



Monday Memo – April 27, 2015

Chairs corner:

· Advocacy has always been important to Family Physicians. In addition to serving as advocates for our patients, we know that the role of Family Medicine within health care – whether we’re talking about a local medical staff, or within the Affordable Care Act - won’t develop properly unless we roll up our sleeves to actively represent ourselves.

At this morning’s plenary at the annual meeting of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, our Vice Chair for Clinical Services, Dennis Dimitri, MD received the Society’s national Advocate Award. It’s well deserved: Dennis started as our Chief Resident, and shortly after establishing his practice in Worcester, he served as the founding Chief of the new Department of Family Practice at Worcester Hahnemann Hospital, where he created an infrastructure for credentialing Family Physicians onto the medical staff. In those days, this was groundbreaking work. In the early days of managed care, he became involved in medical management for two separate insurance carriers, and he served as President of the Board of Directors for the first Physician-Hospital Organization (PHO) at Worcester Memorial Hospital. He was a member of the Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees at the time of the UMass/Memorial merger.

Dennis has taught us to recognize that active involvement, rather than sitting on the sidelines and complaining, can have positive results. He has served in key committee (particularly focused on legislative affairs) and leadership positions within the Mass Academy of Family Physicians and the Worcester District Medical Society, and this Friday he will be recognized at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society as their incoming President, the first Family Physician to be elected to that position.

Dennis is comfortable on both Beacon Hill and on Capitol Hill, and he has a passion for demonstrating to others how it can be done. We’re immensely proud of his selection as this year’s role model of a Family Physician who serves as an advocate for his patients and his discipline.

Events

· Sixteen members of the UMassMemorial Sports medicine team volunteered at the 2015 Boston Marathon staffing course tents, finish line tents and providing behavioral medicine support at the finish line. The vast majority of treatment was directed at reversing hypothermia and treating muscle cramps.

Department faculty, sports medicine fellows and residents who participated on the team included:

Sports Medicine faculty: James Broadhurst, Pierre Rouzier

Current Sports Medicine fellows: Tara Futrell and Nathan Cardoos

Former Sports Medicine fellows: Chad Beattie, Laura Fralich, Jennifer Schwartz

Family Medicine faculty: Stacy Potts, Tina Runyan, Matthew Collins

Current Fitchburg FM resident: Jeff Wang

Publications

- Steve Martin is first author of Martin SA, Podolsky SH, Greene JA. [Overdiagnosis and overtreatment over time](#). Diagnosis. 2015. (published ahead of print)

Presentations

- Bill Foley was faculty and table trainer this past weekend for a 2 day osteopathic course in the Berkshires entitled "Lower Extremity." The course was provided by A Still Sutherland Study Group in conjunction with the University of New England.
- Next week we will report on the many faculty who presented at the STFM Annual meeting in Orlando this week.