

# KCA COMMUNIQUE

December 2007

**KCA**  
1334 S. Topeka Blvd.  
Topeka, KS 66612  
785-233-0697  
www.kansaschiro.com

**SERVING MEMBERS  
SINCE 1911**

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Lenexa

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Derby

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**Financial Manager:**  
Teresa Arb

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Sharlis Lingard

## Kansas Chiropractic Foundation

**President:**  
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***Legislative Session Goes into Warm-Up Mode.*** Members of the House Appropriations Committee came in early this week to get a forecast of what big ticket items are likely to be in the Governor's budget next month. Until the Session starts on January 14 and the Governor delivers her budget message, not even the Legislature knows what will be in the Fiscal Year 2009 budget. KCA talked with both the Speaker of the House and the chairperson of the Appropriations Committee about their thoughts on the early preview of the budget, which has never happened before. Both believe that one of the main benefits of the budget look is to bring new legislators up to speed on the complexities of the state budget a little early.

KCA is making plans for its annual Take-a-Legislator-to-Lunch (TALL) event, NOW SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2008. You will be getting background information and suggestions on contacting your legislators soon. KCA will be tracking the progress of health care reform initiatives this year, to be sure that chiropractic takes every opportunity to be heard and included in the process (See article on reforms in your latest *Journal*.)

***KC Metro District Kicks It in Gear.*** Taking the lead in KCA's state-wide membership campaign this year, the Kansas City Metro District is offering free 2008 dues to the doctor who brings in the most new members by December 31, 2007. KC Metro docs are known for their participation and recruiting in the largest district in KCA. More membership recruiting materials are due out soon to members state-wide. PLEASE CALL ANY NON-MEMBER DOCTORS YOU KNOW FOR US AND REPORT BACK WITH AN E-MAIL OR PHONE CALL TO KCA.

***The Medicare Corner by Dr. Tobi Jeurink.*** Goals!!!! Whether it's New Year's Resolutions, Field Goals or Basketball Goals, this time of year we're all thinking about goals. What does that have to do with Medicare? The treatment plan needs to include the goals that are set for that patient. Your SOAP notes need to reflect the progress that patient makes towards achieving those goals. Whether the goal is to increase ROM or for the patient to be able to pick up his or her grandchild when they could not do it before, you need to DOCUMENT it. Having trouble monitoring patient outcomes? Try having a patient fill out an Activities of Daily Living Form, you may be surprised at the things they are having trouble doing. Ask about those ADLs that they were having problems with on subsequent visits and DOCUMENT your findings.

Why are we stressing so much about documentation these days? First of all, it's the law! Secondly, you need to get paid for what you do. Insurance providers are cracking down. You've all heard about the OIG Report where Doctors of Chiropractic failed miserably on documentation. Well, it's back. They are looking again and you better believe if we don't do better this time we'll see reimbursement and allowed # of visits fall even more.

One last tip.... If you do receive a request for records from Medicare, OIG, or any insurance provider remember to send all supporting documentation for that visit. This should include, the original exam for the condition you are treating, the treatment plan, any patient self assessments (pain scale, ADL), any x-ray reports, labs, etc., and of course your SOAP notes. Editor's note: Kansas Medicare will be cutting over to Wisconsin Physician Services (WPS) from Wheatland's on March 1, 2008.

**Licensing Rush Is On.** Members have been calling and e-mailing KCA with questions about updating CE hours by the December 31 deadline set by the Board of Healing Arts. Each license must be renewed each year, regardless of how the 50-hour CE requirement is documented. But the Board now allows for hours earned over the last 18 months to be applied to the 2007 requirement. You can also document 100 hours of education over the last 30 months or 150 hours over the last 42 months if you have accumulated that many. That longer update would hold you for up to 3 years. But this option would require the doctor to keep very close tabs on the documentation for those hours for that long a period. CAUTION: licenses held in other states may not allow these longer periods for CE updates.

**Your Board Report.** The KCA Board of Directors met on Saturday, December 15 in Junction City and the following were among the items of business covered.

- The Board reviewed the October Year-to-Date Financial Report showing revenues so far this year of \$235,320 and expense of \$220,341. Final collections of dues and expenses from the Convention have not yet been recorded for the year. The Board also reviewed and approved a 2008 budget of \$271,100.
- KCA General Counsel Judy Pope reported on progress in developing a case with the Kansas Insurance Department and with the Attorney General's office on enforcing insurance carrier compliance with Kansas law that protects chiropractic care for patients. More will be known after a new Attorney General comes on board February 1.
- The Board approved a legislative

services agreement in principle for the Cleveland Chiropractic College to reimburse KCA for any additional lobbying costs incurred while monitoring the Legislature for the College.

- Dr. Kenyon Erickson, Membership Committee chair, and John Kieffhaber, Executive Director, presented plans to step up member recruiting activities for the new year. A combination of more discounted education sessions, direct contacts with non-member doctors and enhanced member services was approved for immediate action.
- Dr. Steven Kloster, Bylaws Chair, and Judy Pope presented a final draft of Board resolutions that are still applicable to KCA operations for renewed approval. Out-of-date resolutions passed by the Board will be dropped but are still recorded in KCA files for future reference. The Northwest District pledged \$1,000 to the Kansas Chiropractic Foundation to help fund a proposed fund-raising feasibility study. Several other districts have also contributed to the project.

**Did You Know?** The new presidential dollar coins will last for 30 years while the dollar bill will be worn out in 18-22 months. The U. S. would save \$500 million per year if the dollar coin completely replaced the dollar bill.

**Congress Halts Medicare Payment Cuts – For Now.** In an 11<sup>th</sup>-hour action that was expected in its year-end session Congress has withdrawn a 10 percent fee cut for physicians of all types in Medicare. Doctors of chiropractic were actually up for a 12 percent cut in the new fee schedule caused by revised practice expense relative value units. Because of this Con-

gressional action the final result for chiropractic is expected to be a 1.5 percent reduction.

The new 2008 fee schedule HAS NOT BEEN POSTED YET by Medicare however, so offices are to continue submitting Medicare claims using the 2007 fee schedule.

**It's New Calendar Time.** Members should mark the following dates now for 2008 KCA activities:

- TALL Event (Take-a-Legislator-to-Lunch) February 14 in Topeka.
- Spring Convention April 19-20 in Wichita.
- New Doctor Seminar June 14 at Cleveland Chiropractic College in Overland Park.
- Fall Convention October 10-12 at Cleveland Chiropractic College in Overland Park.

**And Mark the Board of Healing Arts Date Too?**

- February 22-23
- April 26
- June 20-21
- August 16
- October 11
- December 5-6

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**Always check**  
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