

PSYCHIATRIST

Volume 61, Number 2

October 2012

Newsletter of the Southern California Psychiatric Society

President's Column

Access to Care

Larry Lawrence, M.D.



Welcome to the October SCPS newsletter. Glad to see such a solid turnout at the CPS meeting in Dana Point. The program was rich, timely, pertinent, and the participants were quite involved and engaged by the presenters as well as their colleagues. I had an opportunity to attend presentations on Maintenance of Certification, Marijuana Policy, and Medical issues in Psychiatry, as well as the "Mahler on the Couch." All were well attended and quite informative. Thanks to all, and especially to the CPA staff.

Our next SCPS educational conference will be the Annual Psychopharmacology Program on January 26th. Please plan on joining us at this program which is always high quality, well received, and always a solid update.

NAMI walks will be taking place in October 2012. All those interested can sign up in person or online as a sponsor. We encourage your participation at these events and always find the interactions convivial, instructive, and fun.

My topic for the month is access to care. This issue is being addressed by a CPA committee chaired by Dr. Joseph Mawhinney. The more I read, and the more hurdles I encounter in trying to set up, coordinate or provide care, the more I see this as a critical area to address. We must make our voices known and our concerns heard.

There has been a presidential executive order, sent to the military and VA, focused on the significant delays encountered by veterans in attempting to access care on return from combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. The increase in PTSD, depression and suicide has demanded attention and a push for more care. Despite such attention, many vets report long and discouraging delays.

The hurdles encountered in the general community settings mirror these problems and more; Our private practice committee has been exploring difficulties clinicians encounter with private insurance reimbursement. This includes difficulty in getting treatment approved, establishing agreements to provide care (which are not clearly adhered to) and paper hurdles which discourage participation. De-

(Continued on page 2)

In This Issue...	
Letter from the Editor	3
Psychopharmacology Update 24 Registration	4
Dear Fellow Psychiatrists-	
Why Membership is Worthwhile	5
Council Highlights	7
Welcome New Members	8
Thank You Life Members	9
Photo Gallery LA NAMIWalk	11

spite paying premiums for care, our patients often find difficulty using their benefits or problems in accessing specialists.

The decision by those administering the Mental Health Services Act - to exclude involuntary treatment has had a significant impact on some of our most troubled patients. They seem to struggle to understand their illness, or outright deny it. Despite a good number of successful programs for the mentally ill that MHSA has generated, the severe, chronic mentally ill who are non-adherent or non-compliant with care seem left with even less options.

Anyone using the MediCal system has seen a shift to HMO models. Unfortunately these models have developed formularies which are non-comprehensive, difficult to utilize, and inconsistent from one system to another. We are supporting a uniform formulary bill to assist in continuity of care.

Governor Jerry Brown recently supported bills clarifying benefits provided by private insurers in California. This could serve as a model to develop a coherent set of eligibilities and benefits to our patients, and to ourselves in utilizing our benefits when we become patients.

We will continue to see individual issues regarding pre-approval, TAR approval, lack of specialist availability, lack of providers, difficulty with school mental health services and access to a full spectrum of services. We will continue to address this at a state and national level and welcome your input at a local level. As the late Speaker of The House, Tip O'Neill used to repeat, "All Politics is Local." Please keep us aware of barriers to access which you are encountering.

We hope you have visited our new website. Please note that [members](#) have access to more information than is provided in the public section of the directory by logging in with your username and password. If you need to retrieve your username and password you can get it by entering your email address. If you have not provided your email address to us, please contact SCPS at scps2999@earthlink.net.

Dues statements have been sent for 2013 SCPS dues. You may now pay your dues online by finding your corresponding membership category and dues amount.

Please see page 4 for information on the Psychopharmacology Update 24.

Letter from the Editor

Left, Right and Center
Colleen Copelan, M.D.



We were treated to three political world views at the California Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting at Dana Point the end of last month.

Assemblyman Michael Allen (Democrat)—recipient of this year's Legislator of the Year Award—spoke at the Legislative Luncheon. He's a former psychiatric nurse turned lawyer. He authored the successful CPA-sponsored bill to extend Laura's Law, the county-option Assisted Outpatient Treatment program.

Assemblywoman Diane Harkey (Republican) keynoted the Major Donor PAC Dinner. She made the case for improving government efficiency by limiting taxes. She was a banker before her election and was impressively facile with financial data.

Jim Gray—former Orange County trial court judge and former prosecutor with the U. S. Attorney's Office—is the Libertarian candidate for vice president of the United States! He spoke at the marijuana symposium. The judge is an outspoken supporter of legalizing and regulating marijuana.

Next month is the big election. Don't miss your opportunity to pick a direction. cocopelan@aol.com

Advertisement

"This is a great place to build a career, with outstanding clinical leadership and colleagues we value."



Chris Camilleri,
M.D.

O.C. White,
M.D.

Success Factors

Establish your future with a stable organization strategically positioned for successful healthcare integration. State-of-the-art programs provide diverse opportunities in telepsychiatry, Wellness Centers, crisis resolution, consultation to integrated health/ mental health/substance abuse programs, and field capable services, as well as clinic, jail and juvenile justice settings.

Join us for professional growth and career options that make a difference in the lives of people who need our help. Our organization's size (200+ psychiatrists), diversity and range of opportunities provide an exciting and rewarding environment for collegial collaboration and advancement.

We offer competitive salaries (**ranging from \$142,944 to \$288,483 annually**) and excellent benefits.



For consideration, email your CV to: omd@dmh.lacounty.gov

Roderick Shaner, M.D., Medical Director
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
550 South Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 738-4603

SCPS Presents Psychopharmacology Update 24

Saturday, January 26, 2013

The Olympic Collection | 11301 Olympic Blvd. | Los Angeles, CA 90064

A Beating of Minds: PTSD and Other Wounds of War - Murray Stein, M.D.

Eating Disorders: Principles of Diagnosis and Management (Anorexia Nervosa/Bulimia Nervosa/Binge Eating Disorder) - Carole K. Edelstein, M.D.

Advances in Pharmacotherapy of Anxiety Disorders - Jamie Feusner, M.D.

Opioids and Benzodiazepines: A Look at Risks and Benefits in Pain Treatment - Elinore F. McCance-Katz, M.D.

The Assessment and Psychopharmacological Treatment of People with Aggression and Agitation - Stuart C. Yudofsky, M.D.

Continuing Education

The Southern California Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Institute for Medical Quality/California Medical Association (IMQ/CMA) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Southern California Psychiatric Society takes responsibility for the content, quality and scientific integrity of this CME activity.

The Southern California Psychiatric Society designates this educational activity for a maximum of 5 *AMA PRA Category I Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. This credit may also be applied to the CMA Certification in Continuing Medical Education.



To register and for more information please go to:

<http://www.socalpsych.org/events.html>

Or contact SCPS at 310-815-3650 or scps2999@earthlink.net for more information.

Dear Dr. Fellow Psychiatrist

I am writing you today because the welfare of our patients and our profession including our livelihood as psychiatrists is threatened on numerous fronts. Inaction on our part will lead us to lose important battles. The way we practice medicine will be affected with mounting challenges to our ability to serve our patients and receive fair compensation. The Southern California Psychiatric Society (SCPS), the California Psychiatric Association (CPA), and the American Psychiatric Association (APA) are actively involved in these battles to protect your patients and you. They lobby on your behalf in Sacramento and Washington. They support candidates who recognize the importance of quality patient care.

Here are just a few issues on which your professional societies are active, that directly impact your practice, your livelihood, your patients, and how you care for your patients:

- Attempts by psychologists to prescribe on the basis of inadequate medical training
- Managed care practices that are inconsistent with good care
- Licensure Certification/ Re-certification

All of the major interest groups that influence national and state healthcare policy (i.e. insurance companies, trial lawyers, psychologist organizations, etc.) are at the table. They are well-funded and well-connected. For better and for worse they understand how policy is formed and how our system is influenced. They do more than take ideological stands about the ills of healthcare, they do what it takes to get what they want. The SCPS, CPA and APA are there to represent the interests of you and your patients.

Organized Psychiatry is the force that stands between these special interests and the dismantling of structures that ensure quality psychiatric care. APA/CPA/SCPS has been a successful bulwark against misguided attempts to reshape health policies and regulations. Our ongoing effectiveness is most enhanced each time that a local psychiatrist, whether seasoned or early career, whether in private practice or public service or academia, participates in our organization. Collective denial of the dangers to our patients and profession by failing to participate, conversely, harms our effectiveness.

Organized Medicine and Organized Psychiatry in particular will lose important battles without your help. If you think medicine is hard to practice now, doing nothing will only worsen our situation. We ask not only that you join APA/CPA/SCPS but get involved. Donate your time and participate. Given the changing face of medicine with national healthcare reform on the forefront this is a crucial time to get involved.

For more information contact our Executive Director, Mindi Thelen, at scps2999@earthlink.net, or 310-815-3650. **To Join**, follow this link:

<http://www.psychiatry.org/join-participate/becoming-a-member>

Sincerely,

Larry Lawrence, M.D.

President, SCPS

**THERE ARE GOOD REASONS
AMERICAN
PROFESSIONAL
AGENCY
IS A LEADER IN PROVIDING
MALPRACTICE INSURANCE
FOR PSYCHIATRISTS
HERE ARE TWO OF THEM.**



www.psychiatry.org

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
CHILD & ADOLESCENT
PSYCHIATRY**

WWW.AACAP.ORG

JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE CHOSEN TO BE REPRESENTED BY OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM AND OUR PROGRAM WHICH IS ENDORSED BY THE TWO MOST PROMINENT ASSOCIATIONS IN YOUR PROFESSION – THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION AND THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY.

AS AN ALLIED WORLD POLICYHOLDER YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RISK MANAGEMENT TEAM WHO WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE EVER-CHANGING EXPOSURES THAT YOU MAY ENCOUNTER IN YOUR PSYCHIATRIC PRACTICE. OUR RISK MANAGEMENT TEAM IS AVAILABLE TO OUR INSUREDS 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK OR THROUGH OUR HOTLINE.

**WHEN IT COMES TO MALPRACTICE INSURANCE
FOR PSYCHIATRISTS,
GO WITH A WORLDWIDE LEADER**

COVERAGE WILL BE UNDERWRITTEN BY AN INSURANCE SUBSIDIARY OF ALLIED
WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG



95 Broadway, Amityville, NY 11701

WWW.APAMALPRACTICE.COM

877-740-1777

Council Highlights

September 13, 2012

Sophie Duriez, M.D., *Secretary*



Dr. Lawrence called the meeting to order. A motion was made to accept the previous June Council minutes. All voted in favor, and none opposed. Dr. Lawrence addressed the Council New Member orientation to Dan Willick.

Dan Willick spoke to the members of the Council about their legal obligations as members of the board of directors of the SCPS and the importance of their work to organized psychiatry and their patients.

Dr. Lawrence then welcomed the Council's New Members : Dr. Vandana Chopra, MIT and, Dr. Ijeoma Ijeaku and asked each member to present themselves by stating their name and Council's position.

Dr. Lawrence addressed the Conflict of Interest new policy. Dr. Burchuck and Dr. Cheung both introduced the new COI submitted with the COI Committee Report. A motion was made to accept the new COI policy. All voted in favor, and none opposed.

Dr. Lawrence addressed SCPS new website. Dr. Red, reported the launching of the new website. Dr. Lawrence asked if the Council was approving the new website. A motion was made to accept the new SCPS website. All voted in favor, and none opposed.

Dr. Lawrence addressed the recruitment project report. Mindi Thelen reported that 1535 letters went out with very low return. Members were terminated for non-payment of dues during the summer, however some members have already come back. Many people are confused about having to pay back dues. They have to pay for the year they did not pay and then they will be paying starting from the year of resuming their SCPS membership. The APA website was confusing about this notion, see APA new timeline for member termination. A motion was made to offer amnesty as to SCPS dues for one time only to any previous member that was dropped in 2010 or earlier for non-payment of dues and who responds to the recruitment letter. This amnesty will go through June 2013. All voted in favor, and none opposed.

Dr. Lawrence addressed the Competitive Grant Task Force. Dr. Schaepper did express her interest as well as Dr. Lawrence.

Mindi Thelen reported on the invitation for Kitty Dukakis to attend an SCPS function to accept her award from the SCPS. A motion was made that a 10 minute presentation will be made to Kitty Dukakis at the Psychopharmacology The motion passed.

Dr. Lawrence addressed APA new timeline for member termination. Mindi Thelen reported the cases of quite a few members who had paid their SCPS dues but not their APA dues who have been terminated from the APA. She noted that SCPS dues are much lower than the APA's.

Dr. Lawrence commented on committee chairs.

Dr. Lawrence addressed the update on DSM V. Dr. Gross gave the agenda of the different committees that the DSM V will review. A lot of disorders will remain the same but the disorders that are different or added will be carefully reviewed by different instances to make sure that they are scientifically reviewed.

Dr. Lawrence addressed the APA nominations.

Dr. Soldinger, President-Elect, reported the recommendations of the membership committee. When an applicant has been disciplined by the Medical Board there is a question of whether this impacts eligibility to be a

member of SCPS. A motion was made to accept the recommendations of the membership committee. All voted in favor, and none opposed.

Dr. Forgey presented the summer financials & cash on hand, our investments, mutual funds, etc. Motion to accept treasurer's report was proposed and voted. All in favor, none opposed.

Dr. Gales reported the Psychopharmacology Update and the reaccreditation for CME.

No New Business or Old business. After having asked if there were further questions or issues to be addressed, Dr. Lawrence adjourned the September 2012 Council Meeting

SCPS would like to welcome the following new
or reinstating members:

Michele Abassi, M.D.
Steven Allen, M.D.
Rhoda Bernardez, M.D.
Cristina Barolet-Garcia, M.D.
Sherilee Bryant, M.D.
Cynthia Chavira, M.D.
Kiyomi Cohn, D.O.
John Daly, M.D.
Tammy Duong, M.D.
Stephen Field, D.O.
Gregory Gray, M.D.
Arsalan Malik, M.D.
Jamie Lacsina, D.O.
Ariel Seroussi, M.D.
Shawn Sidhu, M.D.
Hozair Syed, M.D.
Marie Truong, D.O.
Peter Ureste, M.D.
Sambin Wang, D.O.

Each year the SCPS President writes to SCPS' dues exempt members--Life Members, Life Fellows and Distinguished Life Fellows and asks for a voluntary contribution. We would like to gratefully thank the following members for their contributions:

Ramon Alcerro, M.D.
David Bender, M.D.
Stanley Block, M.D.
Daniel Borenstein, M.D.
Thomas Ciesla, M.D.
Arnold Gilberg, M.D.
Marcia Goin, M.D.
Richard Greenberg, M.D.
Michella Gunn, M.D.
Hiawatha Harris, M.D.
Quinton James, M.D.
Harriet Kaplan, M.D.
Richard Kettler, M.D. (not a member, but made a donation!)
Martha Kirkpatrick, M.D.
Boyd Krout, M.D.
Robert Lerner, M.D.
Arthur Malin, M.D.
King Mendelsohn, M.D.
Clinton Montgomery, M.D.
Marvin Osman, M.D.
Arthur Ourieff, M.D.
Robert Pasnau, M.D.
William Rickles, M.D.
James Rosenblum, M.D.
Richard Rubin, M.D.
Ernest Schreiber, M.D.
Howard Shapiro, M.D.
Jerald Simon, M.D.
Bernard Sosner, M.D.
Marianne Soor-Melka, M.D.
Albert Thomas, M.D.
Thomas Trott, M.D.
Harvey Weintraub, M.D.
John Wells, M.D.
Samuel Wilson, M.D.
Ronald Zinner, M.D.

More than just medical professional liability insurance...

Practicing telepsychiatry?

As the leader in psychiatric medical professional liability insurance, we know your needs. Providing coverage and risk management resources for telepsychiatry is just one aspect of our comprehensive program.

- **Michelle Robinson**
Underwriter
TheProgram@prms.com

For a complimentary telepsychiatry risk management tip, visit www.PsychProgram.com/telemedicine.



- More than 18,000 psychiatric claims handled
- Over 40,000 issues responded to by the Risk Management Consultation Service (RMCS) since inception in 1997
- Accredited by the ACCME
- Administrative and governmental billing defense coverage
- Coverage for forensic and telemedicine psychiatric services
- ECT/EST included at no additional charge
- Premium discounts - and much more!

Contact us to learn about our full-service psychiatric-specific insurance program.



In California, d/b/a Transatlantic Professional Risk Management and Insurance Services

www.PsychProgram.com | TheProgram@prms.com | (800) 245-3333 ext. 389 | [twitter @PsychProgram](https://twitter.com/PsychProgram)

Photos from Los Angeles NAMIWalk - Saturday, October 6, 2012
(Riverside/San Bernardino NAMIWalk will be held on October 27th)



Drs. Lawrence Gross, Robert Burchuk, Ira Lesser and Roderick Shaner.



Wayne Baldaro LA Walk Coordinator.



Marcia Goin, M.D. and walkers.



Santa Monica Mayor, Richard Bloom.





CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Position Available

Medical Director Wanted - Magellan Behavior Health is seeking a board certified psychiatrist to serve as the Medical Director in our San Diego Care Management Center. The BSC Medical Director provides oversight of a comprehensive medical policy implementation and utilization management services. The Medical Director will be responsible for developing and sustaining an interface with member forums and facilitates the delivery of appropriate care. The Medical Director plays a vital role in developing the clinical mission of the CMC. Psychiatrists interested in exploring this opportunity should contact Kevin Palisi at (860) 507-1955 or email kjpalisi@magellanhealth.com.

Clinical Innovations is hiring Clinical Research Investigators for their Psychiatric Clinical Phase 1-3 Trials. We have 4 Locations in Southern California and are looking for California Licensed Psychiatrists, Internists, MDs, DOs, Nurse Practitioners, or Physician Assistants to work provide patient care and monitoring for our clinical trials. Part time, Full time, and flexible schedules are available. Please submit your CVs and/or resumes to david@citrials.com

Space Available

Santa Monica: Large psychotherapy office. Wilshire near 26th. Sixth floor, large windows, great views! Call lights, separate exit, fax, internet. Security building. Call 310-828-4944.

Office available in Torrance for part-time private practice. \$400 a month for two days a week rental. Amenities include beautifully landscaped grounds; floor to ceiling windows in office on top floor; a business office with fax, copier, refrigerator, and coffee maker; plus a waiting room. Contact: Richard Palmer, M.D., 310-373-6691.

ALL EDITORIAL MATERIALS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY SCPS NO LATER THAN THE 5TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH. NO AUGUST PUBLICATION. ALL PAID ADVERTISEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THE 5TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.

SCPS Officers

President Larry Lawrence, M.D.
President-Elect Steve Soldinger, M.D.
Secretary Sophie Duriez, M.D.
Treasurer Marcy Forgey, M.D.
Treasurer-Elect Heather Silverman, M.D.

Councillors by Region (Terms Expiring)

Inland Mubashuir Farooqi, M.D. (2015)
San Fernando Valley Davin Agustines, D.O. (2013)
. Saba Syed, M.D. (2013)
San Gabriel Valley/Los Angeles-East Hanumantah Damerla, M.D. (2015)
. Allen Mogos, M.D. (2013)
Santa Barbara Paul Erickson, M.D. (2015)
South Bay Margarita Krasnova, M.D. (2013)
South L.A. County Joseph Simpson, M.D. (2013)
Ventura vacant (2013)
West Los Angeles Laurie Casaus, M.D. (2013)
. David Fogelson, M.D. (2015)
. Michael Gales, M.D. (2013)
. Roderick Shaner, M.D. (2015)
ECP Representative Erick Cheung, M.D. (2013)
ECP Deputy Representative Anita Red, M.D. (2014)
MIT Representative Vandana Chopra, M.D. (2013)
. Ijeoma Ijeaku, M.D. (2013)

Past Presidents Robert Burchuk, M.D.
. Kathleen Moreno, M.D.
. Mary Ann Schaepper, M.D.

Federal Legislative Representative Steve Soldinger, M.D.
State Legislative Representative Ronald Thurston, M.D.
Public Affairs Representative Eric Levander, M.D.

Assembly Representatives

Lawrence Gross, M.D. (2013) Mary Ann Schaepper, M.D. (2016)
Ronald Thurston, M.D. (2014)

Executive Director Mindi Thelen
Desktop Publishing Mindi Thelen

CPA Officers

President Ronald Thurston, M.D.
President-Elect Timothy Murphy, M.D.
Treasurer William Arroyo, M.D.
Trustee Marc Graff, M.D.
Government Affairs Consultant Randall Hagar

SCPS Newsletter

Editor Colleen Copelan, M.D.

Editorial Committee
Ronald Thurston, M.D.

SCPS website address: www.socalpsych.org

© Copyright 2012 by Southern California Psychiatric Society

Southern California PSYCHIATRIST, (ISSN #10476334), is published monthly, except August by the Southern California Psychiatric Society, 2999 Overland Ave., Suite 208, Los Angeles, CA 90064, (310) 815-3650, FAX (310) 815-3650.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Southern California PSYCHIATRIST, Southern California Psychiatric Society, 2999 Overland Ave., Suite 208, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

Permission to quote or report any part of this publication must be obtained in advance from the Editor.

Opinions expressed throughout this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Society or the Editorial Committee as a whole. The Editor should be informed at the time of the Submission of any article that has been submitted to or published in another publication.

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements in this newsletter do not represent endorsement by the Southern California Psychiatric Society (SCPS), and contain information submitted for advertising which has not been verified for accuracy by the SCPS.