

## FROM THE SOCIETY: PART II

## Clinical Practice Committee Reorganizing to Focus on Practice Improvement: Join Us to Lift Up Primary and Preventive Care!

Jim Bailey, MD, MPH; Martin Arron, MD, MBA; Jim Richter, MD; Nate Spell, MD; Lisa Vinci, MD, MS; and Ethan Halm, MD, MPH

*Drs. Bailey, Arron, Richter, Spell, and Vinci are members of the Clinical Practice Committee (CPC), and Dr. Halm is the Council liaison to the CPC.*

Over the past few months, the Clinical Practice Committee (CPC), with the encouragement of SGIM Council, has begun reorganizing to make its primary focus practice redesign and improving the practice environment for general internal medicine (GIM) and primary care. In June 2015, Council identified improving the GIM work environment as a key multi-year priority and asked the CPC to lead SGIM's efforts to support our members' work to transform primary care practices nationwide. Council asked CPC leadership to develop a new strategic framework to help reposition SGIM as a national leader in practice redesign. Toward this end, they asked the CPC to establish annual objectives and deliverables and to reorganize, expand, and reenergize its members to help lead local, regional, and national efforts to improve ambulatory care, reduce physician burnout, and bring back joy in practice for primary care physicians. In response to this new charge, CPC leadership met on November 21, 2015, at SGIM headquarters in Alexandria, VA, and drafted a new CPC Strategic Agenda for the next three years, which has since been refined by CPC members and approved by Council.

### The Mission

The new CPC mission is: *To help SGIM lead and support practice innovation, redesign, and transformation in health care in order to foster "joy*

*in practice" and advance the practice of general internal medicine.* It will accomplish this mission by supporting work related to the following:

1. *Practice Innovation.* Through its focus on innovation, the CPC will identify and disseminate information on new practice models that improve the value and experience of care for both patients and providers. In collaboration with the Patient-centered Medical Home (PCMH) Interest Group, it will develop a workgroup on practice redesign. It will disseminate toolkits, best practices, and other resources to support improvements in the practice environment. The CPC will create an SGIM web resource center dedicated to sharing and disseminating evidence-based clinical practice resources for improving care to provide members with ready access to this information. The Committee will also promote new workshops and symposia on practice innovation at regional and national meetings of SGIM.
2. *Knowledge and Scholarship.* The CPC's work related to knowledge and scholarship will be to identify and disseminate best practices in clinical informatics and practice improvement to improve the value and experience of care for both patients and providers. It will share effective approaches

for clinical informatics and point-of-care decision support, including strategies to enhance the quality of care, improve efficiency of clinical documentation, promote accurate coding and charge capture, and take advantage of new reimbursement opportunities for primary care. It will particularly focus on newer visit types associated with enhanced reimbursement, such as annual wellness, transitional care, and care coordination visits. It will identify knowledge gaps in clinical informatics, care models, and practice improvement and propose research and scholarship to fill those gaps. The CPC will form workgroups with the PCMH, medical informatics, and other related SGIM interest groups to lead these efforts and promote workshops related to these topics at regional and national SGIM meetings.

3. *Sustainable and Satisfying Careers.* The CPC will also focus its efforts on promoting sustainable and satisfying careers in GIM. In collaboration with the Association of Chiefs & Leaders in General Internal Medicine (ACLGIM) and SGIM's new CaREER Development initiative, the CPC will develop strategies for fostering career development and mentorship opportunities in practice

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management, clinical leadership, and improving care. In particular, it will disseminate information regarding effective strategies for managing ambulatory and inpatient care teams. The CPC will also facilitate continued career development and education by supporting a one-day quality improvement and patient safety course, networking through GIMConnect, a PRACTICE Program provided in conjunction with SGIM's TEACH and ACLGIM's LEAD programs, and one-on-one mentoring. The CPC will promote student and resident interest in GIM and clinical leadership roles and help them develop their practice management portfolios. The CPC will also facilitate the provision of workshops and other educational programs addressing these topics at SGIM meetings.

### Turning Vision to Action

Now that we have clarified our goals, we need to work to turn these goals into concrete actions and deliverables. We are reorganizing the CPC

to engage more of our members and to get more work done. Rather than utilize subcommittees, we plan to use action-oriented workgroups that are carefully integrated with other SGIM committees and interest groups. Our vision is for these workgroups to not only work independently but to also coordinate and synergize SGIM's efforts through the CPC by having workgroup leaders give brief monthly reports to update other workgroups, committees, and leaders of affiliate organizations and identify effective areas for collaboration and mutual support. Our initial core workgroups include:

- *Improving Practice Finances:* Jeanine Engel (jeannine.engel@hsc.utah.edu), John Goodson (jgoodson1@mgh.harvard.edu), Shin Ping Tu (sptu@vcu.edu)
- *Practice Redesign:* Tom Sinsky (tsinsky@mahealthcare.com), Reena Gupta (reena.gupta@ucsf.edu), Jim Richter (jrichter@mgh.harvard.edu)
- *Education/CaREER Development:* Nancy Kubiak (ntkubi01@louisville.edu)
- *National and Regional Workshops:* Martin Arron

(marron@chpnet.org)

- *Communications/Website Development:* Jim Bailey (jeb@uthsc.edu)

We need your help! We are looking for members who are interested in leading and participating in these important workgroups. In particular, we are looking for tech-savvy members who are interested in helping us expand our social media presence and practice improvement resources available at SGIM.org. We welcome your suggestions for additional workgroups to help us accomplish these goals. If you see an opportunity for action and want to help lead a new workgroup, please let us know. The more we leverage the diverse, amazing, and creative efforts of SGIM members who are engaged in these important areas, the more successful we will be in identifying and disseminating best practices. Please join our efforts now by contacting the CPC workgroup leaders above by e-mail or through GIMConnect. This is our future. For our patients' sake, help us reclaim our joy in practice and champion patient-centered primary and preventive care. *SGIM*