

MCA Journal



Don't Let it Pass You By! Register for March CE Forum

It's not too late to make plans for MCA's 2006 March CE Forum & CA Sunday!

Offering up to 15 CE hours for doctors of chiropractic and up to 10 CE hours for chiropractic assistants (*please see below*), you won't want to miss this weekend of dynamic education. Registration, a full schedule of events and additional information on this exciting program is online at MCA's award-winning Web site,

www.marylandchiro.com/mcanews/2006marchceforum.htm.

The Saturday, March 11 schedule will feature several presenters touching on a variety of current topics. On Sunday, March 12, the MCA will offer the compulsory AIDS, Jurisprudence and Risk Management CE. The Jurisprudence portion will be presented by members of the Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners. The timely topic this year will be "Cooperation Between Board Investigators and Staff," and "Chiropractors and Chiropractic Assistants."

Full registration for MCA members is only \$295, and \$320 for nonmembers. Individual day registration is \$185 for MCA members and \$210 for non-members.

March 11-12
MCA
March CE Forum
&
March CA Sunday

March CA Sunday a Must-Attend

The **2006 March CA Sunday** will feature a special 5- and 10-hour Continuing Education class for Chiropractic Assistant's on Sunday, March 12, 2006, at the BWI Marriott in Linthicum, Md. This course is presented by **Dr. Larry Plotkin** and **Dr. Alan Sokoloff**. CA's will learn about injury prevention while performing normal work duties, including proper biomechanics. Sokoloff will examine different sports injuries that patients commonly present and the treatment protocols to help the patient recover. This course is a must for any CA whose doctor is currently working with other medical professionals, to understand various conditions they may be working with.

Further information on the CA Sunday is available online at
www.marylandchiro.com/mcanews/2006marchcasunday.htm.

Welcome New Members

CA MEMBERS

Brooke Bailey
Bowie, Md.

Sandra Clingerman
Flintstone, Md.

Lynn Lewis
Frostburg, Md.

V. Bett Murphy
Baltimore, Md.

Carolyn Often
Mount Savage, Md.

Deborah Anne Raymon
Baltimore, Md.

Susan Wise
Jacksonville Chiropractic Center
Phoenix, Md.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

R. Lloyd Friessen, D.C.
American Specialty Health
San Diego, Calif.

Seth Molin
Next Generation MRI
Columbia, Md.

Tony Teti
Medical Resources, Inc.
Bel Air, Md.

**Know someone interested in
membership?** Please direct them to
www.marylandchiro.com/becomeamember

Maryland Chiropractic Association

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Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 625-1155
FAX: (410) 752-8295

E-MAIL: MCA@assnhqtrs.com
www.MarylandChiro.com

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President's Update

Donald Hirsh, DC

SUBLUXATION Divisive or Decisive?

Prior to starting chiropractic college, I was a research biologist. When the concept of subluxation was first introduced (in a science class, not a philosophy class), I immediately understood the importance and nuances of this scientific construct. I felt at home with it as a scientist. My previous research was based on evolutionary theory and concentrated on how forest species adapted to habitat changes. It was natural for me to understand how the subluxation — asymmetries of the structure or motion of spinal segments — would force the body into adaptation. Except here, the adaptations were not necessarily good for the spine or the person housing it.

Now, 18 years after graduation, two of my favorite scientific constructs, subluxation and evolution are under attack. We are being told that they do not hold scientific muster because they are untestable using rigorous scientific methods. Well I am not going to weigh in on the evolution debate here (sorry) but I bet you guessed correctly, I will take on the debate over subluxation. We are further told that subluxation puts at odds with the “more scientific” disciplines because of its lack of scientific rigor. We are told that using the concept is inhibiting our “cultural authority.” Therefore, we are told to toss the “subluxation” on the scrap heap of science. Clinging to subluxation has become a divisive issue they say.

I disagree. I think the subluxation is a *decisive* issue that is central to chiropractic. I firmly believe that the components of the subluxation are testable and have already garnered sufficient scientific evidence to serve our profession proud. The key word here is “components.” The subluxation is a construct of ideas that unify a concept that asymmetry of structural alignment and/or motion will cause harmful effects to the body ranging from inflammatory to neurological processes. Why is it that when an orthopedic surgeon fuses the spine because of asymmetrical motion and its effects the surgeon is praised, but if a chiropractor helps to restore normal motion we are unscientific? **Don** and **Deed Harrison's** research, along with others' has clearly and scientifically demonstrated what normal spinal structure is. **Christopher Kent** and **Mathew McCoy** have devoted their careers to writing and teaching the validity of the subluxation. **Dan Murphy** regularly teaches and reviews scientific articles supporting the subluxation. Video fluoroscopy, flexion/extension and lateral bending x-ray and MRI studies conclusively show abnormal motion. We have all seen serial x-rays of our patients (they all seem to bring in a stack these days). What scientific mind could question that the worse the alignment, the worse the degenerative arthritis is?

Don't let them fool you. Subluxation is based on good science and is not a belief. Further, subluxation is not chiropractic philosophy, but rather it is part and parcel of chiropractic science. Questioning the heart and soul of chiropractic is *divisive*, while accepting it for the tremendous value it has given our profession and humanity is *decisive*.

Sincerely,

Donald W. Hirsh, DC

MCA's Business Forum a Great Success!

On the evening of February 9, **Dr. Eric Huntington, Dr. Rick Schmitt** and a group of 17 Maryland chiropractors kicked off the first in a series of MCA Business Forums — a new member benefit for MCA doctors.

At this inaugural Forum, Huntington and Schmitt revealed some of the basic principles of administrative technology that they each have used to grow their businesses. Interestingly enough, both have used the same simple principles to build very different, but very successful businesses. Schmitt, a long-time Maryland chiropractor, has grown his business which now includes four clinics that he owns, and a network of chiropractor business partners. He now has partnerships in 40 practices in three states! Huntington explained how he grew his practice — opening the doors in the summer of 2001. It is now one of the most profitable wellness practices in the country.

The central theme of the Forum was how to create an affluence. This technology could be applied to practice, or any area of life. Listed below are some of the MCA member comments following the Forum:

"I loved the doctor's generosity of spirit, and they presented good solid information."

"I liked the focus on real day-to-day examples which can be applied. It was great to meet other D.C.'s in the area "

"This was great, simple, and easy to apply; I found this to be inspirational"

Upcoming Business Forums will focus on: 1) Becoming A Business Leader; 2) How to Handle Staff Upsets; 3) Financial Planning; and 4) New Patient Acquisition.

The next Business Forum will be held on Thursday, April 20. Food will be served starting at 7:15 and the forum will begin promptly at 7:45 p.m. The location of the next Forum will be announced in the upcoming weeks. All MCA members are invited to attend. Non-MCA members may attend one forum—and must join the MCA to attend additional forums.

Looking for Jurisprudence CE? MCA Making it Easy to Obtain

MCA's all-new Jurisprudence CE Course makes it easy for you to get this credit hour in your own time and on your own schedule.

How Does it Work?

Sign up for the MCA Jurisprudence CE course, and you will be sent the course materials via mail. Study the materials, stop by our headquarters, and take the test on your own time. It's that easy!

You may make an appointment to take the test at MCA headquarters OR in conjunction with any of our other educational offerings.

Tuition

\$25 for MCA members

\$50 for non-members

Registration

Registration materials are available online at www.marylandchiro.com/jurisprudencece.htm.

The MCA Sports Council Wants YOU

Is Sports Chiropractic of interest to you? Do you want to work with athletes? Do you enjoy sports? The Maryland Chiropractic Association wants you.

The MCA Sports Council provides chiropractors for various athletic events in the state and opportunities for Maryland DC's to get work experience with competitive athletes. You do not have to have a lot of experience treating athletes to belong to the Sports Council. You do not have to be a sports diplomate or a certified chiropractic sports practitioner. You just have to be a member of the

MCA, be licensed to practice in the state, be interested in working with athletes and willing to work within the Sports Council protocols. That, and you will need a portable adjusting table.



The MCA Sports Council treated several athletes at the Baltimore Marathon.

The Sports Council has worked a number of events over the past year and the sports council can make itself available to work running, weightlifting, and triathlon events all around the state *if* there are enough chiropractors to be there. Call **Dave Koronet**, at 301-829-1717 or e-mail him at d.koronet@att.net (put "MCA Sports" in the subject box) if you are interested in being part of the MCA Sports Council.

Eye on Annapolis

With General Assembly Well Underway MCA Tracking Several Bills

Paul Henry, DC, MCA Legislative Chair

The Maryland General Assembly Session is over one-third complete. After reviewing the vast slate of bills the MCA has identified several items of legislation with implications on our members.

1) SB32 – State of Emergency - Health Care Practitioners - Licensing, Certifying, and Credentialing

(<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0032.htm>)

Synopsis - The Secretary of Health & Mental Hygiene shall coordinate with the Health Occupation Board to develop an emergency response process. Would requiring the Secretary to coordinate with health occupations boards to develop a process to license, certify, or credential both licensed health care practitioners and out-of-State health care practitioners who may be needed to respond to a catastrophic health emergency; etc.

MCA Position – For

2) SB250 - Workers' Compensation - Selection of Health Care Provider - Employee's Choice

(<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0250.htm>)

Synopsis - Clarifying that a covered employee who has suffered an accidental personal injury, compensable hernia, or occupational disease may select a physician or health care provider of the covered employee's choice to render specified medical services and treatment.

MCA Position – For

3) SB303 - Insurers and Health Maintenance Organizations - Prompt Payment - Workers' Compensation Claims

(<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0303.htm>)

Synopsis - Requiring an insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or health maintenance organization to comply with prompt payment requirements, notwithstanding the fact that compensability under the workers' compensation law

remains to be determined for the injury or medical condition treated; authorizing an insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or health maintenance organization to seek reimbursement from a member, after workers' compensation is determined to be payable, for payments made; etc.

MCA Position – For

4) SB365 / HB394 - Insurers and Health Maintenance Organizations - Prompt Payment - Workers' Compensation Claims

(<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0365.htm>)

Synopsis - Requiring an insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or health maintenance organization to comply with prompt payment requirements, notwithstanding the fact that compensability under the workers' compensation law remains to be determined for the injury or medical condition treated; authorizing an insurer, nonprofit health service plan, or health maintenance organization to seek reimbursement from a member, after workers' compensation is determined to be payable, for payments made; etc.

MCA Position – For

5) SB394 / HB523 - Workers' Compensation - Accidental Personal Injury - Definition

(<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0394.htm>)

Synopsis – Alters Harris v. Board of Education, Howard County to require that an accidental personal injury must arise from an identifiable incident occurring at some reasonable definite time and directly causes an obvious sudden mechanical or structural change in the body.

MCA Position – Trial lawyers to lead opposition; MCA to monitor progress of bill

(Continued page 12)

ZERO ZIP ZILCH

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Protecting your name and reputation are top priority with NCMIC ... That's why NCMIC Doctors of Chiropractic are never forced to settle.

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Name of company _____

6121-MCA Journal

ACA Update

By Audie Klingler, DC - ACA Maryland Delegate

President Bush Signs Pro-Chiropractic Legislation

As the first session of the 109th Congress was wrapping up, **President Bush** signed into law two bills containing important pro-chiropractic provisions that will help to accelerate access to chiropractic in the military as well as boost chiropractic research funding and participation by DCs in important federal health care programs.

The fiscal year 2006 Department of Defense (DoD) authorization bill—passed by Congress at the end of 2005, signed by the president on January 6, includes language requiring the U.S. Air Force to complete implementation of chiropractic services at 11 sites that have yet to comply with a Pentagon plan to make chiropractic care available to all active-duty members of the military.

If the Air Force determines it is unnecessary or unfeasible to provide chiropractic services at any identified facility, it must make chiropractic available through an alternative site. Congress gives the Air Force until Sept. 30, 2006, to complete the implementation plan. The 11 sites include:

- Bolling Air Force Base (AFB) Washington, D.C.
- MacDill AFB, Fla.
- Hurlburt Field AFB, Fla.
- Nellis AFB, Nev.
- Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
- Luke AFB, Ariz.
- Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- Randolph AFB, Texas
- Robins AFB, Ga.
- Kirtland AFB, N.M.
- Pope AFB, N.C.

This latest congressional action comes on the heels of a September 2005 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on the status of chiropractic care in the armed forces. GAO, an official government watchdog agency, confirmed what the ACA has been telling Congress all along: that the Department of Defense (DoD) is not complying with current law and has failed to fully implement its own plan to provide chiropractic services to all active-duty military personnel in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (*ACA News*, 12/05, p. 1). In short, the GAO report clearly states that the Pentagon is falling far short of both the spirit and letter of the law calling for chiropractic care for all eligible active-duty military.

Funds Directed to Chiropractic Colleges

Among the items passed in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) funding bill is language directing \$2 million to chiropractic colleges and universities for continued research on the effectiveness of chiropractic treatment for spinal and low-back conditions.

“As president of Texas Chiropractic College, I am pleased that Congress has recognized the important role federally funded research plays in chiropractic education and also in patient education,” **Dr. Richard Brassard** said.

Chiropractic in Public Health Service

Attached to that same bill is committee report language pertaining to the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (PHS) and the struggle chiropractors have experienced in their efforts to join the corps of PHS officers. In fact, the committee report specifically noted that the Surgeon General has the authority to appoint doctors of chiropractic as commissioned officers under current law; however, none have been bestowed the honor.

At the behest of ACA and the Association of Chiropractic Colleges, the Senate Appropriations Committee Report encouraged the Surgeon General to develop a plan to commission chiropractors in the U.S. PHS Commissioned Corps. In addition, this language directs the Surgeon General to update the committee on his progress within six months following passage of the bill.

“This is a great achievement for the chiropractic profession,” Brassard stated. “This language instructs the Surgeon General to explain to Congress the steps his office is, or is not, taking to commission doctors of chiropractic in the PHS. Traditionally, we’ve been stonewalled by PHS on this issue, but this latest congressional action opens the door for DCs to join the ranks of commissioned officers in the federal health system.”

To read the September 2005 GAO report on chiropractic in the military, visit: www.acatoday.com/pdf/GAO_DODchiro.pdf.

To read ACA’s response to the September 2005 report, and for other ACA actions regarding expanding chiropractic care in the military, visit: www.acatoday.com/government/dod/.

For more information on the recent congressional session, or to discuss the ACA’s ongoing legislative efforts, contact ACA Vice President of Government Relations, **John Falardeau**, at (703) 812-0214 or jfalardeau@acatoday.org.

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Levels of Standards



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** According to NNFA.org

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Bryan Miller
Anabolic Representative
410-296-7574
b.f.miller@att.net



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Maryland Chiropractic Association Vendor Member

U C-PAC

Need

James LeVan, D.C.
C-PAC Treasurer

Greetings again from C-PAC land. Ahhh...the quiet is wonderful!! No fundraisers since January 11!! Hopefully these next few months will give us a chance to rebuild the C-PAC treasury. It was seriously depleted by the rush of fundraisers at the end of last year. This coming year is election time and the requests (*read demands*) for donations will be almost constant from April to November. Many of you have already sent a contribution to C-PAC with your MCA renewal, but an awful lot of people who sent something last year seem to have forgotten this year. I hope it was an oversight or that you just haven't sent in your MCA renewal yet. I hope you haven't decided to leave C-PAC out in the cold (and snow at the moment). We've all heard **Joel Kruh** talk about various bills before the legislature in Annapolis and where we stand on them and what we intend to do about them. The bill authorizing physical therapists to perform manipulation comes to mind. Without C-PAC and the donations we make to legislators' campaigns, WE DO NOTHING ABOUT THEM!!! We have some terrific people working on our behalf in Annapolis, but without access to the legislators there is not much they can do. Please help me write those checks!!! It doesn't take that much. If every member of the MCA gave \$100, we would be in great shape. Every member of the Board of Directors does exactly that, gives \$100 every year to C-PAC to try to set an example of responsible support for our legislative activities. Please join them...

The following list reflects the contributions received in the last 12 months. My heartfelt thanks to everyone on it. For those whose names have disappeared, thank you for your past support. We really need everyone to do what they can for C-PAC this year, so I'm hoping I'll get to put a bunch of names back on the list for the next *Journal*.

President

(\$1,000 or more per year)

Maryland Chiropractic Association

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(\$500 - \$1000)

Dr. Daniel Alexander
Dr. Lisa Bailes
Dr. Richard Kappes
Dr. Thomas Lo
Dr. Richard Schmitt

Senator

(\$365 - \$499)

Dr. James LeVan
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Please send your contribution to Dr. James LeVan, 10605 Concord St., Ste. 206, Kensington, MD 20895.

Chiropractic News & Notes

BUSH ROLLS BACK CMS REDUCTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed the 2006 Budget Reconciliation Act (The S1932 bill) into law. CMS will now instruct its carriers to REPROCESS Medicare claims received after January 1, 2006 at the 2005 physician fee schedule level.

Medicare carriers will also be instructed to automatically reprocess all claims received after January 1st that had the 4.4% reduction. Carriers are also being instructed to give priority processing to current claims before reprocessing the retro-payments. However, some carriers, such as Noridian, will be processing their checks in a matter of days.

FCER CALLS FOR RESEARCH PAPERS

NORWALK, IOWA -- The Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research (FCER) invites investigators who have conducted studies that may impact the broad practice of chiropractic to submit original research for presentation at FCER's Conference on Chiropractic Research (CCR), to be held in Chicago, Illinois, September 15-16, 2006. FCER welcomes chiropractic-related research submissions from clinicians, students, and faculty from within chiropractic, acupuncture, medicine, massage therapy, naturopathy, nursing, and osteopathy.

Approximately 80-90 abstracts will be accepted for platform (60) and poster (20-30) presentation, depending on quality of submissions. Each abstract should be submitted in one of the following categories: 1) Diagnostic and basic sciences; 2) Technique and instrumentation; 3) Cost-effectiveness; 4) Safety; 5) Education; and 6) Epidemiology and public health.

The deadline for Abstracts is **March 31, 2006**. Abstract submissions will only be accepted electronically using the form on the FCER Web site at <http://www.fcfer.org/CCR06/cfp.asp>.

FNUHS Receives \$1 Million Grant

LOMBARD, ILL. -- The National Institute of Health (NIH) recently awarded National University of Health Sciences (NUHS) in Lombard, Illinois, a \$1,007,000 grant to study the effects of chiropractic adjustments on spinal joints. The project is titled, "Z Joint Changes in

Low Back Pain Following Adjusting," and the Principal Investigator is Gregory D. Cramer, D.C., Ph.D. The new grant will allow researchers to continue important studies on the cornerstone of chiropractic medical treatment — the spinal adjustment.

The new four-year study will evaluate "gapping" in subjects with acute low back pain and assess relationships between gapping and changes in pain, function, number of treatments, and audible release during adjustments. Gapping is an increase in open space within the joint and is considered beneficial in that it breaks up adhesions and re-establishes joint motion.

Partners *Pavillion*

Saluting MCA's 2006 Partners!

Silver Partners

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<http://www.anaboliclabs.com>

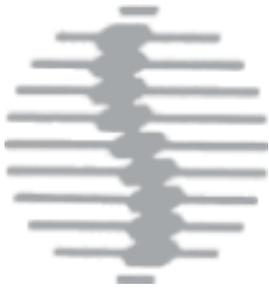
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World Connections, Inc.



ICA *Report*

By Eric Huntington, DC
ICA Maryland Delegate

Arnold Schwarzenegger Headlines ICA's Symposium In March

Registration is still open for the ICA Annual Symposium on Natural Fitness!

Join ICA in Columbus, Ohio the first weekend of March. You can visit the Fitness Symposium InfoSite on the ICA Web site at www.chiropractic.org for program details, schedule, registration and hotel information, and you can print out a registration form to mail or fax, or register right online!

The ICA Symposium on Natural Fitness has grown throughout the years, earning a special place on the chiropractic calendar each year for over a decade. This will be ICA's 14th year of partnership with **Arnold Schwarzenegger**. And the Symposium registration includes opportunities to enjoy parts of the Arnold Fitness Weekend in Columbus, Ohio — now the largest three-day sports festival in the world.

Join doctors from all over the U.S. and from other nations at this dynamic educational program combining sports, fitness and chiropractic, and enjoy a multi-faceted weekend of Olympic-level competitions and fitness events in the process. ICA is honored to be the only program during the Arnold Fitness Weekend that will have a personal appearance by global superstar and chiropractic patient Governor Schwarzenegger that includes an individual studio-style portrait with each of our attendees!

The ICA Symposium continuing educational program, co-sponsored by Life Chiropractic College West, is Friday, March 3 and Saturday, March 4.

ICA Offers Diverse Continuing Education Seminars in 2006

The International Chiropractors Association is one of the leading providers of continuing education for chiropractors. A complete list of seminars is available on the ICA Web site at www.chiropractic.org/pdf/chronological_seminar_schedule.pdf. The 10 module, CCST (Chiropractic Certification Spinal Trauma), developed by **Dr. Dan Murphy**, is being taught in Hayward, Calif. for 2006 (www.chiropractic.org/ccst/schedule.htm). The Wellness Certification Program (www.chiropractic.org/index.php?p=wellness/wellness) is being delivered by **Dr. James Chestnut** for its second year in Seattle, Minneapolis, Atlanta and Detroit. **Drs. Dan Murphy** and **Richard Christie** deliver their two-part New Era in

Whiplash and Spinal Trauma in six cities (www.chiropractic.org/index.php?p=new_era_seminar). Dr. Gary Street will be back with his Chiropractic Medicare Workshop, dates to be announced (www.chiropractic.org/index.php?p=medical_workshop).

COMING UP IN MARCH:

- March 4-5** Clinical and Legal Documentation, Reno, Nev.
- March 11-12** CCST Module 3, Hayward, Calif.
- March 18-19** Newest Research Applications, Hartford, Conn.
- March 25-26** Wellness Module 1, Minneapolis, Minn.

ICA Makes Powerful Public Statement on Chiropractic Safety

In response to a continuing pattern of anti-chiropractic media efforts such as the "**Warning**" billboard that recently appeared in Connecticut, the International Chiropractors Association (ICA) has taken an important and dramatic step and is offering the public a new, positive and accurate message: "**Chiropractic is Safe.**" A billboard, in the same Connecticut location as the anti-chiropractic message, has been put up by ICA. "ICA members worldwide are determined to share with the public an accurate, ethical and responsible message about chiropractic," said **ICA President Dr. John K. Maltby**. "ICA's positive message stands in sharp contrast to the ugly and deliberate deception fueled by anti-competitive motives that characterized the first billboard."

ICA has also established a Web site for consumers, offering factual information on chiropractic safety and effectiveness, and contrasting factual and well-referenced information on the risks of many standard medical procedures. Now online at www.chiropracticissafe.org, this Web site is being constantly updated and improved, so consumers can access responsible information on the vital issue of safety, free from the scare tactics that have so regularly been used by chiropractic's critics and competitors to drive patients away from seeking chiropractic care.

"The all too frequent attacks on our profession falsely alleging safety concerns are not an issue of free speech," said Maltby. "This is a matter akin to the famous 'Crying fire in a crowded theatre.' The public is entitled to honest, accurate information on such important issues as safety and effectiveness, and the ICA is determined to provide a strong, accurate message in the face of the offensive and inappropriate efforts. This is the motivation behind this new campaign."

MCA's First Women's Forum a Success!

by Stephanie Chaney, DC

The MCA recently hosted its first Women's forum. On Saturday, February 11, despite an impending blizzard, several women from all parts of the state came to Dr. Stephanie Chaney's office in Annapolis for an afternoon of sharing ideas, experiences and good food. We had a great turnout.

The women were at various stages in their careers and family endeavours, so everyone was able to teach and learn from each other. We had moms of two who have been in practice for ten plus years. Some of us were brand new graduates trying to decide between opening a practice from scratch and associating for a couple of years. We had brand new moms, pregnant docs and women who were trying to find the balance needed to start their family, while remaining successful in practice. We were in a setting that was conducive to honest and open communication producing insightful and helpful suggestions. After a great lunch, Dr. Tania Howard was able to demonstrate the breech

Further Information

If you have questions or would like further information on the MCA Women's Forum Series please contact Dr. Stephanie Chaney (drstephchaney@hotmail.com) or Dr. Tania Howard (dr.tania@juno.com)

turning technique on a doctor who is seven months pregnant. It was wonderful to see the technique demonstrated up close and personal. Questions were asked and experiences shared about all aspects of life as a female chiropractor.

All of the women who attended exchanged e-mails and decided that it was important to keep in touch and be available to each other when the need arises. One doctor commented that this forum was so exciting for her because she practices in an area where she is the only female and has sometimes felt like she didn't have the same opportunity for camaraderie – even

though there was a strong desire for it. That is, of course, until this series of Forums was planned.

If you missed the first one, not to worry, the MCA will be scheduling another one soon. For anyone who missed the Breech turning technique, we will be showing it again at the next one. If you are not an MCA member, you may attend a Women's forum meeting to check it out and see if it is something you feel you would benefit from. After one non-member visit, any future visits will be for members only. The women felt it was important to be involved with our association, even if it was merely paying dues to be a member. This forum is just one of the many ways the MCA is working for you.

Stay tuned for the next Women's Forum. Any questions about the Forum or the value of joining the MCA can be directed to Dr. Stephanie Chaney (drstephchaney@hotmail.com) or Dr. Tania Howard (dr.tania@juno.com).

MCA 2006 CA Course to Begin March 18

Directed by **Dr. Michael Fedorczyk**, the **MCA's 2006 Chiropractic Assistants Course** is designed to fulfill the Maryland State Board of Chiropractic Examiners' requirements of 100 classroom hours needed to prepare the student for the state exam.

Each session will include academic material, a brief exam of the previous session's material, hands on application of skills learned and a take home study pack for the next module.

Applicants must be 18 years of age and the registration deadline for Session 1 (March 18 and 19, 2006) is **March 1, 2006**. *All other sessions, deadline is ten days before class date.* The cost to attend for MCA CA Members is \$100 per session and \$610 for all seven sessions. For nonmembers the cost is \$120 per session and \$725 for all seven sessions, if paid in full prior to first session.

Further information on the course, including registration materials, is available online at www.marylandchiro.com/mcanews/2006mccacacourse.htm.

ABOUT THE FACULTY

Dr. Michael Fedorczyk has been in practice for 14 years. He has trained many chiropractic assistants in the past nine years here in Maryland. He was one of the first instructors to teach the CA Training Course when the state first required chiropractic assistants to be certified. After many requests from former doctors and CA's, Dr. Fedorczyk has joined with the MCA in presenting this Chiropractic Assistant Training Course.

Eye on Annapolis

(Continued from page 4)

6) SB448 - Health Insurance - Assignment of Benefits (<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0448.htm>)

Synopsis – This bill requires health insurance companies to honor a chiropractic assignment of benefits.

MCA Position – For

7) SB554 - Health Insurance - Prompt Payment of Claims by Carriers - Clean Claims (<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0554.htm>)

Synopsis – Alters the definition of a clean claim to include a claim for treatment of work related injuries. Requires WCC carriers to promptly pay providers

MCA Position – For

8) SB555 / HB868 - Health Insurance - Assignment, Transfer, or Subcontract of Health Care Provider Contract (<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0555.htm>)

Synopsis – Requires a health care provider's written consent before assigning a contract to a WCC carrier.

MCA Position – For

9) SB68 - Health Insurance - Assignment, Transfer, or Subcontract of Health Care Provider Contract (<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/sb0068.htm>)

Synopsis – Requires a health insurance carrier that uses provider panels to establish procedures to verify that the provider is accepting new patients and ensure that there are a sufficient number of providers on the carrier's panel.

MCA Position – For

10) HB1062 - State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners - Licensure, Registration, and Regulation (<http://mlis.state.md.us/2006rs/billfile/hb1062.htm>)

Synopsis – Shifts the regulation of massage therapy from the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners to a new Massage Therapy Board.

MCA Position – Opposed

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The **MCA Partners Program** is available to those organizations and companies which provide products and services to the chiropractic profession. We are providing partners with the opportunity to pay one annual fee that will cover all MCA events and marketing opportunities throughout the year, with some opportunities exclusive to supporting members and MCA Partners. One of the MCA's goals in instituting this program is to make it easier for vendors and sponsors to budget their year's activities. Designed with your needs in mind, the numerous benefits are a deal you won't be able to pass up!

2006 MCA Partner Application

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The undersigned, wishing to demonstrate support for the MCA, hereby applies to be a 2006 Partner.

Circle one:
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Signature: _____ Date: _____

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- 2006 Supplier Membership in the MCA
- Banner Ad in On-Line Members' Directory
- 6 Half-Page ads in the MCA's award-winning newsletter
- One-time use of the mailing list in 2006
- Hot Link to your Web site on the MCA Web Site
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Silver Partner \$1,750

- Table Top Exhibit at the March CE Forum (available to MCA Partners and Supplier Members only)
- Exhibit at the Annual Fall Convention
- 2006 Supplier Membership in the MCA
- Banner Ad in On-Line Members' Directory
- 3 1/3-Page Ads in the MCA's award-winning newsletter
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Have YOU Been Receiving MCA's E-Newsletter?

The Maryland Chiropractic Association is happy to announce the launch of the **MCA Update**. An additional benefit of membership in MCA, this e-newsletter will provide you with up-to-date information on MCA as well as the latest news concerning chiropractic in Maryland.

If you did not receive MCA Update in your email during February, please call MCA headquarters at 410-625-1155 to confirm that we have your correct email address on file.

The MCA Update will be distributed to members the first week of every even month (February, April, June, August, October, and December) so members can stay abreast of the



latest news on legislative action, MCA's education offerings, etc. during months when the *MCA Journal* is not mailed.

In addition to providing members with the most up-to-date information, one of the added benefits of monthly coverage is allowing for monthly classifieds for those chiropractors who may have an unexpected staff shortage.

While MCA is excited to announce the launch of this new vehicle for communication with our membership, MCA encourages all members to continue to visit www.MarylandChiro.com for the most current information on Chiropractic in Maryland.

Board of Examiners *Update*

NEXT CA EXAM SET FOR APRIL 18

The next Chiropractic Assistant Exam is set for Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 4 p.m. All applications and supporting documentation **MUST** be received by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners **NO LATER THAN MARCH 18**.

BOARD TO AMEND REGULATIONS

Over the past two years, there has been a marked increase in license violations involving misuse of CA's, and employing non-registered personnel as CA's. Many of the violations are simply the result of illegal conduct by the practitioner. Others are the result of honest confusion in trying to interpret and follow existing regulations. Based upon the input of the chiropractic and massage communities the Board of Examiners has proposed the following amendments to the regulations that enforce and implement the Chiropractic Practice Act:

- Requiring licenses to be displayed in each practice location.
- Eliminating the requirement for applicants to submit a statement of physical/mental health.
- Add a \$50 processing fee for every CEU course submitted for review/approval and increasing application and renewal fees by \$50 each to meet budget constraints.
- Amend CA program to better clarify processing and administrative requirements.
- Clarify the training that may be done by a supervising chiropractor and clarify the issue of "direct supervision."
- Applicants for supervising chiropractor must pass a special exam testing them on laws, regulations, ethics, boundaries and administrative procedures and be interviewed individually by the Board.
- Amend the CA program to require a CPR certificate and training and completion of a 5-hour course in ethics, law, regulations and jurisprudence.
- Amend the CA program to permit the Board to waive educational requirements for certain qualified personnel on a case-by-case basis.

- Clarify that only CPR certification from the American Red Cross or American Heart Association is accepted.
- Add light therapy and exercise demonstration to the list of activities that may be performed by CA's under direct supervision.
- Address the issue of the extent to which CA's may be involved in x-rays.
- Add a penalty for licensees who willfully destroy or deface a patient record or office file.
- Change the CEU requirement from 5 hours of HIV and 3 hours of risk management to 3 HIV and 5 risk management.
- Eliminate the random requirement for auditing CEU requirements.
- Clarify the standards of practice requirements to include alcohol abuse as a prohibition.
- Amend the standards of practice regulations to prohibit a licensee from intimidating or wrongfully influencing a witness.
- Amend the recordkeeping regulation by requiring licensees to promptly and efficiently process requests from records where such requests originate with a patient, a healthcare practitioner, or the Board.
- Clarify the massage therapy regulations to specify that "energy work" does not include traditional massage methods such as effleurage, petrissage, tappotment, stretching, etc.
- Various (non-substantive) minor housekeeping changes, deletions, amendments to make the regulations more accessible and more understandable.

It is important to remember that these are **ONLY PROPOSALS** and must be refined, reviewed and approved after publication and invitation for public formal comments.

The next step will be to formally print all proposed regulation changes and forward them to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Office of Attorney General for legal and substantive review. They will then release them for public review and comment through the Maryland State Register. At that time, the public will have 30 days to submit formal comments and/or criticism. Based on those comments or lack thereof, the regulation package will be amended further and forwarded to the state for final approval.

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Implement Functionally Based Active Care, Get Results and Get Paid. 1980's style passive care like electrical stimulation and ultrasound aren't cutting it. Functionally based active care is the driving force behind successful treatment programs and reimbursement today. Learn how simply integrating active care in your office increases your compliance, your PVA, your results and your collections.

NEW CA CLASS

Don't Leave Your CA's at Home While You Get Recharged at the Seminar. Get Your Staff on Board with Your Vision.

Our one-day CA class educates your staff on proven systems and procedures that are effective in minimizing workload and maximizing reimbursement. We'll cover everything from medical records and insurance to effective scripts and marketing techniques to recharge your office. Your staff will gain the certainty and conviction to motivate patients in their health care decision-making and they'll be inspired and prepared to reach new heights in your practice.



Other topics covered include the seven components of evaluation and management (E&M) coding, current procedural terminology (CPT) coding, overturning insurance denials and much more.

Chris Colloca, D.C. Clinician. Researcher. Innovator.

For the past decade Dr. Colloca has been training thousands of chiropractors around the World on the latest advances in chiropractic research and practice in the post-graduate domain. In his Phoenix, Arizona based practice he has evolved a highly successful evidence-based practice style transforming the state-of-the-art in research into everyday practice. This high-tech hands-on approach is extremely efficient, enabling him to practice just 24 hours a week. With his extra time, he has conducted ground-breaking chiropractic research and published over 30 research papers in some of the best scientific journals. In fact, in 2003, Dr. Colloca won the prestigious Scott Haldeman Award (1st Prize) for the best research paper at the World Federation of Chiropractic Congress. His knowledge and experience you can trust, and his energy and enthusiasm are contagious.



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Classifieds

To place a classified ad in the MCA Journal, please send it in writing, along with appropriate payment, to MCA, 720 Light St., Baltimore, MD 21230. The cost for a 25-word ad is \$15 for MCA members (2 issues for \$25) or \$25 per issue for non-members. The next issue is set for distribution on May 1, 2006. The deadline for classifieds is April 15.

Associate Wanted — Chiropractors needed for Baltimore City/P.G. County. Administrative/Clinical experience preferred. Base salary with incentives offered. Fax resume to 301-434-6932 or call 301-585-3200. (3/06)

Associate Wanted — Wanted, energetic chiropractor interested in an independent contractor relationship in a busy office with physical therapy, x-ray, medical doc and podiatrist. Flat fee call 443-417-0946. (3/06)

Associate Wanted — Earn and learn, incredible opportunity to be actively involved in high volume family practice. Then: learn and leave, open a satellite office or partnership opportunity. Call Toni 410-960-4010. (5/06)

Associates/Owners/Partners/Coverage Docs/Practices for Sale Wanted — We are a multiple practice group (DC, MD, VA) and are always looking for one or more of the above. If you are exploring your opportunities, contact me. I may have exactly what you're looking for. Rick.Schmitt@comcast.net or fax to 301-970-2273. (9/06)

Chiropractic Assistants/Office Managers/Marketing Staff Wanted — In Maryland - We are an expanding multiple practice group seeking one or more of the above. There are immediate openings in Baltimore, and in PG County practices. Future openings in other areas of Maryland. Contact me by email dreichuntington@aol.com or fax your resume to 443-524-6608. (3/06)

Chiropractic Assistant Wanted — Are you looking for a position that allows you to use your current skills and develop new ones? Our fun, busy, growing Ellicott City office needs a CA and you may be our person! Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume to: Fax: 410-465-9271 or e-mail: morrisonchiropractic@yahoo.com. (3/06)

Chiropractic Assistant Wanted — Parkville (Baltimore County). FT/PT Available. Salary & benefit package. Call 410-882-0720, or fax resume to 410-882-6767. (3/06)

Office For Lease — Office of chiropractic practice of 20 years is available for lease in vibrant Woodlawn area, Baltimore. Call 410-786-1036/240-786-1036. (3/06)

Office Space Available — Fully equipped office space to share in Frederick, MD. Please call 301-694-7774 for more information. (7/06)

Practice For Sale — Established downtown Baltimore office for sale. Price negotiable. Call 301-585-3200. (3/06)

Practice For Sale — Prince George's County – Long-established practice with excellent clinical reputation in desirable area. Outstanding location in high-traffic shopping center. Paragon Group 800-582-1812 www.eparagongroup.com. (3/06)

Practice Available — Office available and ready to see patients in Perry Hall/White March area. Four treatment rooms with P.T., x-ray with processor for \$18K. You take over the remaining 2 years of lease. Contact: 410-256-9650 (phone) or 410-256-3339 (fax). (5/06)

Office Sharing — Looking for doctor to share office space and staff in Reisterstown. Great opportunity for doctor looking to start practice and keep overhead low. Contact Dr. Patrick Ingram 410-833-3038. (3/06)

Office Coverage — Want a break? Need a break? Whatever the reason, leave your practice in capable hands. A 1998 Palmer graduate w/ clinic ownership experience. Licensed DC w/PT privileges ready to help. Contact Dr. Gary Amaral - 410-365-6891 or ahcps@verizon.net. (1/07)

Office Coverage — Licensed, experienced and insured DC with PT privileges. Please contact at 410-901-2903 or dredachiro@bcctv.net. (3/06)

Office Coverage — Available for office coverage. 16 years private practice experience. Professional, personal care, reliable. Relax away from your office. Dr. Hoffman pager: 410-324-0990, office: 410-668-2266. (3/06)

Office Coverage — Licensed, experienced DC with PT privileges available for vacation relief. Multiple references, contact Charles Weitzman DC at 443-929-2001. (3/06)

Equipment For Sale — New Summit x-ray machine, green rare earth film cassettes, Hope Micro-max Automatic processor, leaded window wall, red light, and I.D. Marker all included! Takes excellent films! Contact Dr. Patrick Ingram at 410-833-3038. (5/06)

Equipment For Sale — X-ray machine and processor - Transworld 325V stand up x-ray machine. Konica QX60A automatic processor. Both in excellent condition. \$3,700 or best offer. Please call 410-552-3822. (3/06)