

Sangamon County Medical Society and Illinois State Medical Society

Actively Working for our Members

SCMS is active in the St. John's Hospital Community Benefits Sub Committee, Citizens Club of Springfield, Regional Cancer Partnership and the Springfield Chamber's Government Relations Committee

SCMS' Medical Innovators Committee – Partners with SIU, the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, and Springfield Clinic

SCMS continues to play an active role in the Community Access to Comprehensive Healthcare (CATCH) program, developed and promoted through the active involvement of SCMS to provide a primary care medical home for Sangamon County residents who lack access to health insurance or government programs.

Quarterly newsletter (January, April, July, and October)

Practice Managers Group in partnership with ISMS

2 to 3 CME programs annually

Coffee and Conversations: A Safe Place to Vent – A place for physicians to feel safe discussing challenging issues of work/life balance in a confidential setting with a colleague from SCMS. Physicians who are looking for a place of support can contact SCMS at which time, he/she will be referred to an SCMS committee member who can offer a listening ear and walk with the physician through the issues of work/life balance.

Fall joint meeting with the Sangamon County Bar Association

Dr. Alonzo Kenniebrew Scholarship Fund – This fund was established to help support student programs. One of the programs supported through the fund is the SIU School of Medicine Pipeline Program coordinated by Dr. Wesley McNeese.

SCMS is working in partnership with Memorial Medical Center on an annual speed networking program (1st annual event took place in the spring of 2014)

SCMS partners with the Regional Cancer Partnership (RCP) and volunteers time during the Skin Cancer Screening Program and various programs

SCMS, in partnership with the State Journal Register, releases an annual Medical Resource Guide. The booklet is distributed to all SJR customers, physicians' offices, social service programs, and CATCH patients

The Doctor's 2 Cents Blog – This is supported through the SJ-R.com. SCMS members write articles regarding various topics throughout the year.

SCMS Community Health Committee – Physicians and Staff from SIU, Orthopedic Center of IL, Springfield Clinic, Prairie Cardiovascular, Dr. DeSanto (Dentist), Sangamon County Public Health Dept., and Dr. Dennis McManus

SCMS is part of the Health Need Assessment Advisory Committee (SCPH, Memorial and St. John's Hospital)

Welcome to Organized Medicine – event for incoming Medical Students

SCMS holds a Resolutions Meeting for SIU School of Medicine Students – helping them to understand the House of Delegates and what role SCMS and ISMS play in the success of their future in medicine

Professional Mentorship for incoming students – pilot

Resident – developing programs that will benefit Residents through knowledge on topics such as contractual issues, HIPAA in the electronic “app” age and your first lawsuit.

Springfield Healthcheck participation

Welcome new physician's event – fall of 2014

When funding allows, we help support various community fundraising events through sponsorships.

Social events (examples: Hoogland Center of the Arts and Sangamon Auditorium)

Legislative meetings with local legislators representing Sangamon County

Mini Internship program which exposes local business and political leaders to the life of the physician.

Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Renew Your ISMS Membership

Legislative advocacy consistently ranks highest on the list of reasons physicians choose to join ISMS and to retain their membership. But there are *numerous* other benefits that come with membership.

Here are the top 10:

1. ISMS offers medical legal resources available 24/7 to help you run your practice, including numerous medical legal guidelines like the latest [Concealed Carry of Firearms](#) and [Medical Marijuana](#).
2. Our Legislative Team works to reverse bad medical policy with sound legislation and stop bad medical policies in their tracks, such as preventing under-trained health professionals from practicing medicine. Access the [2014 Update on Legislative Activity](#) demonstrating the advocacy of ISMS on behalf of all Illinois physicians.
3. ISMS sends out legislative alerts to inform you of breaking legislative activity that may impact your practice and our patients – and what you can do about it.
4. We advocate for your interests with health insurance companies to reduce hassles, and eliminate payment problems. [Guidance is available from the Advocacy Team](#) for dealing with third-party payors. In fact, each year our team assists scores of member physicians, and saves them hundreds-to-thousands of dollars.
5. ISMS provide regulatory updates to help keep you compliant on any number of issues. Whether it's an upcoming deadline, how to avoid a financial penalty or direction on how to obtain a financial incentive, we keep you up-to-date on these matters *all year long*.
6. Top-notch continuing medical educational opportunities are available through the [ISMS Education Center](#), including live seminars and numerous on-demand courses – available whenever you are.
7. We help you to renew your license, hassle-free. ISMS operate a member hotline service. You speak with a “live person” from ISMS headquarters that quickly renews your medical license, at no additional fee.
8. ISMS provide your practice with tools to improve your practice. Our newsletters, webinars, seminars and website offer you and your office staff the latest medicine-focused information.
9. We have developed partnerships with office services firms that offer savings via discounted products and services, such as buying as part of a group of physicians to save cash on everyday business expenses with [CCPA Purchasing Partners, LP](#), or taking advantage of a 6 percent discount on a physician billing and practice management software, [athenaCollector](#)[®], available to practices with 100 percent ISMS membership.
10. Valuable online patient resources are available at no cost, including an [education flyer](#) for the new health insurance marketplace, [advance directives](#) and a [pocket-sized record booklet](#) to help patients partner with their physician by recording their own vital medical information.

[Join online, by email](#) or contact the Division of Membership Services at **800-782-4767 ext. 1900**.