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Idaho Medical Association

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IMAgEs

April 15, 2019

Idaho Board of Medicine Dismantling IMA PRN Program and Seeking Bids on New Physician's Health Program The Idaho Board of Medicine (BOM) released a Request for Proposal (RFP) on Monday, April 8, 2019, for Physician's Health Program (PHP) Administration to replace the current Physician Recovery Network Program (PRN) administered by IMA. The PRN program and PRN Committee were created in 1986 by the IMA and members due to a strong commitment to the treatment, support and safe return to practice of Idaho physicians with substance abuse disorders. PRN was conceived as an IMA program and has always been either independently administered by IMA or administered by IMA under contract with BOM. Despite some BOM members stating they want the IMA PRN Committee to remain involved in the program, this new RFP will remove IMA from the process.

IMA administration of the PRN program provided a critical arms-length distance between BOM and licensees, giving program participants assurance of confidentiality while also giving BOM assurance that licensees are being appropriately monitored to ensure their safe practice of medicine. Now without IMA's involvement, there could be a chilling effect and voluntary physician participation would likely decline, resulting in fewer physicians receiving treatment.

BOM's new RFP anticipates multiple contracts and, perhaps, multiple vendors to implement their new Physician's Health Program. The RFP states that the successful contractor(s) will assist BOM in performing its duties of addressing potential or confirmed problems of chemical dependency and/or impairment, psychological impairment, and mental or physical impairment and implementing disciplinary action or sanctions affecting Board licensees for three (3) regions, Northern Idaho, Southern Idaho and Eastern Idaho.

The new PHP will be comprised of two separate services:

1. Treatment and recovery

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same
protection.**

- Serving the professional liability needs of physicians since 1975
- No profit motive and low overhead
- Vastly superior dividend policy



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2. Behavioral health and wellness

Contractors interested in providing these services can bid for one of the services or for both services in either one, two or all three of the Idaho PHP Regions. The State anticipates awarding multiple contracts.

The Idaho PRN program is one of the top-performing physician recovery programs in the country. It consistently has high rates of success in helping physicians achieve an addiction-free, professionally productive lifestyle. The physicians on IMA’s PRN Committee have decades of experience working with colleagues undergoing treatment and monitoring for substance use disorders. The committee members provide peer-to-peer support and accountability to physicians with substance abuse disorders. In exit interviews with clients, the PRN Committee was repeatedly cited as being instrumental in a physician’s recovery, with one stating it saved his life and another saying, “Without it, there would be no advocacy from a trusted source.”

IMA supports many of the new goals set forth in the RFP but is concerned about BOM’s dismantling the very successful PRN program to create new programs from whole cloth. We will keep you informed moving forward.

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Save the date ...

127th IMA Annual Meeting
July 19 - 21, 2019 ~ Coeur d’Alene Resort

Make your hotel reservation today by calling 1-844-403-1920 and using room block code: IMA19

Online registration and information is available at www.idmed.org.

The Idaho Medical Association Welcomes New Members A warm welcome to these physicians who have recently joined the IMA:

- Sara J. Aney, MD, Family Medicine, Meridian
- Jordan V. Blanchard, MD, Family Medicine, Weiser
- Allen R. Botimer, MD, Anesthesiology, Boise
- Stewart R. Curtis, DO, Occupational Medicine, Idaho Falls
- Michelle DeVoe, DO, Pediatrics, Ontario
- Landon K. Grange, MD, Ophthalmology, Boise
- Linda D. Grossheim, MD, Radiation Oncology, Post Falls
- Hans F. Hurt, MD, Emergency Medicine, Sandpoint
- Teresa K. Johnson, MD, Family Medicine, Idaho Falls
- Alison McInturff, MD, Pediatrics, Pocatello

Bryan D. Sohl, MD, Maternal and Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Boise

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Rural Communities Opioid Response Program The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) will be releasing a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for a new Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) initiative called RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion (HRSA-19-102). HRSA plans to invest approximately \$8 million in rural communities as part of this funding opportunity.

The funding opportunity will be posted at the following link:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=hrsa-19-102>

Successful RCORP-Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion (MAT Expansion) award recipients will receive up to \$725,000 for a three-year period of performance to establish or expand medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in eligible hospitals, health clinics, or tribal organizations located in high-risk rural communities.

Eligible applicants include domestic public or private, non-profit or for-profit:

- Rural Health Clinics, as defined by Social Security Act Section 1861(aa) and 42 CFR Parts 405 and 491;
- Critical Access Hospitals, as defined by Section 1820 (e) of the Social Security Act and 42 CFR 485 subpart F;
- Other small rural hospitals with 49 available staffed beds or less, as reported on the hospitals' most recently filed Medicare Cost Reports.

All applicants must be located, and all services must be provided, in HRSA-designated rural areas (as defined here: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health>). Applicants do not need to be RCORP-Planning award recipients to apply for this funding opportunity. Applicants may apply for RCORP-MAT Expansion funding if they have applied for RCORP-Implementation funding, but they must detail in their applications how they will avoid duplication of effort and services if awarded both grants.

Given the complex and multifaceted nature of substance use disorder/opioid use disorder (SUD/ODU), as well as the need to generate adequate patient volume to sustain MAT, HRSA requires that applicants partner with at least two other separately-owned (i.e., different employment identification numbers) entities to implement project activities. These partner organizations do not need to be one of the eligible entities listed above and can come from a wide range of sectors and disciplines.

Award recipients are encouraged to leverage workforce recruitment and retention programs like the National Health Service Corps (NHSC). We encourage you to learn more about how to become an NHSC site at <https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/nhsc-sites/become-nhsc-site/index.html>. NHSC-approved sites provide outpatient, primary healthcare services to people in health professional shortage areas.

RCORP is a multi-year initiative by HRSA that supports treatment for and prevention of SUD/ODU with the goal of reducing the morbidity and mortality of SUD/ODU in high risk rural communities. In FY18, HRSA awarded 95 grants to rural communities under the RCORP-Planning initiative and funded a technical assistance center to support RCORP award recipients. In FY19, in addition to the RCORP-MAT Expansion grants, HRSA anticipates awarding approximately 75 RCORP-Implementation awards, as well as a new round of RCORP-Planning grants.

You can subscribe to receive updates on this and other funding opportunities through grants.gov: <https://www.grants.gov/manage-subscriptions.html>. Potential applicants are encouraged to register early with [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), as the registration process can take up to a month to complete.

For more information about RCORP, please contact Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. To learn more about how HRSA is addressing the opioid epidemic, visit <https://www.hrsa.gov/opioids>.

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Cody Heiner, MD, Receives 2019 IAPA Supervising Physician of the Year Award IMA member Cody Heiner, MD of Boise was recently awarded the 2019 Idaho Academy of Physician Assistants (IAPA) Supervising Physician of the Year Award at a dinner reception held during the IAPA Annual Meeting and CME Conference, which took place April 4-6 at the Sun Valley Resort. The award recognizes a physician who demonstrates great mentorship of his or her physician assistants (PAs) and who fosters the unique relationship of trust, collegiality, and mutual respect essential for any great physician/PA team, displaying evidence of collaboration allowing both the physician and the PA to provide greater medical service to their patients and community than either one would be able to do alone.

Cody Heiner, MD, MPH, FACOEM is the medical director of St. Luke's Occupational Health and is a certified medical review officer. He provides comprehensive health-related services for employers and employees, including work injury medical care, drug and alcohol testing, employee physicals, disability evaluations, impairment ratings, and immunizations. Dr. Heiner completed his general clinical internship and occupational medicine residency at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. He earned his masters' degree in public health from the University of Iowa College of Public Health. In being recognized, Dr. Heiner was acknowledged as richly deserving of the award for his thoughtful, evidence-based, consistent, honest, and collaborative approach to PA supervision. It was noted he exemplified the principles of collaborative practice and had been a mentor in encouraging the three PAs he supervises directly to practice to the full extent of their skills and knowledge, and his willingness to help them work through difficult patient cases.

Dr. Heiner's commitment to PAs has allowed for the consistent provision of high quality, affordable healthcare for employers and employees in the Treasure Valley. Most importantly, though, he gives all his PAs the confidence to rely on their skills and clinical judgement, and to make informed decisions daily about the often-complicated patients they encounter on a daily basis.

The Idaho Academy of Physician Assistants (IAPA) is a state constituent chapter of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. When founded in 1977, there were only 16 PAs in Idaho. Today, there are over 1,100 licensed PAs and PA students in the state. Over the years, the IAPA has developed into a dynamic professional organization representing over 450 PAs and PA students in the state of Idaho, leading the profession through education, advocacy, community involvement and professional growth.

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Pre-Order Your 2019 Directory of Idaho Physicians

The IMA is now accepting pre-orders for the 2019 Directory of Idaho Physicians. The Directory provides the office address and telephone number of every physician in Idaho. This comprehensive physician reference also features listings by location of practice and specialty, plus a directory of Idaho hospitals.

As a membership benefit, IMA physician members receive one complimentary copy of the Directory and additional copies are available for \$40.

Order forms are available on the [IMA website](#).

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EIRMC Opens the First Burn Care Center in Idaho Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC) opened the first burn care center in Idaho at the beginning of the month.

The burn program involved renovations to four hospital departments, including a total overhaul of the trauma ward, and more than 2,000 hours of training for all levels of the hospital staff. More than a dozen burn patients have been treated at EIRMC since the program quietly opened April 1.

The \$5 million facility is now the primary provider of burn care between Salt Lake City and Seattle, and the only location of its kind in any of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and North Dakota, the Post Register reports.

There are 128 total burn centers in the United States, and EIRMC's new program will halve the travel time

for many patients in the region. [Kauffman, *Post Register*, 4/13]

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Amazon's Alexa Can Now Handle Protected Health Info Amazon's Alexa voice-activated virtual assistant technology is now HIPAA-eligible, enabling healthcare organizations to build applications with the technology.

Amazon announced that the Alexa Skills Kit can be used by some covered entities and their business associates, subject to provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 to build Alexa "skills" that transmit and receive protected health information.

The determination means that the new version of the Amazon technology can be used for applications that are subject to the data privacy and security requirements of HIPAA.

Within 24 hours, six healthcare payers, pharmacy benefit managers, digital health coaching companies and providers released consumer-focused uses for Alexa.

"Developers are inventing with voice to build helpful and convenient experiences for their customers," says Rachel Jiang, head of Alexa Health and Wellness for Amazon in a blog published last week. "These new skills are designed to help customers manage a variety of healthcare needs at home simply using voice, whether it's booking a medical appointment, accessing hospital post-discharge instructions, checking on the status of a prescription delivery and more."

Using the increasingly familiar Alexa voice-activated virtual assistant to interact with healthcare organizations offers a new avenue to engage patients.

Until now, Alexa's use in healthcare has been mostly limited to question answering services - voice apps, or "skills" - that answer general questions about health conditions, treatments and symptoms, Treloar says. With this upgrade, Alexa can now be used in certain applications that collect and transmit protected healthcare information. This enables a range of voice applications, such as remote patient monitoring, population health, medication adherence and clinical trial optimization.

Organizations launching new healthcare skills with the Alexa Skills Kit include:

- Express Scripts, a pharmacy benefits management company, developed an application that enables members to check the status of a home delivery prescription, and they can request Alexa notifications when prescription orders are shipped.
- Cigna offers Cigna Health Today, which enables eligible employees of companies with which it has contracts to manage health improvement goals and increase opportunities to earn incentives.
- Boston Children's Hospital will use Alexa in tandem with its My Children's Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS), letting parents and caregivers of children in the ERAS program to provide their care teams with updates on recovery progress and receive information regarding their post-op appointments.
- Livongo, a digital health company, enables members to query their last blood sugar reading, blood sugar measurement trends, and receive insights and "health nudges" that are personalized to them.
- Swedish Health Connect (by Providence St. Joseph Health) and Atrium Health enables customers to find an urgent care location near them and schedule a same-day appointment. [Bazzoli, *Health Data Management*, 4/8]

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Final Reminder: Research Study Opportunity This is your final reminder inviting you to participate in a questionnaire for the study titled Primary Care Providers' Referral Preferences from an Oral Healthcare Provider for Patients with Undiagnosed Diabetes. This questionnaire will close on April 30, 2019. Completing the questionnaire should take less than ten minutes. Remember, your participation will offer the opportunity to win one of two \$50.00 Amazon gift cards! The winners of this drawing will be notified May 1, 2019.

Thank you for your time and willingness to participate in this important study. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact either the researcher Heather Mobus, RDH, BS, MS(c), mobuheat@isu.edu or advisors JoAnn Gurenlian, RDH, PhD, at gurejoan@isu.edu; or Jacque Freudenthal, RDH, MHE, at freujacq@isu.edu.

Access the questionnaire at https://isu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_erC9z62Qqqtu1HT.

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Medical Practice Opportunities

Physician – Kellogg

Physician - Post-Acute Care – Coeur d'Alene

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant – Behavioral Health – Coeur d'Alene

The mission of Heritage Health is to deliver a healthcare experience that provides hope, inspires change and extends life for our patients and our community. Heritage Health is a growing patient-centered practice who is looking for a full-time physician in Kellogg, a full-time physician for the Post-Acute Care team in Coeur d'Alene and a full-time psychiatric nurse practitioner or physician assistant in Coeur d'Alene.

The Heritage Health physician provides high quality care in accordance with national guidelines to all Heritage Health patients in a culturally competent manner. The Heritage Health physician strives to provide care consistent with Heritage Health's mission statement. The physician provides clinical support to all providers and staff on an as needed basis. The Heritage Health physician is a strong leader who treats all staff with respect and supports teamwork and a positive work environment.

The NP or PA provides diagnosis, treatment, and management in a behavioral health clinical setting to a specified population. Provides consultation for in-house patients for Heritage Health providers and, if needed, assumes responsibility for psychiatric care. Counsels and educates patients regarding treatment and refers to ancillary and support services.

Additional information including job descriptions and minimum qualifications along with online applications are available at www.myheritagehealth.org/careers. Heritage Health is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Remote/Independent Contractor Physician: Board certified or eligible in ob/gyn, urology, family medicine, emergency medicine, preventative medicine

We are Ro, a mission-driven healthcare technology company where doctors, pharmacists and engineers are working together to reinvent the way the healthcare system works. Ro is currently seeking remote physicians to provide care to our members via our telemedicine platform.

For more information, visit <https://ro.co/>. To apply, please contact athena@ro.co

Large, Independent Multi-Specialty Group Looking to Grow
Nampa, Meridian, Boise and Caldwell, Idaho
Full-Time

Saltzer Medical Group (SMG) is seeking growth opportunities with other like-minded physicians interested in joining an independent, multi-specialty practice in Idaho's Treasure Valley. Current specialties include Family Practice, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Neurology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Pulmonology, Rheumatology, Sleep Medicine and Urgent Care. Opportunities exist for Primary Care and Specialty Physicians, as well as Advanced Practice Providers, to join a well-established group of 50 plus providers.

SMG is an independent physician-led, professionally managed, large multi-specialty practice with six

locations in Nampa, Meridian, Boise and Caldwell, Idaho. SMG was established in 1961 by Dr. Joseph Saltzer and the friendly, patient-oriented approach that characterized his practice is still faithfully adhered to, even in these technologically advanced times.

Contact: Vicki Tyler at 208-463-3158 or vdt Tyler@saltzerved.com for additional information.

BC/BE Clinical Gastroenterologist
Nampa, Idaho
Full-Time

Saltzer Medical Group (SMG) is an independent physician-led, professionally managed, large multi-specialty practice with six locations in Nampa, Meridian, Boise, and Caldwell, Idaho. SMG was established in 1961 by Dr. Joseph Saltzer and the friendly patient-oriented approach that characterized his practice is still faithfully adhered to, even in these technologically advanced times.

SMG in seeking a BE/BC Gastroenterologist to work in our on-site Endoscopy Suite. Candidate would be assuming a mature practice and join a well-established, multi-specialty independent practice in Idaho's Treasure Valley. The practice offers a competitive salary with incentive and comprehensive benefits, along with a strong referral base within the practice.

Contact: Vicki Tyler at 208-463-3158 or vdt Tyler@saltzerved.com for additional information.

Primary Health Medical Group, Boise

Primary Health Medical Group (PHMG) is hiring full-time board certified/eligible FAMILY PHYSICIANS for OUTPATIENT FAMILY MEDICINE positions in Boise, Nampa, and Meridian, Idaho. Our clinics are based on a patient centered medical home model that gives the family doctor the support and time that encourages trusting relationships with their patients. Family physicians work 4-4.5 days per week and hospital call is 1 out of every 20 nights consisting of nurse triaged phone calls with no visits to the hospital.

URGENT CARE positions are also available for FAMILY PHYSICIANS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS or NURSE PRACTITIONERS – Our ideal candidate would be board certified/eligible. Urgent care positions require the provider to work approximately 14 twelve-hour shifts per month and be comfortable with the fast paced environment of an urgent care clinic. Our clinics are based on a combination clinic that has urgent care and appointment family medicine practice at the same site. Urgent care and appointment providers work together to address the patients' episodic and chronic care problems. Must be willing to work some weekends and twelve hour shifts.

Primary Health is an independent, predominantly primary care medical group with 15 clinics (soon to be 17) and more than 300,000 patient visits per year. A leader in implementing quality programs, PHMG has been using electronic health records since 2007. Physicians follow evidence-based guidelines and engage with patients in innovative ways to promote wellness. PHMG has received local and national recognition for providing efficient, quality care. Primary Health has been voted among the top 10 Best Places to Work in Idaho, and employee turnover is low. The group provides a supportive environment where family doctors develop lasting relationships with patients and enjoy a schedule that allows time to experience the many activities Idaho has to offer. Providers also have the opportunity to invest in the medical group and become an owner.

PHMG offers the following benefits to all full time physicians: – Medical and dental insurance with PHMG covering roughly 95% of the premium. – Group life insurance with options to voluntarily buy-up – A generous own occupation/own specialty long term disability policy – \$500 worth of free services in our own clinics for the physician and his/her family (per year) – A 401(k) plan with a guaranteed match – Payment for malpractice insurance, licensing fees, professional memberships and CME. PHMG offers a strong benefits package and very competitive salaries. A detailed summary of our benefits may be found on our website www.primaryhealth.com.

To place a Medical Practice Opportunities Classified Advertisement, please contact:
Margy Leach, Director of Communications at 208-344-7888 or by email margy@idmed.org.

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