



Charlotte County Medical Society - MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Political Representation and Advocacy in the Florida Legislature and Intervention with Government Agencies

With a strong lobbying team in the state capitol, the Society and Florida Medical Association work together in getting pro-physicians and pro-patient bills passed. We work to keep bureaucracy, red tape, and physician costs at a minimum. One of our most successful campaigns was the passage of Amendment 3 back in 2004. Among our latest successes was the passage of SB-1012 “Managed Care Reform.” We will continue our battle with the trial bar and their ominous efforts to thwart the medical profession. Over the years, our legislative victories have saved Florida physicians over \$800 million equaling more than \$12,500 of annual savings to every physician.

On the federal level, we fought for and were instrumental in the success in the passage of HR-6331 “The Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008.” This bill not only deferred the impending Medicare physician payment cuts of 10.6 percent, but also provided a 0.5 percent update extension. We continue to fight to eliminate the pending cuts and urge the legislature to provide a permanent fix to the SGR.

Free Legal Advice, Discounted Contract Review and Negotiation

The Florida Medical Association maintains a Legal Hotline open to ALL members. Call 1-800-762-0233. If you have a legal question – from patient records to confidentiality to terminating a patient relationship you can call for fast, free, and authoritative guidance.

Communication, Information and Education Resources

Receive our monthly newsletter publication keeping you abreast of the latest issues pertinent to the medical profession. Keep up-to-date on legislative activities, scientific issues and more. The Society provides the physician an opportunity to obtain Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits throughout the year. In addition to our monthly dinner meetings, we sponsor special courses meeting with the mandates for licensure.

Website

Our website www.ccmsdoctors.com allows those seeking a physician the opportunity to find you. You too have access and may request a link to your own site. Our site offers links to many resources and invaluable links.

Physician/Patient Mediation

The Society Grievance Committee reviews formal complaints lodged against a physician member and seeks to resolve differences with patients. This is a valuable program to assist in settling disputes. Non-members, without this benefit, risk AHCA action.

Patient Referral Service

If you so choose, you are included in our referral base. Each month the Society receives numerous calls from individuals seeking a physician and information regarding their educational background. We provide referrals **only** to CCMS members.

Special Discounts/Programs/Packages

Members of the Society are entitled to purchase workers' compensation insurance offered by OptaComp. Participating members are eligible for dividends based exclusively on claims.

Furthermore the Society will launch a group health insurance plan offered by Blue Cross – which will save you money insuring yourself, family and staff.

Members enjoy other benefits such as Doctor Dial a full communication service, special rates for services, and others too varied to list further. Call us today.

