

# HARRIS COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

## Resident/Fellow Opportunities for Participation

### **Learn and Gain Experience through HCMS Committees and Boards**

*The Harris County Medical Society (HCMS) welcomes your involvement and encourages you to explore the opportunities to actively participate in your society and obtain knowledge and experience.*

A maximum of two residents from each school can be assigned to each group. So that we can send meeting information/changes/cancellations, please advise the name and e-mail address of each resident and for which group he/she is assigned. *If you are interested in serving on one of the following, contact Teosha Blaylock, 713-524-4267, ext. 260 or e-mail her at [teosha\\_blaylock@hcms.org](mailto:teosha_blaylock@hcms.org).*

**Community Health Improvement and Communications Committee** – This committee oversees the Society’s internal and external communications to members, the media and the public on issues related to health care trends, health care costs, quality care and the business of medicine and our community service activities. This committee meets two times a year at 6:30 p.m. at the HCMS offices. Meetings are scheduled Monday to Thursday.

**Emergency Care Committee** – The committee represents HCMS in all matters pertaining to emergency care and disaster planning, including educational programs for physicians, emergency medical personnel and the public; advances in emergency medical communications and equipment; and liaison with emergency departments, medical staffs and community emergency services. This committee meets twice a year, usually at noon for one and a half hours. The meetings are held at the HCMS offices. Meetings are scheduled Monday to Thursday.

**Membership Committee**- The committee brainstorms and actively engages in new and creative ways to promote membership in HCMS and Texas Medical Association. Through the committee, strategies are developed to strengthen HCMS’ recruitment and retention efforts. This committee meets twice a year at 6:30 p.m. at the HCMS offices. Meetings are scheduled Monday to Thursday.

**Health Care Quality Committee** – The committee monitors quality related medical care projects and investigates methods to assist members with developing and documenting quality improvement in their practices by working with the TMA and other appropriate organizations. This committee meets three times a year at the HCMS offices. Meetings are generally held at 6:30 p.m. and are scheduled Monday to Thursday.

**Board of Medical Legislation** – This Board stays abreast of legislative matters and proposals affecting the profession and keeps the membership informed. The committee also meets with elected officials to educate them about our positions. Service with TexPac, the HCMS Delegation to TMA or *First Tuesdays at the Capitol* is helpful. This Board meets nine times a year. Most meetings are held at the HCMS offices on the second Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

**Board on Socioeconomics** – This Board stays abreast of medical economic matters that affect the profession (Medicare, Medicaid, managed care, etc.) and keeps the membership informed. This Board meets four times a year at 6:30 p.m. at the HCMS offices.

**Social Media Committee** - The committee brainstorms and actively engages in new and creative ways to promote membership in HCMS and Texas Medical Association. Through the committee, strategies are developed to strengthen HCMS’ recruitment and retention efforts. This committee meets twice a year at 6:30 p.m. at the HCMS offices. Meetings are scheduled Monday to Thursday. Number of meetings is yet unknown. It should be between 2-4 meetings per year.

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### **Network and Build Collaborative Relationships**

*The Harris County Medical Society (HCMS) welcomes your involvement and encourages you to take advantage of the following opportunities for general participation. These activities are designed to provide you with the latest information on the practice and business of medicine while offering opportunities to network, build your referral base, and develop new venues for professional collaboration. If you have any questions, please contact the HCMS office, 713-524-4267 or e-mail, Ahuva\_Terk, at [Ahuva\\_Terk@hcms.org](mailto:Ahuva_Terk@hcms.org).*

**HCMS Branch Societies** – With over 11,500 members spread out across the Greater Houston area, HCMS believes it is important to reach out to all of its members in their communities. As a result, HCMS has seven branch societies (Central, East, North, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest and West) that meet three times a year to offer Continuing Medical Education seminars (often ethics) on topics that focus on practice management, medical legislation and medical liability. The meetings offer excellent networking opportunities and provide information on HCMS/TMA member benefits, services and events. All HCMS physicians are designated to a branch based on their primary address and are welcome to attend.

The branch meetings are held three times a year at various locations within each branch area. Meetings generally start at 6 p.m. and last approximately two hours. The branches are: Central (includes the area within the 610 Loop); East (includes Baytown, Channelview, LaPorte, Highlands, and Crosby areas); North (includes Humble and Tomball areas); Northwest (includes Tomball, Cypress and northwest areas); Southeast (includes Pasadena and Clear Lake areas); Southwest (includes Alief, Sharpstown, Bellaire, and Sugar Land areas); and Western (includes Memorial, Spring Branch, and Katy areas).

These meetings are free to residents and fellows. Our meeting schedule is available on the HCMS website [www.hcms.org](http://www.hcms.org) and click on the Events Tab.

**Young Physicians Organization (YPO)** – The HCMS Young Physicians Organization offers a variety of programs throughout the year to foster networking for referrals and collaboration with colleagues. The YPO holds two meetings a year as well as the HCMS New Member & Young Physician Reception, which is held annually in August at the John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science. The reception offers physicians the opportunity to earn CME credit while their children are cared for and entertained on site. Young Physicians are 40 years of age or younger, or in practice eight years or less.

These meetings are free to residents and fellows. Our meeting schedule is available on the HCMS website at [www.hcms.org](http://www.hcms.org), young physicians under membership tab.

**HCMS Women Physicians Section (WPS)** – The HCMS Women Physicians Section offers two meetings a year to foster networking and referrals as well as address the unique challenges faced by female physicians across all practice settings. There is a fee for residents and fellows to attend WPS event. Our meeting schedule is available on the HCMS website at [www.hcms.org](http://www.hcms.org), membership sections under the membership tab.

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**First Tuesdays at the Capitol** – Since 2003, physicians, residents, Alliance members (spouses of physicians), medical students, and medical societies from around the state have converged on Austin on the first Tuesday of each month during the legislative session for First Tuesdays at the Capitol. Legislative sessions occur in odd numbered years and take place during the months of February, March, April and May. While physicians are encouraged to attend as many of the First Tuesday events as possible, all levels of participation are welcomed. Each First Tuesday visit is a full day commitment. HCMS makes the appointments and provides briefing papers and key insights on the officials. Physicians interested in a future elective position on the HCMS Board of Medical Legislation have found this is a good place to start.

**Texas Medical Association Political Action (TEXPAC)** – There are many ways for physicians to make their voices heard in the political arena but one of the most direct ways is to join TEXPAC. Become a part of the bipartisan, political arm of the Texas Medical Association that helps elect medicine-friendly candidates to state and federal office. TEXPAC membership entitles physicians to participate in the process to determine which candidates TEXPAC supports. TEXPAC meetings are usually held in Austin, in conjunction with TMA meetings. Spouses also may join and participate. Membership levels are:

- Resident/Fellow - \$40
- Resident Spouse - \$20
- 300 Club - \$60
- Capitol Club - \$200

### **Volunteer Opportunities – Provide Outreach to Our Community**

*The Harris County Medical Society (HCMS) welcomes your involvement and encourages you to volunteer and serve our community. If you have any questions, please contact the HCMS office, 713-524-4267 or e-mail Ahuva Terk at Ahuva\_Terk@hcms.org.*

**John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science** – John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science (The Health Museum) is an interactive and entertaining science experience for all ages that promotes understanding and appreciation of the human body. Volunteers are critical in providing museum guests with an experience that will inspire a lifelong commitment to health and wellness. The Health Museum has a variety of on-going volunteer positions in science education, marketing, exhibits and special events. *(HCMS helped establish The Health Museum in 1996)*

**Science and Engineering Fair** – Physicians, residents and medical students are needed to be volunteer judges for one day at the annual Science and Engineering Fair of Houston, held in the spring. Medical students will be paired with physicians to judge in the following divisions: junior, ninth grade, senior laboratory and senior non-laboratory. This is a great opportunity to help and guide young minds toward a future in science.