About the Forum...

The Forum for Medical Affairs was established over 20 years ago “to further the aims and ideals of organized medicine by providing annual programs for its members on important issues facing the profession.” The Forum presents its annual program in conjunction with the Interim Meeting of the American Medical Association’s House of Delegates.

Members of the Forum include the members of the AMA House of Delegates, and the presidents, presidents-elect, past presidents and executive directors of all State Medical Societies and AMA-recognized National Specialty Medical Societies. Once qualified as a member of the Forum, you are considered a member for life.

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Accreditation Statement:
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of the Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA) and the Forum for Medical Affairs. The Oklahoma State Medical Association (OSMA) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The OSMA designates this educational activity for 2 AMA PRA hours in Category 1 CME Credits™. Physicians should only claim commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
The CME Panel will consist of:

**Kim Belshe**

**“California: Where Are We Today, Where Will We Be Tomorrow”**

Kimberly Belshe was appointed secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in November 2003. In this capacity, she serves as a member of the governor’s Cabinet and as his chief advisor on health, social services and rehabilitative policies.

As secretary, Ms. Belshe is responsible for providing leadership and oversight of the agency’s efforts to promote the health and well-being of the people of California, particularly those most in need and at risk.

Prior to joining the Schwarzenegger Administration, Ms. Belshe served in a number of leadership positions in state government under the administration of former Governor Pete Wilson, including deputy secretary of the then-Health and Welfare Agency and director of the Department of Health Services.

Throughout her career, Ms. Belshe has served in a number of civic capacities. She is a board member of the Great Valley Center, which is dedicated to promoting the sustainability of California’s Central Valley region, and served as a founding commissioner of the California Children and Families Commission.

**Objectives:**
1. Discuss Governor Schwarzenegger’s framework for comprehensive health care reform to cover all Californians, improve affordability, and promote better health outcomes in California.
2. Identify the principal points of tension among competing legislative approaches that must be resolved to secure support for comprehensive reform in California.

**Robert E. McAfee, MD**

**“Dirigo Health Reform: Cost, Quality and Access”**

Robert E. McAfee, MD, a retired surgeon who practiced in Portland, Maine, was elected president-elect of the American Medical Association in June 1993 and served as the 149th President of AMA from June 1994 to June 1995.

He currently serves on the Board of Ingraham of Portland, a non-profit social service agency providing services to people in crisis. He was a member of the Maine Medical Assessment Foundation board of directors from 1985 to 2002. He also was a founding member in the creation of the Cancer Community Center in South Portland in 1997, and served until 2001. He currently serves as chairman of the Citizen Review Board of the Portland Police Department, a subcommittee of the Civil Service Commission.

Most recently, Governor John Baldacci of Maine appointed Dr. McAfee as Chairman of the Board of the newly established Dirigo Health Plan, designed to provide health care coverage to all Maine citizens by 2009.

**Objectives:**
1. Understand why Maine’s Dirigo Health plan was a good solution for Maine.
2. Realize why any plan must address cost, quality and access to succeed.
3. Understand the lessons learned from Maine’s initiative and what might have been done differently.

**Jon M. Kingsdale, PhD**

**“Massachusetts Healthcare Reform: Progress & Prognosis”**

Jon Kingsdale is the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority, an independent authority established under Massachusetts’ landmark health reform legislation of 2006, to promote coverage of the uninsured. He works with a broadly representative Board of Directors to develop key elements of the health care financing policy in Massachusetts, develop and implement new programs, and build a capable organization.

As a senior executive at the Tufts Health Plans for almost twenty years, Dr. Kingsdale was responsible for strategic planning, product development, public affairs and government relations. He led major product initiatives including the development of various new HMO benefits for the group market (including tiered-network HMO and POS plans), New England’s largest Medicare + Choice HMO, and consumer-directed health plans.

His work experience also includes executive roles in strategic planning and reimbursement at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, research on hospital finances at the Harvard School of Public Health, policy issues consulting in Washington, D.C., and reporting for Forbes Magazine.

**Objectives:**
1. Understand goals and progress to date of Massachusetts Healthcare Reform.
2. Appreciate and understand major challenges ahead for reform.

**Linda J. Rasmussen, MD**

**“Health Reformation: Hawaii”**

Linda Rasmussen MD, an orthopedic surgeon, is Immediate Past President of the Hawaii Medical Association (HMA) and Co-Chair of the HMA Legislative Committee, as well as Vice President of the Western Orthopaedic Association. Dr. Rasmussen is passionate about advocating for physicians and their patients. During her presidency HMA had numerous wins at the legislature and made unprecedented headway on medical tort reform. Her message to physicians is: “Your voice will be heard to create one cohesive voice that can turn ideas into reality.” Dr. Rasmussen also volunteers at Shriner’s Hospital for Children and with the Arthritis Foundation, and is a past president of Hawaii Orthopaedic Association.

**Objectives:**
1. Increased effectiveness in the legislature due to improved lobbying strategies.
2. Improved awareness of the issues in the community and recruitment of community members to achieve legislative goals.
3. Learn how to best utilize the media to achieve legislative goals.
4. Excite and involve fellow physicians in advocacy.

Faculty Disclosures:
All Faculty Speakers have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.