



**Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations
California Medical Association Foundation**

Optimal Wellness and Equality in Healthcare
for All Communities

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**NEPO Calendar
Of Meetings & Events:**

Ethnic Physician Leadership Summit
Sunday, September 25th, 2010
Hilton LAX Hotel
8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

NEPO Steering Committee Meeting
Sunday, September 26th, 2010
Hilton LAX Hotel
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2010 HPV Vaccine Summit
Thursday, November 4, 2010
Sacramento, CA
More details to follow

**2010 ETHNIC PHYSICIAN
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

*"Meeting the Challenge of the Future –
Health Reform & Information Technology"*

Saturday, September 25th, 2010



Hilton LAX Hotel

Reserve a room for only \$79/night!

TOPICS

- Health Reform: Moving Forward with Implementation
- Health Information Technology: Reaching Meaningful Use
- Health Disparities and Vaccines

Register Now – Space is Limited!

Registration **FREE** for physicians, medical students & members of a community-based organization – Other Attendees \$150/person

Visit <http://www.ethnicphysicians.org> and click on [Leadership Summit](#) for more information & to register. [Summit Brochure & Agenda Now Online!](#)

*If you have any questions, please contact Anna Gutiérrez, NEPO Project Assistant
agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org or 916.779.6627*

**RSVP Today and Help Make the CMA Foundation
President's Reception and Awards Dinner a Success!**

The CMA Foundation's 14th Annual President's Reception and Awards Dinner will be held on Sunday, October 3, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency, Sacramento, CA. Proceeds will support the work of the CMA Foundation in linking physicians and their communities to raise awareness about important public health issues. Honored at the dinner will be incoming CMA President James G. Hinsdale, MD and the recipients of the CMA Foundation Leadership Awards.

Reserve a table or purchase your tickets today! For more information, visit the ["Events"](#) section of www.thecmafoundation.org or contact: Maria Moran at 916.779.6640 or mmoran@thecmafoundation.org.

If you are unable to attend, please consider placing an ad in the dinner program. The CMA Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization, and all ads are tax deductible. Contact Nela Lee at 916.779.6639 or nlee@thecmafoundation.org.



Help us improve the health of California! [Click here to donate.](#)

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To submit articles or announcements, send email to agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org

The CMA Foundation reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as the right not to publish submitted articles, for any reason.

CMA Foundation's Carol A. Lee, Esq. Receives Hispanic Health Leadership Award



Dr. José Arévalo (L) congratulates Carol A. Lee, Esq. (R)



(L-R) CMA Foundation staff members Joe Mette, Elissa Maas, MPH, Carol A. Lee Esq., & CMA Foundation Board Chair Dexter Louie, MD

Carol A. Lee, Esq., CMA Foundation's President and CEO, was named one of the recipients of the 2010 Hispanic Health Leadership Award. The award was presented by the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) during their Resident Leadership Program Reception held on August 23rd at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Sacramento. Ms. Lee received the award for her active role in improving health care issues for the Hispanic community. NHMA President & CEO, Elena Rios, MD, MSPH stated, "Carol received the award for her vision and leadership in developing NEPO (Network of Ethnic Physician Organizations), a unique network to advance the leadership of minority physician associations in California and to ultimately, decrease health disparities in the state."

Mark Diaz, MD, Chairman of the National Hispanic Health Foundation and Laura Hardcastle, Chief of the California Office of Multicultural Health were also presented with the 2010 Hispanic Health Leadership Award.

Established in 1994 in Washington, DC, the NHMA represents licensed Hispanic physicians. Its mission is to improve the health status of Hispanics and other medically underserved populations in the United States. For more information about NHMA, visit www.nhmamd.org.

Obesity Prevention Physician Champion SHOUT OUTS

NEPO Physicians -- If you have been working on **obesity prevention** efforts in your community, we are interested and we would like to LET OTHERS KNOW what you have been up to. We would like to ACKNOWLEDGE YOU for all the great work that you do and THANK YOU in the next Obesity Prevention E-Newsletter. Your reply will be in the upcoming newsletters.



Please contact Vanessa Saetern at vsuertn@thecmafoundation.org to submit your announcement.

**Subscribe to the Obesity Prevention
Project E-Newsletter**

The Obesity Prevention E-Newsletter includes events, trainings, programs, and resources on healthy eating and physical activity that are available for everyone to get involved in and much more!

To subscribe, please contact Vanessa Saetern, Obesity Prevention Project Assistant at vsaetern@thecmafoundation.org or 916.779.6631.

**EPO Update: Special Summer Meeting on Health Information
Technology (HIT) with VPANC**

By Dr Think Nguyen, President, VPANC

Due to the need of many members, Vietnamese Physician Association of Northern California (VPANC) held a special Summer dinner educational meeting on Health Information Technology (HIT) and Electronic Health Record (EHR) on August 14, 2010 at the Dynasty Restaurant in Cupertino, CA. This meeting was very well attended and successful.

The two featured speakers, José Arévalo, M.D. of NEPO-CMA Foundation and Renna Samantaray, M.P.A. of CalHIPSO, provided us with invaluable information on the historical aspect of 2009 ARRA-HITECH provision that provides up to \$44,000 per doctor for Medicare and \$63,000 per doctor for Medi-Cal, as well as on HIT and EHR.

Most importantly, we learned how to get help from the federally funded Northern California Regional Extension Center (CALHIPSO), whose goal is to assist physicians to purchase EHRs and comply with the “meaningful use” rules in the next two years.

The speakers answered many questions from enthusiastic audiences at the end of their presentations. Following the meeting, many of our members have already contacted CalHIPSO.

We look forward to having further information and assistance from these organizations in the near future.

**Vaccine Update for Medicare Part D patients: Pertussis
Vaccine (Tdap) Coverage**

California continues to see significantly increased numbers of reported pertussis cases, including eight infant deaths, this year. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has recently received clarification of the Medicare coverage for the adult pertussis booster vaccine (Tdap) from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

In response to the significantly increased numbers of reported pertussis cases in California, including eight infant deaths, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued recommendations for broader use of the pertussis booster vaccine, Tdap, including immunization of persons over the age of 64 years, particularly those who have close contact with young infants.

CDPH received clarification on coverage of the pertussis booster vaccine (Tdap) from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding coverage of Tdap immunization for beneficiaries. Tdap vaccine is a Part D covered drug for use in patients 65 years of age and older. Tdap vaccine may be obtained by Medicare Part D beneficiaries from a network pharmacy without out-of-pocket costs by the beneficiary. Tdap may also be provided in a network provider’s office; however, this would require the beneficiary to pay for the vaccine costs up front and then be reimbursed by their Medicare Part D plan. The beneficiary should contact their Medicare Part D plan in advance for detailed instructions on reimbursement for Tdap vaccination.

September 2010 is the First-Ever Childhood Obesity Awareness Month



In the past four decades, obesity rates in the United States have soared among all age groups. This rise in obesity rates has affected our youth in alarming fashion. Childhood obesity has increased more than fourfold among those ages 6 to 11. Over 23 million children and teenagers in the United States ages 2 to 19 are obese or overweight, a statistic that health and medical experts consider an epidemic. On March 26, 2010, a resolution was unanimously passed in the Senate to designate September 2010 as “National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month”, bringing national attention to a growing epidemic among youth in the United States. For more information on National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, please visit www.healthierkidsbrighterfutures.org.

The CMA Foundation’s Obesity Prevention Project has a new resource—*“Inspiring Change in our Communities: Physician Champions Making a Difference” Monograph* is now available. This monograph provides a snapshot of the innovative programs implemented by Physician Champions throughout California. The work of each of these physicians is aimed at serving their communities, particularly low income and underserved communities, in a variety of settings. Each of these physicians was inspired by a patient, an incident, or a movement. Some have dedicated months and years while others could only spare a few hours; and each has changed behavior to break the cycle of childhood obesity by empowering patients to take control of their health. The monograph is made possible by the generous support of the Network for a Healthy California and Kaiser Permanente.

[Click here](#) to access the *Inspiring Change in our Communities: Physician Champions Making a Difference Monograph*. Please visit the Obesity Prevention Project website for additional resources at www.thecmafoundation.org/projects/obesityProject.aspx. For more information, please contact cmf@thecmafoundation.org or 916.779.6620.

Save the Date!

THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION’S
CERVICAL CANCER / HPV PROJECT PRESENTS

2010 HPV VACCINE SUMMIT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010
SACRAMENTO, CA

REGISTRATION COMING SOON!!!

If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Barron, Cervical Cancer / HPV Project Assistant at 916.779.6630 or lbarron@thecmafoundation.org

COPD Initiative, AWARE Project

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a progressive lung disease associated with increasing breathing difficulties. COPD is the fourth leading cause of death among adults in the USA, after heart disease, cancer and stroke. Only about half of the 24 million Americans with COPD have been diagnosed.

The first phase of AWARE's COPD Initiative involved the posting of educational flyers and brochures (produced by Boehringer Ingelheim) for consumers and clinicians on the AWARE website. These patient education materials can be viewed at <http://www.aware.md/PatientsAndConsumers/EdMaterials.aspx> Clinician education materials can be viewed at <http://www.aware.md/HealthCareProfessionals/ClinicalResources.aspx>

Boehringer Ingelheim has since provided funding to the AWARE Project to research, design, produce, and distribute a health education flyer about evidence-based COPD guidelines. Now under development, this flyer will feature the guideline for COPD diagnosis, prevention, management assembled by the Global Initiative for chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD).

Highlights include:

- *Influenza* and *Pneumococcal* vaccines are recommended for individuals with COPD.
- Antibiotics are not recommended except for the treatment of infectious exacerbations and other bacterial infections.

A flyer will soon be posted on www.aware.md. For more information, please contact Sandra S. Navarro, PhD, MPH, AWARE Project Director, at snavarro@thecmafoundation.org.

EPO Visits

NEPO staff would like to visit your EPO. Please let us know if you have an upcoming meeting/event that we can attend to be able to share our exciting projects and we would also love to see what all of you are doing in your communities.

Please contact Anna Gutierrez at (916) 779-6627 or agutierrez@thecmafoundation.org to schedule your EPO visit.
