

## Your Chapter in Action

Your Chapter in action is a simple, one page streamlined communication distributed every two weeks to members. Each communication will focus on the Chapter's three core missions: **Education, Advocacy** and **Quality Improvement** and will provide you with resources, tools and ways to connect. For more information or direct discussion of any issue listed - call our office at 1-800-446-9746.

**May 7, 2014**

### Advocacy

#### Our Presence on the Hill

The Chapter was well represented at its annual State Legislation Visitation day at the Capital earlier this week. Seventeen members from across the State came to meet with the Chair of the Senate and Assembly Health Committees and with staff from the Governor's office and Department of Health. Centering on our Chapter's three main policy objectives: Access to Care, Quality of Care and Patient Safety and Public Health, physicians discussed our leading efforts in quality improvement, patient safety and practice transformation, and focused on issues specific to each leader. Included in the discussions were 1) Passing legislation to increase access to opioid antagonists; 2) the continuing emphasis of the legislature on new practice mandates and how disruptive they are to quality patient care; 3) several legislative initiatives to limit tobacco purchase and expand definitions to include e-cigarettes and other unregulated nicotine delivery devices, and the need to restore the Primary Care Incentive Payment that expires on December 31, 2015 which brought increased Medicaid fee for service rates to Medicare levels. The Chapter leadership, staff and Health and Public Policy Committee members continue to monitor all legislative activities as the Legislature enters its final month of session. Regulatory issues such as the new Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) grants and the State's Health Innovation Plan continue to require many meetings and constant monitoring and assessment.



### Quality

### **STEP Therapy Coalition Event**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has been working on a coalition to address issues relating to "fail first/step therapy" policies by insurance companies. NYACP was invited to speak at a recent roundtable discussion on **Wednesday, April 30**, in Albany in an effort by the Coalition to learn more about the physician perspective on step therapy. NYACP feels the physician perspective is critical to both patient groups and industry having a solid understanding of the impact on patient care and medical practice. Mary Cutler, Director of Quality, shared information on the Chapter's recent focus group activities.

### **NYS Older Adult Fall Prevention Advisory Group and Workgroup Meeting**

The Chapter has been participating in a New York State Department of Health Advisory Group addressing Adult Fall Prevention. Stakeholders met last week to review the successes of the program which was modeled in Broome, Chautauqua and Suffolk Counties, evaluate progress and explore opportunities to expand the current programs. Tai Chi and Programming Opportunities in State Parks for Older Adults were explored in detail.

The Workgroup met in the afternoon to identify barriers and solutions to fall prevention, as well as brainstorm ways to promote the 2014 Falls Prevention Awareness Day (September 23, 2014) and Falls Prevention Awareness Month (September). The CarFit Program - a program to promote safe driving and mobility among older drivers by focusing attention on safety, comfort and fit, provides information, education and community-based resources to older drivers.

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## ***Education***

The Chapter continuously schedules educational events throughout all districts for our members. Don't miss out on the following networking opportunities and keep updated on current topics:

#### **May 20 - Southern Tier District - P.S. Restaurant**

Healthcare 101 and Pitfalls of Electronic Health Records - [register here!](#)

#### **May 21 - Special Educational Event - "The Amygdala and the Stethoscope: How Emotions Affect the Practice of Medicine"**

Guest Speaker: Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD, FACP - [register here!](#)

#### **June 5 - Rochester District Meeting - Academy of Medicine**

New Approach to Cardiovascular Risk Reduction JNC8 and 2013 Lipid Guidelines

**Save the Dates! - Details to follow!**

**June 10 - Hudson Valley Capital District Meeting**

**June 10 - Suffolk District Meeting**

**June 17 - Hudson Valley Central District Meeting**

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**Save the Date- Saturday, May 16, 2015**  
**Chapter Gala Ball to Honor ACP for 100**  
**Years of Service**  
**Hotel Thayer, West Point**



The NY Chapter is excited to honor the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American College of Physicians by hosting a Centennial Gala on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at the historic Hotel Thayer in West Point, New York overlooking the Hudson River Valley.

This Black Tie Gala will honor the current and future leaders and contributors to medicine in NYACP. All members will be welcome to attend, however, with seating limited at 300, mark your calendar now for this once in a lifetime event! Along with honoring our outstanding members, the evening will be filled great food, great friends and dancing!

**The Chapter will also be sponsoring an essay competition open to all members:**

Watch for future announcements with more detail and an online form for members to use to submit an essay covering a specific idea, discovery, invention, or development that has been the most significant advancement in applied medical science, public policy and/or patient care since 1915. The essay should provide information on the medical innovation, origin and application as may be appropriate. Your submission will be limited to 500 words. The winning essays will be published in the Gala program booklet and submitted to National ACP for publication. The contest will foster thoughtful interest in the historical foundations of your chosen profession.

The Chapter will be providing additional information in upcoming e-alerts on reservations, overnight accommodations for those who would like to explore beautiful West Point and directions for those who will drive for the evening only.

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