



Travis County Medical Society

eNews

March 2024

Serving over 4,600 members



MEMBER *spotlight*

Jeff McNeil, MD Cardiothoracic Surgeon

Jeff and Shannon McNeil visiting the beautiful island of Kauai. The NāPali Coast as seen from the Kalalua Lookout in the background.

Don't confuse success with fulfillment—meaning merely being successful and acquiring material things does not necessarily lead to a fulfilling career or life. Good advice, right? Cardiothoracic surgeon, Dr. Jeff McNeil thinks so—he says this is the best professional advice he has ever received. Practicing what he preaches, Dr. McNeil travels with his family—experiencing other cultures and sites as well as spending as much time outdoors exploring as his schedule allows. In addition, he is passionate about medical mission work. His time in Nigeria with VOOM Foundation has allowed him to aid in the development of a cardiac surgery program as well as provide surgical procedures for the local people. [Read more.](#)

Member Applicants

View information and photos of [new TCMS members](#).



Enjoy the Latest TCMS Journal on Your Device January/February 2024 Issue Now Online

Meet our new TCMS President, Dr. Tina J. Philip, get to know the TCMS Executive Board, and learn about upcoming TCMS Events.

[Read the Digital Version Here](#)



RSVP for the Annual TCMS/TCMA Installation Dinner on March 21

Date: Thursday, March 21

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Austin Central Library, 710 W Cesar Chavez St, Austin

Join us as we celebrate the installation of the 2024 TCMS President, Dr. Tina J. Philip and 2024 TCMA President, Karin Foster at the beautiful Austin Central Library.

RSVP

TCMS Business of Medicine:

MEDICARE PAYMENT UPDATE

Earn 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™



Virtual Business of Medicine Presentation: Medicare Payment Update

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services annually updates its Medicare physician fee schedule, which establishes current payment rates, payment policy, and other provisions for services under the Medicare program. Changes take effect on Jan. 1 each year following a proposed update released for comment, typically in July of the previous year.

This session will address changes in payment, coding, and other policies resulting from the latest Medicare physician fee schedule update.

Date: Tuesday, March 26

Time: Noon to 1 pm

Virtual-Zoom

[Register](#)

Advertisement

The advertisement for ARA Theranostics features a dark blue background. At the top, the company name "ARA Theranostics" is written in a light blue, sans-serif font, with the tagline "EXPERTS IN MOLECULAR IMAGING & THERAPY" in a smaller, white font below it. The main text, "Advanced treatment for prostate cancer with PSMA-targeted therapy", is centered in white. At the bottom left, there is a "LEARN MORE" link in white. On the right side, there is a circular graphic with a blue and white color scheme, resembling a molecular or cellular structure.

Wellness
Wednesday

Starting this month, the Physician Wellness Program will launch a new ethics CME program. Every month or two

we'll host a speaker who will present a topic of interest followed by an interactive discussion.

The new program will combine a CME presentation with a Meaning in Medicine type community-based discussion. And it's free to TCMS members!

"In Search of a Safe Harbor: Evolving Concepts of Physician Wellness"

Date: Wednesday, March 27

Time: 8 pm to 9 pm

Zoom

[Register Here](#)

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Texas Medical Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. TMA designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*, with the ethics designation Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. The Texas Medical Association designates this activity for up to 1 hour in the area of ethics and/ or professional responsibility education.



Retired Physician's Organization (RPO):

A Visit from Dr. Veena Patel, Interim Chief Clinical Officer, UT Health Austin

Join us for lunch and a conversation with Dr. Veena Patel, Interim Chief Clinical Officer at UT Health Austin.

Date: Tuesday, March 19

Time: 11:30 am

Place: Tarrytown Methodist Church, 2601 Exposition Blvd. Austin 78703

Cost: \$25 per person (non refundable)

Guests welcome

[RSVP](#)



AHRQ Safety Program for Telemedicine: Improving Antibiotic Use

Is your practice interested in improving appropriate use of antibiotics in telemedicine? The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is currently recruiting practices for a no-cost, 18-month program beginning in June 2024 to promote appropriate antibiotic use while maintaining patient satisfaction and reducing potential side effects in patients seen via telemedicine.

Practices will receive training and one-on-one expert coaching to implement sustainable improvements in the diagnosis and treatment of infections in the telemedicine environment. Practices will learn how to improve workflow efficiencies and participants will be eligible for continuing education units (CEUs), continuing medical education (CME) credits, and American Board of Internal Medicine maintenance of certification (MOC) points.

Learn more and sign up for an informational webinar on the program website:

[Program Website](#)

Friends of the Society:

The following ads represent some of the 2024 TCMS sponsors. Thanks to their support, educational, social, and family events are made possible for TCMS members. Please consider their services.

TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Guaranteed Acceptance for Short Term Disability Insurance

AVOID HASSLES HERE ▶

TMA INSURANCE TRUST

A banner advertisement for TMA Insurance Trust. It features a dark blue background with white text. On the right side, there is a photograph of a young boy in a white lab coat with a stethoscope. The TMA logo, which includes a star and the letters 'TMA', is positioned in the bottom right corner.

Coming Soon...

TAS United Nurse Triage

TAS UNITED MEDICAL EXCHANGE

www.tasunited.com

A banner advertisement for TAS United Medical Exchange. It features a teal and white color scheme. The text 'Coming Soon...' is in a large, teal font. Below it, 'TAS United Nurse Triage' is written in white. The TAS United Medical Exchange logo, consisting of three concentric circles, is on the left. The website 'www.tasunited.com' is in the center. On the right, there is a circular inset image of a nurse in a white coat and glasses.

TMLT and Travis CMS team up to expand the Safe Harbor Counseling Program



www.tmlt.org/wellness

Access begins with your policy renewal.

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