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SAVE ON 2009 FLU ORDERS WITH ATLANTIC

Believe it or not, the 2009 Flu pre-booking season has already begun. MAFP understands how important and challenging this process can be for your practice. Our partner, Atlantic Health Partners, offers an excellent vaccine program that will help you access lower pricing for your 2009 Flu orders. Best of all, the Atlantic program is available to your practice at no cost.

As a member of Atlantic, you receive the following enhanced Flu benefits:

- Preferred pricing
- Enhanced shipping and product return arrangements
- Extended payment terms

Atlantic's vaccine program is a great asset for many of your colleagues and these benefits reinforce the value of joining Atlantic. Please note, if you join Atlantic, any Flu orders that you have already placed with SP or MI will qualify for the Atlantic savings program. As a reminder, by joining Atlantic you will also access better pricing and purchasing terms for your vaccine orders with the major vaccine manufacturers.

MAFP leadership encourages you to follow up with Atlantic to learn more about their vaccine purchasing program and how it can help you save on your 2009 Flu order. Please contact Ed Ross at Atlantic, who can be reached by phone at (866) 393-4190 and by email at info@atlantichealthpartners.com.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS AND STUDENTS: NATIONAL CONFERENCE POSTER COMPETITION

Poster Presentations will again be displayed in the Exhibit Hall at this year's National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students (July 30 - August 1). The conference provides one of the largest forums for residents and students to display their research and special projects. There are four poster categories: clinical inquiry, community project, educational program and research. For details about this competition, including the application form and tips on preparing posters, visit www.aafp.org/nc/posters. The deadline for poster application is April 17. While no monetary awards are being offered, outstanding poster presentations will be recognized with first-place ribbons. For more information, contact Ashley Jungles at ajungles@aafp.org or (800) 274-2237, ext. 6726.

SESSIONS AVAILABLE FROM 2008 STFM NE REGION MEETING; CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS 2009 MEETING

Three plenary presentations offered during the 2008 STFM: Ne Region meeting (held October 30-November 2 at the Baltimore Convention Center) addressed key issues related to the need for and development of Family Medicine/primary care. These presentations are now available for viewing via the Internet:

"The Family Doctor's Role in Making Sure Patients Get the Right Care--and not the wrong care" was offered by Shannon Brownlee, MS and Richard Roberts, MD, JD, FAAFP, FCLM. The speakers offered a concise critique of the current health care scene culminating in the point that real change and a move towards equity will require system re-design. The role Family Medicine can play in the re-designed system is clearly articulated.

The second, multi-part presentation had a powerful impact on the future practitioners (students and residents) as well as faculty leaders seeking new models that allow Family Physicians to deliver person-centered care. The four parts:

1. "Direct Medical Practice: The Qliance Experience" by Erika Bliss, MD Dr. Bliss explains the core principles of direct medical practice and how DMP responds to the needs of the underserved.
2. "Access Assured: Application of DMP in a University Practice" by John Saultz, MD Dr. Saultz describes how DMP is working in his University-based practice
3. "Health Access RI: DMP in a Private Practice Network" by Michael Fine, MD Dr. Fine describes how DMP works in a network of eight private practices
4. "DMP: Implications for Health System Re-design" by Dr. Fine who describes how to move from the early experiments (above) to a system of care that delivers what America needs.

The third presentation, "The Role of Family Medicine in Rediscovering the Commonwealth" by John J. Frey, III MD, challenges us to re-connect with the communities we serve. In the era of industrialized health care, many Family Medicine practices have focused inward on their office practices. There is need to reconsider the roots of the discipline and to broaden our connections and impact on the people and communities we serve.

To access these presentations go to www.fmec.net Each of the three presentations involves less than one hour of viewing time. Download and open the Power Point presentations on your computer. Then open the video portion. (Note: Dr. Saultz's video recording includes the slides that accompany his talk). These presentations will challenge those interested in clinical, educational, and health policy issues related to the transformation of our health care systems. They will also help those unfamiliar with Family Medicine to understand the important contribution of our discipline. We also think these presentations will contribute to the renewal Family Medicine. We welcome your feedback on these presentations

Sallie H. Rixey, MD, MEd
Director, Franklin Square Hospital Center Family Medicine Residency,
Baltimore
Chair, 2008 STFM NE Region Host Committee

Call for Submissions for 2009 STFM NE Region Meeting

October 30 - November 1, 2009

Hilton Rye Town Hotel

Rye Brook, New York

To submit your Workshop, Seminar, Research Paper, Paper, Poster or
Common Interest Breakfast Discussion proposals,
go to: www.fmec.net/submissionform.asp Deadline is May 15, 2009

ANNOUNCING 2009 FAMILY MEDICINE CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE

Make Change Happen by participating in AAFP's Family Medicine Congressional Conference (FMCC) May 20-21, 2009 in Washington, D.C. With President Obama's administration and Congressional legislators on both sides of the aisle ready to take on the broken health care system, now is the time to discuss Family Medicine issues. Members can get started in beginner tracks and then develop expertise in advanced tracks. Registration is now open at aafp.org/fmcc.

**PUT YOUR IDEALS INTO PRACTICE: DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS
RECRUITMENT INFORMATION SESSION**

Saturday, April 4, 2:30PM

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Auditorium (A5)

901 G St NW, Washington DC 20001

Every day, Doctors Without Borders aid workers from around the world provide assistance to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect or catastrophe – treating those most in need regardless of political, religious or economic interest. Whether an emergency involves armed conflicts or epidemics, malnutrition or natural disasters, Doctors Without Borders is committed to bringing quality medical care to people in crisis.

On April 4, medical and nonmedical professionals are invited to join us for a presentation to learn more about how you can join Doctors Without Borders' pool of dedicated aid workers. Aid worker and recruiter Laura Cobey, RN will share her experiences of "life in the field" and discuss requirements and the application process. For more information and to register, visit www.doctorswithoutborders.org/work/field/infosessions.cfm

ITEMS FROM MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

- Where Have All the Doctors Gone? On February 10, 2009 on the WYPR show *Maryland Morning*, there was a segment titled "Where Have all the Doctors Gone," featuring an interview with Albert Reece, M.D., Dean of the University of Maryland's School of Medicine, and an emergency room physician. To listen to the segment, go to www.wypr.org/MD_MORNING.html.
- Contact Maryland's Attorney General. It was recently announced that United Healthcare has settled several lawsuits filed against it by the New York Attorney General and the American Medical Association for \$400 million. These suits were based on allegations that United, through its subsidiary Ingenix, had manipulated its proprietary database of physician charges to produce lower than justified payments to physicians and patients for healthcare services delivered. Now is the time to encourage Maryland officials to take the necessary action and follow-up to ensure that the gains won in the above lawsuits are fully enforced in Maryland. Please use the following link to send a message to Maryland Attorney General Douglas Gansler asking him to take action. Go to capwiz.com/medchi/state/main/?state=MD to take action.
- "Mind Your Business, Stat! What You Should Know About Establishing and Maintaining a Medical Practice"

Workshop Details: Saturday, April 4, 2009; 8:00am-1:00pm; MedChi Osler Hall; Contact 410-539-0872 or www.medchi.org.