

POLICY & PRACTICE

ACR Urges Approval of Arthritis Act

Representatives from the American College of Rheumatology and the Arthritis Foundation urged lawmakers to support the "Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act of 2007" (S.626/H.R. 1283) at a congressional briefing this fall. Among other things, the Act contains provisions to create incentives to specialize in pediatric rheumatology, especially through loan repayment programs. At the briefing, Dr. Christy Sandborg, professor of pediatrics at Stanford (Calif.) University, pointed out "there are 12 states that don't even have a pediatric rheumatologist" and "over one-third of medical schools and pediatric residency training programs do not have a pediatric rheumatologist."

Raloxifene Indication Added

The Food and Drug Administration approved raloxifene for reducing the risk of breast cancer in postmenopausal women at high risk for the disease and for postmenopausal women with osteoporosis. The revised package insert now will include a boxed warning that women with a history of venous thromboembolism should not take raloxifene, and women at risk for stroke should take it only after reviewing

the risks with their physician. Raloxifene, marketed by Eli Lilly as Evista, also is approved for prevention and treatment of osteoporosis in postmenopausal patients.

One-Third of Americans Uninsured

Almost 35% of Americans had no health care coverage for at least part of 2006-2007, up from 30% in 1999-2000, Families USA reported. Of these, 19% were uninsured for longer than 1 year; more than half were uninsured for longer than 6 months. Of the 89.6 million people who lacked coverage, 71% had full-time jobs and another 9% were working part time; only 17% were unemployed. The numbers are substantially larger than those published by the U.S. Census Bureau (which cites 47 million uninsured in 2006, or 16%), because those statistics include only those who were uninsured for a full year. The report is at www.familiesusa.org.

Task Force Examines Physician Gifts

The New Jersey Attorney General's Advisory Task Force on Physician Compensation is examining the impact of payments and gifts to physicians from the drug and device industry. The task force will also consider possible public disclosure of gifts,

direct disclosure to patients, and limits on payments to physicians. Vermont, Maine, Minnesota, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia have passed laws requiring some form of reporting of payments made to physicians by pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

Increase for Part B Premiums

The standard monthly Medicare Part B premium will increase to \$96.40 next year, up 3.1% from the current \$93.50, Kerry

Weems, administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, announced in a teleconference. That amount will be paid by individuals with an annual income of \$82,000 or less or couples with \$160,000 or less a year, about 95% of all Medicare beneficiaries, according to the agency. For other beneficiaries, Part B premiums will be tied to beneficiary income as required by the Medicare Modernization Act.

—Denise Napoli

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Actelion Pharmaceuticals US, Inc.		Gilead Sciences, Inc.	
Tracleer	14a-14b	Letairis	22a-22d
Bayer HealthCare LLC		INOVA Diagnostics, Inc.	
ALEVE	33	Corporate	39
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company		Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation	
Orencia	34a-34d, 35	Reclast	8a-8b
Centocor, Inc.		Nutramax Laboratories, Inc.	
Remicade	10a-10d, 11-12	CosaminDS	17
Corporate	16	Rexall Sundown, Inc.	
Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc.		Osteo Bi-Flex	7
Opana	25-28	Roche Laboratories Inc.	
Ferring Pharmaceuticals Inc.		Corporate	19, 21
Euflexxa	36a-36b	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center	
Genentech, Inc.		Corporate	13
Rituxan	3-5	Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc.	
Genzyme Corporation		Enbrel	42-44
Synvisc	29-30		

CLASSIFIEDS

Also Available at www.rheumatologynews.com

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AT LAHEY CLINIC advancing medicine is our practice

Opportunities in Rheumatology

From pioneering medical treatments to innovative technology to leading-edge research, physicians at **Lahey Clinic** are proud to be at the forefront of advanced medical care. We're inviting you to help us continue that legacy as part of our



dynamic Rheumatology Department in our physician-led multi-specialty group practice environment. You will enjoy professional challenges and the support and camaraderie of colleagues and clinical staff that truly want to make a difference.

RHEUMATOLOGISTS

Outstanding opportunity available for BC/BE Rheumatologists to join our department consisting of six physicians and two nurse practitioners. Opportunity for academic appointment to Tufts Medical School, teaching Lahey residents and fellows and students from Tufts Medical School. Our multi-disciplinary group practice model allows close collaboration within the medical center, providing patient care that covers a wide spectrum of rheumatologic conditions.

Lahey Clinic Medical Center, Burlington, MA, a 317-bed, state-of-the-art hospital and outpatient clinic, is a physician-directed, multi-disciplinary group practice of 475 physicians fostering a collegial atmosphere with the support, collaboration and consultation of colleagues and clinical staff. As part of Lahey Clinic's continuing growth, we are expanding our Lahey Clinic Medical Center, North Shore, Peabody, MA, and are offering a referral network through our community group practices across eastern Massachusetts.

Lahey Clinic is conveniently located in Burlington, a scenic suburb 17 miles northwest of Boston and a short drive to the lakes, mountains and shores of New England. Massachusetts offers excellent schools and academic institutions, abundant cultural opportunities and outdoor activities for every season.

Candidates should send a letter of interest and CV in Word format to:

Kathryn A. Schnabel
Physician Recruitment Office
41 Mall Road
Burlington, MA 01805
Email: kathryn.a.schnabel@lahey.org

www.lahey.org



RHEUMATOLOGY

Scenic Southern City in TN amidst breathtaking mountains, rivers and streams.

Consider this outstanding opportunity to join group of Rheumatologists open to your "practice style". Experience academic potential with flexible team vision while enjoying an excellent guaranteed salary and comprehensive benefits. Work in "state-of-the-art" facilities, and play in this quaint, historic town next to nature, offering an array of Universities, Sports, and the Arts -Symphony, Opera, Theater, and Youth Programs. You can stroll along the river, which runs through this "Fairy Tale City", and experience the finest shopping, dining, and summer exhibits. Abundant outdoor activities await you, such as canoeing, kayaking, whitewater, hang gliding, fishing, biking, boating or parasailing. For the sports enthusiast, there's golfing, professional and collegiate sports.

For further details, contact Neal Waters at Pinnacle Health Group at 1-800-492-7771 or email at nwaters1@phg.com
Ref. #070507-RHU-NW.

2007 CLASSIFIEDS

Rheumatology News Rates
4 Column Classified Ads
From 1" to 12"
Ads starting at \$135

For Deadlines and
More Information Contact:
Eric Kun
360 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10010
Tel: 212-633-3746
or fax your ad to: 212-633-3820
Email ad to: e.kun@elsevier.com

GIVE
AMERICAN
CANCER
SOCIETY

Disclaimer

RHEUMATOLOGY NEWS assumes the statements made in classified advertisements are accurate, but cannot investigate the statements and assumes no responsibility or liability concerning their content. The Publisher reserves the right to decline, withdraw, or edit advertisements. Every effort will be made to avoid mistakes, but responsibility cannot be accepted for clerical or printer errors.