



ABOUT MMS

THE MARIN MEDICAL SOCIETY, a component medical society of the California Medical Association, supports local physicians and their efforts to enhance the health of the community. MMS and CMA offer a wide array of legal, collegial and advocacy benefits to their members, and they are involved with several community health initiatives.

Founded in 1898, MMS is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization governed by a board of directors composed of local physicians. MMS welcomes all physicians, respects diverse interests and acts as a unifying force in the community. Interested physicians with MD or DO degrees can join both MMS and CMA by completing a simple, one-page application form.

COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES

MMS ENHANCES THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY by helping local residents gain the knowledge, motivations and opportunities needed to make informed decisions about their health. The medical society supports local, state and national efforts to promote healthy behaviors, create healthy environments and increase access to high-quality health care. Current MMS health initiatives include:

Marin Specialty Access. This initiative seeks to improve access to specialty care for uninsured and underinsured patients in Marin County. Working in collaboration with physicians, safety net providers, community organizations and regional hospital systems, the goal is to encourage participation in the Marin Community Clinics specialty referral system.

Disaster preparedness. In collaboration with the Marin County Public Health Department, MMS coordinates National Incident Management System (NIMS) disaster preparedness (DP) training for local physicians. The training helps physicians respond appropriately to earthquakes, communicable disease outbreaks and other types of disasters. Physicians in the DP group also volunteer at Marin Community Clinics.

Community leadership. MMS members serve in leadership positions for many local health organizations, including Heberden Telemedicine Foundation, LifePlant International, Marin Community Clinics, Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council, Marin Medical Reserve Corps, Operation Access, Partnership HealthPlan, Rotacare, and Marin Women's Study breast cancer research.



MOUNT TAMALPAIS & BON TEMPLE LAKE
Franco Folini

MEMBER BENEFITS

BENEFITS AND ACTIVITIES for MMS/CMA members include legal and financial services, collegial events, and legislative advocacy.

Free medical-legal information. MMS/CMA members can contact the CMA Member Help Center at 800-786-4262 for assistance with general, legal and reimbursement issues, including contracts and agreements, subpoenas, employer/employee relations, collections, confidentiality, and records retention. In addition, members can access the **CMA Medical-Legal Library** at www.cmanet.org, an online resource containing over 3,000 pages of medical-legal, regulatory and reimbursement information. These documents are free to members; nonmembers pay \$2 per page.

Collegial Events. MMS encourages physician collegiality in Marin County by sponsoring several annual events. The **seasonal dinners**, held at local restaurants two or three times per year, feature well-known speakers and lively social hours. **Informal receptions** throughout the year allow physicians

to interact with their colleagues in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere. MMS also sponsors an annual **potluck dinner** for women physicians.

CMA Meetings. MMS/CMA members regularly participate in meetings sponsored by the California Medical Association. Each fall, delegates from MMS attend the **House of Delegates**, which establishes the policies that guide CMA. During the spring, MMS/CMA members enroll in the **CMA Leadership Academy**, which helps physicians develop leadership skills and understand the latest trends in health care.

Legislative Advocacy. Physicians consistently indicate that influencing public policy is a top priority. MMS/CMA members regularly meet with local representatives and with candidates for public office. Members are also invited to participate in the annual **Legislative Day**, when physicians from around the state convene in Sacramento to meet with legislators and other government officials.

PUBLICATIONS

ONE OF KEY FUNCTIONS OF MMS AND CMA is to help physicians stay current with medical news and trends. Members receive free subscriptions to several publications, including:

MMS News Briefs. This monthly electronic newsletter covers the latest local, state and national medical news.

Marin Medicine. Each issue of this peer-reviewed quarterly magazine focuses on a particular medical topic, with articles by local physicians and other experts.

Marin County Physician Directory. This annual publication features detailed listings for MMS members, including their specialties, board certifications, special medical interest and medical training.

CMA Publications. MMS/CMA members can receive one or more free newsletters from CMA, including *CMA Alert* and *CMA Practice Resources*. In addition, the **CMA On-Line Bookstore** at www.cmanet.org offers a wide array of legal handbooks and practice management guides.

MMS COMMITTEES

MEMBERS WHO ARE INTERESTED in influencing public policy, reviewing publications or assisting with disaster preparedness can sign up for MMS committees, including:

Disaster Preparedness Physician Volunteer Group. Members of this group receive disaster preparedness training and volunteer their time at Marin Community

Clinics. For more information, contact Dr. Peter Bretan at bretan.surgery@usa.net.

Editorial Board. Approves editorial content for *Marin Medicine* magazine.

Legislative. Organizes meetings with local legislators and candidates for public office.

HOW TO JOIN MMS AND CMA

Any medical doctor (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) is eligible to join the Marin Medical Society and the California Medical Association. You can apply online at www.marin-medicalsociety.org/join or request an application from Rachel Pandolfi at rachel@marinmedicalsociety.org or 415-924-3891.

CONTACT MMS

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