

# Your Voice. Your Vision. *Your TMA.*

## Exclusive Member Benefits



Texas Medical Association supports Texas physicians by providing distinctive solutions to the challenges they encounter in the care of their patients.

### Leadership Opportunities

Make a difference in your community and your profession.

- ▶ Member-developed policy that forms the basis of TMA's advocacy and public health initiatives;
- ▶ Elected and appointed positions to TMA boards, councils, committees;
- ▶ Committees that lead, study and recommend action on issues of the day;
- ▶ International Medical Graduate, Border Health Caucus, Retired Physician Forum, and the Rural Health Committee which ensure representation of unique physician segments; and
- ▶ Conferences and seminars that address current issues.

### Legislative, Regulatory, and Payment Advocacy

Grassroots efforts have been the cornerstone of our success throughout the years.

- ▶ Defense of lawsuit reform and the more stable liability insurance market;
- ▶ Advocating for adequate funding for Medicaid services;
- ▶ Assisting physicians in managing and reducing third-party payer reimbursement hassles;
- ▶ Addressing reimbursement problems through meetings with payers;
- ▶ Enforcing prompt payment and adequate networks from health care payment plans;
- ▶ Antiracketeering victories over the nation's largest health care payment plans;
- ▶ Stridently opposing nonphysician health care professionals' efforts to expand scope of practice; and
- ▶ Fighting the hassle of cost of compliance due to new regulations and requirements.

### Public Health and Science Initiatives

Improving the health of all Texans.

- ▶ Be Wise — Immunize<sup>SM</sup>, to increase awareness of the need for immunizations throughout all stages of life;
- ▶ Hard Hats for Little Heads, a year-round bicycle helmet donation program, to prevent head injuries;
- ▶ Live & Then Give, created to increase organ and tissue donations in Texas;
- ▶ Doctors Saving Lives, a patient safety campaign;
- ▶ Physician Oncology Education Program, aimed at reducing cancer morbidity and mortality;
- ▶ Policy, education, and advocacy initiatives to enhance quality of health care for patients while reducing clinical errors;
- ▶ Public health advocacy on border health, obesity/diabetes, children's mental health, immunizations, and infectious disease control; and
- ▶ Mobilizing physicians to aid victims in the event of natural or other disasters.

*Read more on reverse side.*

To join TMA and your county medical society, simply log on to <http://join.texmed.org>.

“Organized medicine, whether it be local, state, or national, has the power to improve the health of all Texans if we choose to participate. The power of ‘we’ far exceeds the influence of ‘me.’ When we work together, everyone benefits — especially our patients.”

— Lyle S. Thorstenson, MD

## Practice Management Services and Professional Resources

Taking care of the business side of your practice.

### TMA Practice Consulting

- ▶ New practice set-up;
- ▶ Coding and documentation review;
- ▶ Billing and collections;
- ▶ Operations assessment; and
- ▶ Management and office staff recruitment.

### Health Information Technology

- ▶ Educational seminars, continuing medical education (CME) opportunities, and publications;
- ▶ Electronic medical record implementation guide; and
- ▶ Toll-free technology help line.

### Personalized Reimbursement Assistance

- ▶ Over-the-phone help with regulatory compliance, billing and coding, licensure, practice management, and legal information;
- ▶ One-on-one reimbursement consultations with TMA staff experts; and
- ▶ Fee-based review of employment and managed care contracts.

### CME and Seminars

- ▶ Online, home-study, on-site, and seminar CME options (including ethics);
- ▶ Practice management seminars on health care payment plans, health information technology, billing and coding, risk management, Medicare, and more;
- ▶ Learn@Lunch audio seminar series on important issues that affect the business side of your practice; and
- ▶ CME-on-the-Road (*AMA PRA Category I™*) delivered to your community via your local county medical society.

### Publications and Information Resources

- ▶ TMA Knowledge Center, offering rapid access to TMA's accumulated expertise in health care, health law, legal information, practice management, medical economics, and public health;
- ▶ *Texas Medicine*, a monthly newsmagazine; and
- ▶ Practice management publications on a variety of topics.

### E-Resources

- ▶ TMA Job Bank, an enhanced online job listing;
- ▶ TMA Online Communities on reimbursement and office technologies, and
- ▶ Clinical reference services; free, online access to MD Consult, Stat!Ref, and Ebsco databases of full-text journals on health and business information; and core collections of textbooks, journals, and archives.

### Insurance and Financial Services

- ▶ Liability insurance through Texas Medical Liability Trust, including discounts on premiums with completion of select seminars and home studies;
- ▶ Health, life, and disability insurance and financial services for family and staff through Texas Medical Association Insurance Trust; and
- ▶ Member-endorsed vendors and services that save you time and money.

