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# Idaho Medical Association

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## IMAgEs

September 15, 2018

Be on the Lookout for Your 2019 Membership Renewal! 2019 IMA Membership Renewal Notices will be mailed in early October. We value your membership, participation and support, and urge you to renew.

As an IMA member, you will enjoy many benefits that range from strong advocacy to third-party reimbursement assistance and education to discounts and services with our business partnerships. But the greatest benefit is the knowledge that you are making an extra effort on behalf of your profession and proactively working to meet its challenges

To renew online, go to [www.idmed.org](http://www.idmed.org) and click on Renew Your Membership. From your member portal, you can view and pay your 2019 IMA and local society membership dues. You can also voluntarily join AMA and the Idaho Medical Political Action Committee (IMPAC) and make a tax deductible contribution to the IMA Foundation.

Please also take a moment to verify your online profile information and make any necessary changes. This will ensure that the information in the IMA's online physician finder and printed version of the 2019 Directory of Idaho Physicians will be accurate. Also, if you haven't already done so, please consider going paperless. Sign-up to receive 90 percent of all IMA communications electronically. You can update your email online or call us to change your email preferences.

If you have any questions or need assistance logging in, please contact the IMA Membership Department at 208-344-7888 or via email at [membership@idmed.org](mailto:membership@idmed.org).

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Board of Medicine Opioid Guidelines The Idaho State Board of Medicine (BOM) recently updated their *Guidelines for the Chronic Use of Opioid Analgesics*. The changes are relatively minor and

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Susie Pouliot  
CEO, IMA

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pertain to physicians warning their patients about operating moving vehicles while taking opioid medications. These changes appear on pages 9-10 of the policy.

In April 2015, the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) Chair, J. Daniel Gifford, MD, FACP, appointed the Workgroup on FSMB's *Model Policy for the Use of Opioid Analgesics in the Treatment of Chronic Pain* to review the current science for treating chronic pain with opioid analgesics and to revise the Model Policy as appropriate.

To accomplish this charge, the workgroup conducted a thorough review and analysis of FSMB's existing policy document and other state and federal policies on the prescribing of opioids in the treatment of pain, including the March 2016 CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain

(<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/guideline.html>)

The BOM adopted the guidelines as policy in September 2017. The guidelines are available at

[https://bom.idaho.gov/BOMPortal/BOM/PDF%20FORMS/oa\\_guide.pdf](https://bom.idaho.gov/BOMPortal/BOM/PDF%20FORMS/oa_guide.pdf).

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

Kathryn M. Applin, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Eileen A. Baez-Irizarry, MD, Pediatric Endocrinology, Boise  
 Joshua A. Berlat, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Daniel E. Cannon, MD, Otolaryngology, Coeur d'Alene  
 Erin M. Conlee, MD, Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine, Boise  
 Carly A. Cox, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Marie S. Gessel, MD, Pediatrics, Caldwell  
 Robert J. Hagenberg, III, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Timothy E. Herndon, MD, Pediatrics, Caldwell  
 Nicholas J. Kroll, MD, Emergency Medicine, Boise  
 Dustin G. Larsen, MD, Dermatology, Coeur d'Alene  
 Matthew H. Marks, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Gharett O. Meng, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Jason M. Saunders, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian  
 Adam J. Smith, MD, Emergency Medicine, Meridian

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CMS Re-Calculates 2017 MIPS Final Scores and Extends Targeted Review Deadline Until October 15, 2018 Recently, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released physician's 2017 Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) performance feedback and upon release opened the targeted review process. Based on the AMA flagging calculation error concerns and the initial targeted review requests CMS received, CMS has revised the scoring logic and re-issued the 2017 MIPS final scores for the physicians who were impacted by the following identified issues:

- Application of the 2017 Advancing Care Information (ACI) and Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances hardship exceptions.
- The awarding of Improvement Activity credit for successful participation in the Improvement Activities (IA) Burden Reduction Study.
- Incorrect attribution of the All-Cause Readmission (ACR) measure to certain physicians and group practices MIPS final score.

Additionally, to ensure CMS maintains the budget neutrality that is required by law under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), some physicians will see slight changes in their payment adjustment because of the reapplication of budget neutrality.

The revisions were made to the performance feedback on the Quality Payment Program website on September 13, 2018. We encourage physicians and groups to sign-in to the Quality Payment Program website as soon as possible to review their performance feedback. If you believe an error still exists with your 2019 MIPS payment adjustment calculation, the targeted review process is available for you.

To offer additional time for physicians to access and review their performance feedback, CMS is extending the targeted review deadline to October 15, 2018. If you are need assistance, please reach out to the Quality Payment Program Service Center by phone at 1-866-288-8292, (TTY) 1-877-715-6222 or by email at [QPP@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:QPP@cms.hhs.gov), or contact your local technical assistance organization for no-cost support.

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## IMA Brings Legislators to You!

Whether you are a political junkie or a casual observer, the IMA partners with local medical societies to offer you a chance to talk about legislative issues of concern. Join your local state legislators and hear firsthand about the IMA's legislative priorities.

This is a great opportunity to share your insights with key policymakers. IMA will provide an overview of our 2019 legislative agenda established by the House of Delegates as well as updates on other statewide healthcare initiatives.

Here's the schedule of upcoming meetings:

October 11, 2018 Ada County Medical Society  
6:00 – 8:30 pm (MT) Red Lion Boise Downtowner, 1800 W Fairview, Boise

October 16, 2018 Kootenai-Benewah Medical Society  
6:00 – 9:00 pm (PT) Coeur d'Alene Resort, 115 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Coeur d'Alene

October 17, 2018 North Idaho Medical Society  
6:00 – 9:00 pm (PT) Orchid Room, 301 W Main St, Lewiston

October 22, 2018 Idaho Falls Medical Society  
6:30 – 9:00 pm (MT) Idaho Falls Country Club, 11611 S Country Club Dr, Idaho Falls

October 23, 2018 Southeastern Idaho Medical Society  
6:00 – 9:00 pm (MT) Portneuf Valley Brewing, 615 S 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Pocatello

October 29, 2018 South Central Idaho Medical Society

6:30 – 9:00 pm (MT) Canyon Crest, 330 Canyon Crest Dr, Twin Falls

November 1, 2018 Southwest Idaho Medical Society

6:00 – 9:00 pm (MT) Best Western Plus Inns and Suites, 908 Specht Ave, Caldwell

Please RSVP to Rebecca Adams at [rebecca@idmed.org](mailto:rebecca@idmed.org) or 208-344-7888.

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## New Feature to Provide Tips on Informative Resources

The goal of this new quarterly series written by Tina Slanc, MLIS, Kissler Library at Saint Alphonsus is to provide the reader with one tool/tip/website/resource that will help them locate, manage, store or evaluate information.

The information will be presented in a clear, easy to read manner, answering the "5 W's, 1 H" (who, what, where, when, why and how).

Examples of future segments:

- Websites or search engines that offer unique features you may not know about.
- Technique that helps you run a more effective database search (Medline, CINAHL, PubMed...)
- Resources available to you that you may not be aware of

If you're looking for a particular type of resource or are wondering if the tool/method you're currently using is the best, feel free to contact me at [tina.slanc@saintalphonsus.org](mailto:tina.slanc@saintalphonsus.org). I'm always happy to take requests.

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**Justice Department Greenlights Cigna-Express Scripts Merger** The U.S. Justice Department has approved the proposed \$67 billion merger between health insurer Cigna Corp. and pharmacy benefit manager Express Scripts, the companies announced September 17.

Cigna and Express Scripts still must secure certain state regulatory approvals to complete the deal, which was first announced in March, but the nod from the federal antitrust enforcers takes care of the biggest hurdle. The companies expect to close the deal by year-end. [Livingston, *Modern Healthcare*, 9/17]

Wall Street analysts had expected antitrust approval as the companies have little overlap in their businesses. The decision bodes well for the pending U.S. antitrust review of CVS Health Corp's proposed \$69 billion acquisition of health insurer Aetna Inc.

The Justice Department in 2016 successfully blocked a pair of large health insurance mergers it believed would limit competition in the industry. Those were Aetna's plan to acquire smaller U.S. health insurer Humana Inc for \$37 billion, and a planned \$54 billion combination of insurers Anthem Inc and Cigna. [Humer, *Reuters*, 9/17]

The American Medical Association has actively opposed anticompetitive health insurer mergers as it aims to protect patients and physicians.

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## 2018 Fall IMA Education Series

Our summer break is coming to an end and the fall schedule of IMA webinars/teleconferences are back. On September 26, IMA Reimbursement Director Teresa Cirelli, CPC, CPMA will present **ICD-10-CM Updates and Vaccines**, a review of the changes in ICD-10 that are effective October 1, 2018 and what's new in vaccines.

Stay current with all the latest coding, policy and regulatory changes. Register today! A schedule and registration form is available on homepage of the IMA website at [www.idmed.org](http://www.idmed.org).

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## Medical Practice Opportunities

Medical Director – Fulltime – Helena, Montana

Medical Director for Montana Health Co-op (MHC). Will need to monitor with standardized metrics the medical and pharmacy cost and utilization of MHC by product and network. Participate in all care management activities with the third party administrator's medical director and staff, and shared management of onsite nurses.

Contact: Ronda McMillan – 406-447-5775 – [rmcmillan@mhc.coop](mailto:rmcmillan@mhc.coop)

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Orthopedic, Internal Medicine, Neurology and Cardiology/Physicians and PAs

Idaho Disability Determinations Services (DDS) performs medical adjudication for Social Security Administration (SSA) disability claims for the citizens of Idaho. DDS is looking for physicians/PAs throughout Idaho to conduct consultative examinations to assist determining disability. If interested or further information needed, contact Steve Beard or Laura Croft at 208-327-7333.

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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 [vdytler@saltzermed.com](mailto:vdytler@saltzermed.com) for additional information.

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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 is 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 [vdytler@saltzermed.com](mailto:vdytler@saltzermed.com) for additional information.

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[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](http://www.primaryhealth.com).

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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](mailto:margy@idmed.org).

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Idaho Medical Association  
P.O. Box 2668, 305 West Jefferson, Boise, ID 83701  
Phone: (208) 344-7888 - Fax: (208) 344-7903 - Email: [mail@idmed.org](mailto:mail@idmed.org)

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