, and Rep. Jim McDermott (Wash.), the ranking Democrat on the Health Subcommittee, is leaving after 28 years. For Republicans, Rep. Charles Boustany (La.), a notable member of the House Doctors Caucus, left to run for Senate.

In the Senate, there is generally much less turnover, and this election was no different; however, the Senate Committee on Finance saw the departure of Sen. Dan Coats (Ind.) and the Committee on Health Education Labor and Pensions (HELP) will have two vacancies with the departures of Sens. Mark Kirk (Ill.) and Barbara Mikulski (Md.).

The replacements for the outgoing members will be determined in the next few weeks. As these four committees have great sway over issues of importance to the chiropractic profession (such as a repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act and overhaul of the Medicare program), we will watch with much anticipation as the process unfolds.

Congressional Agenda

Turning to the congressional agenda, it seems obvious there will be major changes to the Affordable Care Act-- though to what degree is difficult to say at present. Regardless, ACA's priority must be protection of Section 2706 of the Public Health Service Act, the "Provider Non-Discrimination" provision we fought so hard to enact.

In respect to Medicare, it appears the House Ways and Means Committee will take a look at doing a serious overhaul of the program, which is also of vital interest to the chiropractic profession. ACA launched a campaign in 2015, the National Chiropractic Equality Petition, to change Medicare regulations and enable chiropractors to practice to the fullest extent of their state scope so they can better meet the needs of their senior patients. More than 30,000 chiropractic supporters have signed the petition to date. Any changes to Medicare could potentially impact this important initiative and ACA's strategy moving forward.

The Senate Finance Committee will likely continue working on its chronic care initiative, which ACA has been a stakeholder in from its inception.

And with a final rule released Oct. 14, 2016, by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regarding the final regulations for implementation of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA)--the historic Medicare reform law that repealed the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula last year--there will certainly be a number of areas wherein ACA will continue to work with our congressional supporters, many of whom are returning in the 115th Congress.

While there may still be many health policy unknowns ahead of us, be assured that ACA's government relations team will be ever vigilant in protecting and promoting the interests of doctors of chiropractic and the more than 30 million patients they serve annually.

"2017 FEDERAL COMPLIANCE SEMINAR"

Presented by the **HSCA** at the Airport Honolulu Hotel, on Sat. 01-14-2017 and Sunday, 01-15-2017. This will be a 13-hour program. Multiple expert speakers from **BEST**

PRACTICES ACADEMY, Dr. Scott Munsterman, DC, FICC, & Dr. Karen Korth, PhD, NCC, PCMH, CCE, CPHPA.

Additionally, Dr. Michael Jacklitch, DC, Chair of the ACA Medicare Committee to review the New Documentation Models/Requirements.

The 2-day program will be at the "Airport Honolulu Hotel", right next to the Honolulu International Airport for the convenience of our Neighbor Island doctors/staff. Hopefully, Neighbor Island docs should be able to fly in, attend the program, incurring no car rental or taxi expense. Please see the registration form insert in this newsletter for the program: **2017 Federal Compliance Seminar... "Getting Paid in 2017 & Beyond"**

We are applying for 13 HI CE credit hours.

Schedule:

Sat., Jan. 14th 8:30am till 6:00pm (Bring your own lunch)

Sun. Jan. 15th 8:30am till 1:30pm

Fees: HSCA Members:

DC's \$295; Nbr. Isl. DC's \$245

1st. CA/Staff FREE; Add'l CA/Staff \$50 each

Fees: NON-Members

DC's \$395 & CA/Staff \$100 each

You can register online through the HSCA website:

www.HawaiiStateChiropracticAssociation.Org

To get the **HSCA Member Discounted fees**, the member should **first login** to the association website, and then click on the registration link under the Seminar Tab.

First logging-in tells the computer that you get the discounted fees as a MEMBER.

If there are any problems with registration, or questions, please do not hesitate to call me on the HSCA line:

(808) 926-8883

You may FAX in the completed registration form:

(808) 926-8884

INSURANCE PROBLEMS WITH ADVANTAGE CLAIMS?

There have been some recent calls about Chiropractic claims (Medicare Advantage Claims) being denied by United Healthcare, Humana and Optum based plans.

These companies are trying to get a much greater footing in the Hawaii healthcare market, selling Senior Advantage type products. (I also believe they will be selling general health plans in the future.)

As you may know, these products enhance Medicare, and include drug and other services not basic to Medicare.

Chiropractic has generally been included in these types of plans. HMSA has its Akamai, while Kaiser has its Senior Advantage, etc.

Because Humana, United Healthcare, Optum, etc. have had little or no presence here in Hawaii in the past, they have contracted with local entity, MDX, to do it local panel credentialing. This includes Chiropractic providers.

Regarding the complications with MDX, etc. Dr. Gary Saito has taken on the project of gathering information from our local DC's regarding their experiences with the above-mentioned entities. If you have had claims problems/denials, etc. please give him a call and fill him in on your experiences. Dr. Saito's office number is (808) 593-9992. Please remember, if you do discuss individuals and forward records, please pay attention to HIPAA privacy rules and "blind" all protected information.

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>>>>SEMINAR<<<<

“Western States U..Summer in December”
**Integrative Sacroiliac Joint and Lower Extremity
Evaluation and Care Strategies 2016**

Presented by Dr. William Moreau and Dr. Beverly Harger

Office Emergencies

Presented by Ms. Lori Holt

Soft Tissue Manipulation

Presented by Dr. Tom Hyde

20 CE Hours

Place: Wailea Beach Marriott Resort & Spa

Date: Dec. 9 to 11, 2016

Register: <http://www.uws.edu/summer-in-december-hawaii-ce-program/>

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>>>>SEEKING ASSOCIATE<<<<

Chiropractic office on the island of Oahu seeking an associate
chiropractor or junior partner to join our practice in the
beautiful town of Kailua.

Call: 808 261-4040

EMAIL: Dr. Thurlow at: dr.thurlow@gmail.com

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>>>>SEEKING ASSOCIATE POSITION<<<<

Experienced Doctor seeking associate position in Hawaii

I graduated from NYCC in 2004 and have spent the majority of my
professional career in New Zealand. I strive to combine outstanding
clinical skills with a truly patient centered approach to chiropractic
care. Techniques which I enjoy are Diversified and extremity
adjusting, Cox Technique, ART, Medical Acupuncture and
rehabilitation. Beyond technique, however, I know that genuinely
connecting with patients is essential for a positive experience and
outcome. I believe that it is a privilege to be able to help human beings
heal naturally.

My ideal position would be either taking over for a busy doctor or
joining a successful doctor who is ready to slow down. I enjoy being
part of a focused team with positive intent. After living in New
Zealand, I developed a deep love for the ocean and the Polynesian
islands. Having spent considerable time in Kauai while undergoing
certification in YogAlign, I was able to explore some of the Hawaiian
Islands, particularly the Big Island. It has since been a dream of mine
to return and be a part of a community.

CONTACT: Jeffrey M. Farnham, DC

Email: jeffreymfarnham@gmail.com

Call: 928-963-0180

Hawaii State Chiropractic Association Presents:

13 Possible C. E. Credit Hours

Program: 2016 Federal Compliance Seminar Getting Paid in 2017 & Beyond!



- MACRA, MIPS & Chiropractic
- New Payment Models: “Quality Payment Program”
- Coding, Documentation & Billing
- Demonstrating Medical Necessity
- Decrease Errors & High Denial Rates

Presenters:

Dr. Scott Munsterman, DC, FICC
CEO & Founder of Best Practices Academy



Scott Munsterman, DC, FICC



Dr. Michael D. Jacklitch, DC
Chair, ACA Medicare Committee

Dr. Karen Korth, PhD
Best Practices Academy



Karen Korth, PhD, FICD, FICM, FICP

Doctor, bring your whole CA staff for the most up to date program on all the new Federal Regs for 2017.

This program will teach what you need to know to get paid, and not violate the law!

This program will give you the information to keep you in compliance!

Date: Saturday January 14th 2017
Sunday January 15th 2017

Time: 8:30 am to 6:00 pm
8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Place: Honolulu Airport Hotel

3401 Nimitz Hwy, Hono. HI 96819
Hotel phone: (808) 836-0661

Fees: **HSCA Members:**
DCs \$295
DCs (Neighbor Isl.) \$245
CA Staff: 1st Free, Add'l Staff \$50

Non-HSCA Member:
DCs \$395
CA Staff: \$100 (each)

Please note the FEE differences for HSCA Members vs. Non-Members. There are NO discounted Fees for Non-Members!

Register on HSCA Website using the following LINK:

<http://www.hawaiistatechiropracticassociation.org/events/register.aspx?id=897145>

-Or-

Mail or Fax Form below with Credit Card info.

Note: CA/Staff MUST attend with Registered DC

For Information call HSCA: (808) 926-8883

Registration: Fax form: (808) 926-8884 -or- Mail form with Check made to HSCA: HSCA, P.O. Box 22668 Hono., HI 96823-2668

Name on C Card: _____ Add: _____ Phone: _____

Credit Card#: _____ Expiration Date: _____ 3 digit Security code: _____ Signature: _____

eMail address: (For receipt & other notifications): _____

HSCA MEMBERS ONLY DC Name: _____

1st CA/Staff Name: _____

Additional CA/Staff Names: _____

NON-MEMBERS ONLY DC Name: _____

CA/Staff Names: _____