

RENAL PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION



2014 ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 20–23, 2014 | BALTIMORE

celebrating 40 years of service to nephrology practitioners

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAM
& REGISTRATION FORM**

This meeting is jointly sponsored by the Office of Continuing Medical Education of the University of Virginia School of Medicine and the Renal Physicians Association.

INVITATION

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to invite you to join me at the Renal Physicians Association's 2014 Annual Meeting where we will celebrate the Association's 40th anniversary.

The Program Committee has planned an impressive agenda that is designed to help us prepare for the future of nephrology. We have an outstanding lineup of speakers this year who will provide up to date information that will arm you with new tools and knowledge to address the challenges of new care systems, complex regulatory issues, and novel therapies, and at the same time enhance your business efficiencies and acumen. We are no doubt living in an era of great change in the healthcare arena and our program will help you navigate through some of these changes.

We have scheduled multiple parallel workshops that have been designed for small group discussions in order to concentrate your learning opportunities and encourage your participation. The exhibit hall will be open during refreshment breaks between sessions for you to peruse new ideas and products while you network and interact with colleagues from around the country.

We plan to take a bit of time out of our general sessions to recognize and thank our outgoing Board members Drs. Jeffrey Berns, Michael Germain and Robert Jansen. These men have been valuable and

dedicated participants in RPA leadership for many years, and we appreciate their contributions to our profession. We have also planned a special evening to celebrate RPA's rich 40-year history on Saturday, March 22. Please purchase tickets to join us at the 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration.

Additionally, we encourage you to stop by the Advocacy Action Center and to contribute to the RPA's Political Action Committee (PAC). While there, you can get your ticket to attend the PAC reception on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. The RPA PAC offers the best way to ensure that the unique concerns and interests of nephrology and our patients are directly voiced in the halls of Congress.

I would personally like to thank the Program Committee who has worked diligently in planning this gathering to address those issues that nephrology providers and management staff have identified as valuable.

Thank you for joining us for what I know will be an exciting and informative meeting!



Mitchell Rosner, MD
RPA Program Chair, 2013-2014





WELCOME TO BALTIMORE

Baltimore, Maryland is beautiful in March. The Hilton Baltimore is located a few blocks from the Inner Harbor. Shopping and restaurants are just steps away. While in Baltimore, you can enjoy the National Aquarium, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Maryland Science Center, Port Discovery, the Kid-Powered Museum and many more sites and attractions! Visit www.baltimore.org at your leisure to see all that Baltimore has to offer. March temperatures average highs near 64° and lows near 42°

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Continental breakfast and refreshment breaks are included in your registration fee and will be served in the Exhibit Hall. You must present your name badge to enter the Exhibit Hall. Lunch will be on your own.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Registration Opens

Avoid long lines on Friday morning by obtaining your meeting badge and materials at registration.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

7:00 pm 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration

Join your colleagues, family, friends and staff to revel over our 40-year history supporting nephrology practitioners and protecting the nephrology discipline at our 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration. Tickets may be purchased when you register for the meeting.

To my Friends in the Renal Physicians Association:

RPA returns to Baltimore for its 40th Anniversary meeting in March 2014. It is my great pleasure to welcome you and encourage you to attend. The program looks inviting and practical, as is customary for RPA, and we will be at the new Hilton hotel next to Camden Yards. Springtime may or may not arrive by March, but regardless, there will be many Chesapeake pleasures for you to enjoy.



As the first President of RPA, I am a relic, but a proud one, to see the progress the organization has made since the early days. Importantly, it has never lost its focus on the mission as the advocate for nephrologists and continuous seeker of improved nephrology practice. The voice of RPA has defended us in many venues and helped us define what is best for our practice. That makes me proud.

With our support and participation, RPA will continue to assure that we are recognized and respected in Congress and among staff at other federal agencies. We also successfully collaborate with other renal organizations to present more unified positions. It is working.

Ultimately, RPA is about patients for whom we provide kidney care. Our focus must always remain on delivering high quality, safe care for our patients. The sessions at this meeting reinforce this tenet and we will celebrate our commitment to the profession and our patients throughout the weekend.

Gather with old friends and meet new ones in Baltimore, take part in the meeting and the work of the RPA. I will be looking for you.



John Sadler, MD
RPA 40th Anniversary Honorary Chair

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

This activity has been designed to meet the educational needs of nephrologists, nephrology practice managers and advanced practitioners involved in the care of kidney patients. At the conclusion of this activity participants should be better able to:

1. Recognize how RPA has changed the landscape for nephrologists and kidney patients.
2. Assess the use of value-based purchasing metrics in alternative payment models within the Medicare Program.
3. Apply strategies to successfully operate in ESRD Seamless Care Organizations (ESCOs) and Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs).
4. Identify the latest developments in the rapidly evolving area of transplantation.
5. Identify which tools to use in various stages of the shared decision making process.
6. Create and impart a culture of safety for facilities along with identifying solutions for other critical issues facing medical directors.
7. Demonstrate how a practice can create a work plan to prepare for the transition to ICD-10 and identify strategies to educate office staff, physicians, and advanced practitioners.
8. Explain Medicare's payment incentive programs, options for participation, and apply tools to achieve success.
9. Manage competing influences and perceived barriers that affect the coordination of quality ESRD patient care within the bundled payment system.
10. Express key advocacy issues for nephrology and assess how to impact policy decisions through advocacy efforts.
11. Demonstrate how to frame care processes which can lead to better outcomes for a growing ESRD patient population.
12. Discuss techniques to better understand and approach nephrology issues, including ESA treatment of the cancer patient.
13. Demonstrate effective practices that result in improved transitions of patients among various care settings and identify how ESCOs and ACOs are utilizing care coordinators to insure smooth transitions for patient care.
14. Analyze the appropriate use of medications for the management of diabetes for patients with chronic kidney disease.
15. Cite updates on diabetic nephropathy and apply techniques to manage the diabetic patient.
16. Express the latest news about clinical advances in nephrology.

CME CERTIFICATION

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 University of Virginia School of Medicine and the Renal Physicians Association. The University of Virginia is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

The University of Virginia School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 15 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. The credit designation for this activity is as follows:

- Day 1, March 21: 6.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*TM
- Day 2, March 22: 6.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*TM
- Day 3, March 23: 3.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*TM

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The University of Virginia (UVA) Office of Continuing Medical Education requires instructors, planners, managers and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of this activity to disclose any real or apparent conflict of interest they may have as related to the content of this activity. All identified conflicts of interest are thoroughly vetted by UVA for fair balance, scientific objectivity of studies mentioned in the materials or used as the basis for content, and appropriateness of patient care recommendations.

COMMERCIAL SUPPORT

Educational grants are being solicited from multiple potential commercial supporters. Full disclosure of all commercial support will be provided on subsequent activity information.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TRACK

To better meet the learning objectives of nephrology practice managers, the RPA program committee has planned workshops and a concurrent general session that will address issues related to business operations associated with managing a nephrology practice. These sessions were designed specifically for practice managers but are open to all attendees. Topics include:

- Benchmarking for Results
- HIPAA Compliance
- The Employment Cycle: From the Offer Letter to Employee Termination
- Financial Dynamics of Nephrology Practice
- Transitioning to ICD-10
- Collaboration with Dialysis Providers, Hospitals, and Insurance Companies

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

Satellite Symposia are approved by the RPA. They are NOT part of the official RPA Annual Meeting as planned by the RPA program committee.

Friday, March 21

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Hosted by AtCor Medical, Inc.

Noninvasive Central Blood Pressure In Patient Management

Lunch symposium designed to assist clinicians in understanding the role of central aortic blood pressure in blood pressure management and therapy guidance.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Nephrology Coding and Billing Seminar

Thursday, March 20

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Navigating nephrology coding and billing is complex and requires an in-depth understanding of federal guidelines and requirements, as well as variations in local carrier coverage determinations (LCDs). This unique seminar will equip you with a greater understanding of:

- Why physicians must document services provided
- How to apply E&M guidelines to a nephrology practice
- How to properly code services rendered to kidney disease patients and why
- How to apply federal coordination of benefits guidelines to kidney patient care services
- How to prepare for the transition to ICD-10

During this seminar you will also learn how to comply with the requirements described in the 2014 Medicare Fee Schedule. The University of Virginia School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 7.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. Register online at www.renalmid.org/Nephrology-Coding-and-Billing-Seminars

Renal Fellows Workshop

Thursday, March 20

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

The Renal Physicians Association (RPA) is pleased to present the 2014 Renal Fellows Workshop. This workshop will offer valuable information from selected experts in their fields to aid renal fellows in making a smooth transition from training into practice. Fellows will gain knowledge and resources to help them prepare for employment, maintenance of certification, understand practice expenses and revenue, medical director responsibilities, and an introduction to nephrology coding and billing. There will also be a job fair where fellows can meet potential employers. This is a must attend for renal fellows and registration is free! Limited travel grants are available to eligible fellows. To register visit the RPA website at www.renalmid.org/fellows-workshop

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

7:00 am

Registration

Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

8:00 – 10:00 am

GENERAL SESSION I

Welcome

Mitchell Rosner, MD

RPA Annual Meeting Program Chair

RPA Year in Review

Robert Kossmann, MD, RPA President

RPA Regulatory and Legislative Update

Robert Blaser, RPA Director of Public Policy

Presentation of Distinguished Nephrology Service and Distinguished Practice Manager Awards

Impact of RPA Over Four Decades

From its modest beginning in 1973 to today, how has RPA changed the landscape for nephrologists and kidney patients? Learn what RPA has achieved and how we have advanced the nephrology specialty over our 40-year history.

John Sadler, MD, RPA's First President, 40th Anniversary Honorary Chair

10:00 am

Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

***Speakers Invited, Not Confirmed**

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

FRIDAY, MARCH 21 (continued)

10:45 – 11:00 am

GENERAL SESSION II

Presentation of Exemplary Practice and Special Recognition Awards

Louis Diamond Lecture: ESRD Payment Models

Hear from a top CMS administrator on the use of value-based purchasing metrics in alternative payment models within the Medicare Program. How does the primary insurer for ESRD patients incentivize quality care in a budget neutral environment? You'll also get insight on the Agency's perspective of the future role of the nephrologist in caring for a vulnerable and growing kidney disease patient population.

Patrick Conway, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Director for Clinical Standards & Quality, Acting Director, Center of Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

Working Within Integrated Care Models

Learn how the individual practitioner can successfully operate in ESRD Seamless Care Organizations (ESCOs) and Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs). Learn what it takes to participate in alternative care models, how to negotiate a contract, and insure viability for your practice.

*Michael Shapiro, MD, Edward Jones, MD and *Thomas Hostetter, MD*

12:30 pm

Lunch on your own

2:30 – 3:45 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Care of the Post-Transplant Patient

Learn the latest developments in the rapidly evolving area of transplantation and how clinicians can provide state-of-the-art care for the post-transplant patient.

Don Hricik, MD

Palliative Care and Shared Decision-Making

Shared decision-making and understanding palliative options are key tools that enable clinicians to effectively care for a patient population with numerous co-morbid conditions and high risk of death. Learn which tools to use in various stages, discuss ethical dilemmas, how to involve the patient, life planning, and what shared decision-making might look like in the era of health care reform.

Michael Germain, MD

Medical Directors as Leaders of Patient Safety

Safety issues in dialysis facilities are becoming a major concern for medical directors. Find out how to create and impart a culture of safety for your facility along with solutions to other critical issues facing medical directors.

Edward Jones, MD

Business Management Track: Benchmarking for Results

Benchmarking can bring to light areas in which a practice should work to improve, as well as areas in which it's doing well. Learn to select impactful areas to benchmark, present data, educate stakeholders and influence improvement.

Mary Alice Stanford, CMPE

3:45 pm

Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

4:30 – 5:45 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Care of the Post-Transplant Patient

Repeated

Palliative Care and Shared Decision-Making

Repeated

Medical Directors as Leader of Patient Safety

Repeated

Business Management Track: Transitioning to ICD-10

This session will provide guidance for how your practice can create a work plan to get ready for the changeover to ICD-10. Learn strategies to educate your office staff, physicians and advanced practitioners.

Richard Hamburger, MD

5:45 pm

Meeting Adjourns

6:00 pm

Practice Managers' Reception

RPA PAC Reception (*invitation only*)

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

6:45 am

Health Care Payment Open Committee Meeting

Clinical Practice Open Committee Meeting

7:00 am

Registration

Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

8:00 – 10:0 am

GENERAL SESSION III

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

Robert Kossmann, MD

Accountability and Payment for Performance

CMS is requiring achievement of increasingly difficult objectives to satisfy the Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records—2015 marks the beginning of payment penalties. This session will provide an overview of Medicare's payment incentive programs, options for participation, and tools to help clinicians achieve success.

Terry Ketchersid, MD and Adam Weinstein, MD

The Bundle 2014: Nephrologist in the Middle

Get practical solutions on how to manage the competing influences and perceived barriers that affect the coordination of quality ESRD patient care within the dialysis facility bundled payment system.

Kline Bolton, MD

10:00 am

Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

10:45 – 12:30 pm

GENERAL SESSION IV

Presentation of Patient Safety Improvement Award

Advocacy in Nephrology: The Patient's Perspective

Ed Hearn had a rapidly rising career in major league baseball until he was diagnosed with kidney disease. Over the years, he has experienced the spectrum of kidney care from dialysis to transplant. His unique perspectives on what works in health care and nephrology offers clinicians an important perspective on how to improve patient care.

Ed Hearn

Advocacy in Nephrology: How You Can Make A Difference

Betty Long is the founder and president of Guardian Nurses Healthcare Advocates, one of the most influential patient advocacy organizations in the country. She will provide practical guidance on how clinicians can make a difference through advocacy.

Betty Long, RN, MHA

Advocacy in Nephrology: What Issues Face Our Profession in 2014 and Beyond

Building on the two prior presentations, this lecture focuses on the key advocacy issues for nephrology and how practitioners can impact policy decisions through advocacy efforts.

Vijaykumar Rao, MD, Rebecca Schmidt, MD and Ronald Hyde, MD

12:30 pm

Lunch on your own

NCAP Meeting (members only; RSVPs required)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

SATURDAY, MARCH 22 (continued)

12:30 pm

Practice Managers' Luncheon

Speak – Write – Up!

Appreciation and Acknowledgement can create a thriving workplace culture. In this session you will engage in practicing the distinction between Appreciation & Acknowledgement for yourself, your practice leaders, staff, and peers.

Heather Smith

2:30 – 3:45 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Caring for the Geriatric Patient with End-Stage Renal Disease

The fastest growing ESRD patient population is over 70 and they have unique issues which require a specialized approach. Join in the discussion about these issues and learn how to frame care processes which can lead to better outcomes.

Vanita Jassal, MD

Onco-Nephrology: A New Area of Nephrology Care

Renal issues are important in the care of patients with cancer and can impact outcomes. Learn techniques to better understand and approach nephrology issues, including ESA treatment of the cancer patient.

Mitchell Rosner, MD and Jeffrey Berns, MD

Managing Transitions of Care

CMS is increasingly focused on seamless transitions of care to ensure improved patient outcomes. Decreased hospital re-admission rates and moving patients from in-patient to out-patient dialysis units are just a few of the transitions of care clinicians must manage. Hear effective practices that result in improved transitions and how ESCO projects are utilizing care coordinators to insure smooth transitions for patient care.

James Hartle, MD

Business Management Track: There's a New Sheriff in Town: Taming the Wild West of HIPAA Compliance

As of September 23, 2013, the Government began enforcing extensive new HIPAA requirements and greatly increased penalties for HIPAA violations. Learn how the new rules impact your practice, HIPAA compliance for portable technology and what you can do to minimize the risk of costly violations.

Daniel Jamison

3:45 pm

Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

4:30 – 5:45 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

Caring for the Geriatric Patient with ESRD	Repeated
Onco-Nephrology	Repeated
Managing Transitions of Care	Repeated

Business Management Track: The Employment Cycle: From the Offer Letter to Employee Termination

It is important to create and consistently follow appropriate business practices relating to employment. Learn best practices to retain employees and guidelines to reprimanding and terminating practice staff.

Anika Porter

7:00 pm

RPA 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration

*Reception and Dinner
Ticket required, After-Five Attire*

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

6:45 am

Government Affairs Open Committee Meeting
Quality, Safety and Accountability Open
Committee Meeting

7:00 am

Registration
Continental Breakfast

8:00 – 11:00 am

GENERAL SESSION V

Opening Remarks

Mitchell Rosner, MD

Management of the Diabetic Patient

The management of diabetes has become increasingly complex given the development of multiple new medications. This session will help guide the clinician in the use of these medications with a focus on the patient with chronic kidney disease.

Thomas Donner, MD

Diabetic Nephropathy

Diabetes remains one of the most common causes of kidney disease. Receive updates on diabetic nephropathy and review highlights on managing the diabetic patient.

Raymond Harris, MD

Nephrology – Year in Review

Join this rapid fire presentation to learn the latest news about clinical advances in nephrology. Be sure to stay for this final session so you can head home with essential clinical knowledge you can implement in your practice.

Mitchell Rosner, MD

8:30 – 11:00 am

CONCURRENT GENERAL SESSION BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TRACK

Opening Remarks

Mary Alice Stanford, CMPE

I'm in the PM (Practice Manager) State of Mind

An energetic session that will deliver tools for achieving a “PM state of mind” for both personal and business success. Those who attend will play a role during the presentation, by interacting with other PM's in attendance. A basic breakdown of the diverse responsibilities of the PM will be discussed, as well as the benefits of a comprehensive check list.

Tammy Conger

Financial Dynamics of Nephrology Practice

The economic pressures facing nephrology practices are greater than ever. Understand the evolution of these challenges and how they fit within the framework of financial practice management by taking a dive into financial statements and key practice indicators.

Jennifer Huneycutt, CPA, CMPE

Alignment With the Big Fish

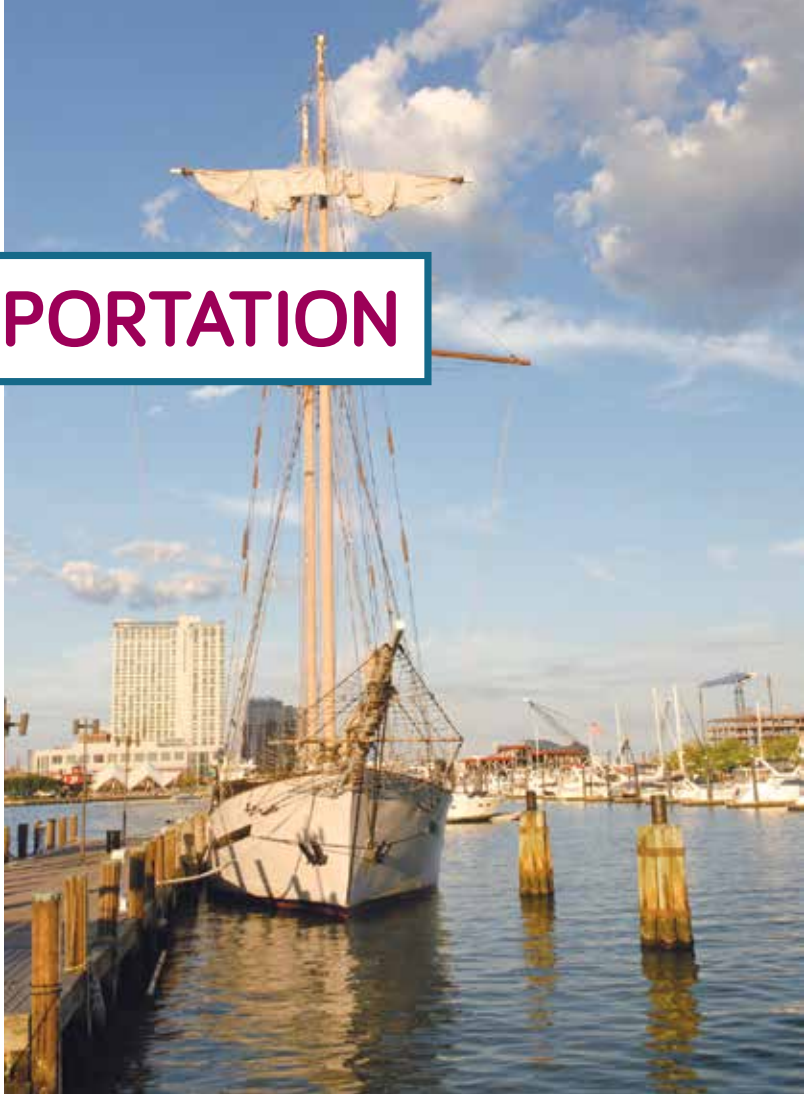
Learn strategies to best align with dialysis providers, hospitals and insurance companies to accomplish short and long term goals, address challenges, and avoid regulatory pitfalls.

Jim Riley, Jr., Esq.

11:00 am

Meeting Adjourns

This educational activity may contain discussion of published and/or investigational uses of agents that are not indicated by the FDA. UVA and the RPA do not recommend the use of any agent outside of the labeled indications. The opinions expressed in the educational activity are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the views of UVA and the RPA. Please refer to the official prescribing information for each product for discussion of approved indications, contraindications, and warnings. The University of Virginia School of Medicine, as an ACCME provider, requires that all faculty presenters identify and disclose any off-label uses for pharmaceutical and medical device products. The University of Virginia School of Medicine recommends that each physician fully review all the available data on new products or procedures prior to clinical use.



HOTEL AND TRANSPORTATION

Room reservations will be available only to those who register for the meeting. After you register for the meeting, you will receive an online hotel reservations link to access the discounted room rate. The discounted room rate is \$199 single/double occupancy plus applicable taxes. You must make your reservations by **February 25, 2014** to qualify for the special rate. After this date, the special convention rate may not be available. Register and reserve your room NOW!

To make your travel arrangements, you can call Travel-On, RPA's official travel agent. Book early so that you can take advantage of promotional fares, which give you the greatest discount. You can reach Travel-On by calling their toll free number 888-495-7770, Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION

All three area airports are serviced by all major airline carriers.

- **Baltimore Washington International (BWI)**
10 miles to hotel
- **Reagan National (DCA)**
45 miles to hotel
- **Washington/Dulles International (IAD)**
50 miles to hotel

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Estimated taxi fares from BWI are about \$26 one way. You may also take Super Shuttle located at Ground Transportation in the baggage claim area. The shuttles leave every half hour on the hour and are \$13 per person one way. Parking is available at the hotel for a fee. From Reagan National, taxi fare is about \$75 one way and from Dulles, taxi fare is about \$100 one way.

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY 16

- Final day for early bird meeting registration

FEBRUARY 20

- Final day to cancel annual meeting registration and receive a refund minus administrative fee

FEBRUARY 25

- Deadline to make Hotel Reservations

MARCH 5

- Deadline to register online. After this date, only on-site registrations will be accepted

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

OR register online at: www.renalmd.org

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Suffix _____ Nickname _____
(for badge)

Birth Date _____ Practice/Facility _____
(Birth date is required for unique CME identifier)

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

REGISTRATION FEES

Fee includes meeting materials, continental breakfasts, breaks and administrative costs for CME certification; fee does NOT include the 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration Dinner. Lunch is on your own.

Reduced Fees for RPA Members <i>2014 dues must be paid in full</i>	Early-Bird <i>Register by January 16</i>	Regular Registration	Fee Due
Physician Members	\$450	\$535	
Physician Assistant Members	\$365	\$450	
Practice Manager Members	\$365	\$450	
Advanced Practice Nurse Members	\$365	\$450	
RPA Corporate Patron	\$450	\$450	
RPA Past President	\$225	\$225	
Renal Fellow Members	\$0	\$0	
Registration Fee Subtotal: \$			

Fees for Non-RPA Members	Early-Bird <i>Register by January 16</i>	Regular Registration	Fee Due
Physician Non-Members	\$675	\$725	
Physician Assistant Non-Members	\$510	\$590	
Practice Manager Non-Members	\$510	\$590	
Advanced Practice Nurse Non-Members	\$510	\$590	
Federal Employee/ESRD Network Staff	\$280	\$365	
Industry Representatives	\$615	\$700	
Exhibiting Company Representatives	\$450	\$450	
Renal Fellow Non-Members	\$0	\$0	
Registration Fee Subtotal: \$			

A \$100 cancellation fee applies to meeting cancellations received on or before February 20, 2014. Refunds cannot be given after February 20, 2014.

40th Anniversary Gala Tickets

Tickets are \$150 per person. You must have a ticket for the Gala Celebration Dinner. Tickets are non-refundable.

of Tickets: _____ Total: _____

TOTAL FEES

Registration Fee \$_____ + 40th Anniversary Gala Tickets \$_____ = Total Due \$_____

PAYMENT

☐ Check Enclosed (Please mail check payments with the registration form; Check must be made payable to RPA)

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

The Renal Physicians Association is a national organization with the expertise and successful track record of proactively defending the discipline of the nephrology practice. RPA is the voice of the nephrology practice to the renal community, payors and federal policy makers. It has a history of dedication to business issues for practicing nephrologists and advocating for improvements in quality of care for patients with kidney disease. RPA provides innovative, consistent and relevant programs and services to improve the nephrology practice and help nephrology practitioners attain the highest level of professional satisfaction.

BUSINESS EDUCATION & RESOURCES

To Improve Your Practice

- Gain access to tools, advice, meetings and workshops to improve your practice, including:
- Discounts on RPA Books, Publications and Tools, including:
 - » *Renal Physicians Guide to Nephrology Practice*
 - » Nephrology Business Benchmarking Survey
 - » *Nephrology Practice Management* eBulletin
 - » CME & Networking Opportunities at RPA Annual Meeting
 - » *Practice Management Software User Assessment*—developed to help nephrology practitioners determine which software products are most suitable to better manage their practice.
- » American EHR Partners
RPA has joined with the American College of Physicians and seven other specialty societies to create American EHR Partners, a web-based resource to assist nephrologists with EHR system selection and implementation. It includes an EHR Readiness Assessment Tool, and EHR Comparison Engine & Rating System and automated RFI to send vendors, among other tools and resources. Nephrology practices can use these tools to assess their practice needs and identify potential vendors to assist them with complying with meaningful use.
- » PQRIwizard™
A web-based resource that guides you through a few easy steps to collect, validate, and report on nephrology-related PQRS measures.

CODING & BILLING RESOURCES

To Solve Your Problems

RPA has the resources to resolve your coding and reimbursement problems with:

- Books, Publications and Tools:
 - » ICD Coding Pamphlet
 - » Nephrology CPT Reference Codes
- Documentation Guidelines
- Documentation Principles & Tools
 - » Monthly Capitation Payment (MCP)

- » Medical Director Documentation Template
- » Coding of Procedures in Interventional Nephrology
- Regional Seminars; Webinars
- Rapid response to member inquiries through our Website FAQs

PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY

The Voice of the Nephrology Practice

RPA is recognized as the organization that represents nephrologists as we:

- Work closely with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) staff on regulatory policies affecting nephrology practices
- Represent the discipline of nephrology in the AMA House of Delegates and on AMA committees to obtain appropriate work values and CPT codes for nephrology services
- Develop relevant Position/White Papers spanning Clinical Practice, Health Care Payment, Physician Accountability, Quality Patient Care and Scope of Practice
- Provide regular updates on nephrology practice regulatory and legislative issues, including, but not limited to reimbursement, coverage, coding and practice management
- Influence local coverage policies through the Nephrology Coverage Advocacy Program (NCAP)
- Organize visits among RPA leaders and key legislators on Capitol Hill
- Provide an Online Legislative Grassroots Program
- Advocate for nephrology legislative priorities through RPA's Political Action Committee (RPA PAC)

QUALITY PATIENT CARE

An On-Going Commitment

RPA is committed to ensuring quality care for patients with kidney disease, through:

- Keeping Kidney Patients Safe, www.kidneypatientsafety.org
- Quality Improvement Tools
- Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Clinical Performance Measures
- Guideline Implementation Tools

FREQUENT MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Stay Current on All Issues Affecting Your Practice

As a member of RPA, you receive:

- RPA News – our quarterly print newsletter
- Monthly electronic eNews
- List Serves
- Monthly Public Policy in a Minute electronic updates
- *Nephrology Practice Management* eBulletin
- Our comprehensive website, www.renalmid.org

And more benefits

Career Center and employment opportunities on the RPA website: www.renalmid.org

RPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SPECIAL ANNUAL MEETING REDUCED MEMBERSHIP RATE!

Physicians: \$275 (\$100 Savings)

Practice Manager, Advanced Practice Nurse, Physician Assistant: \$225 (\$50 Savings)

☐ YES, I WILL JOIN RPA!

Name _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female Date of Birth _____
First Middle Last (MM/DD/YR)

E-mail _____ Phone _____ Fax (office) _____
(Required)

Mailing Address _____
Street City State Zip

☐ By checking this box, I am requesting that information NOT be mailed or faxed to me.

Membership dues must be submitted with the membership application. RPA will process payment after the application is approved

AMA Member ☐ Yes ☐ No

PAYMENT

☐ Check Enclosed (*make payable to RPA*) ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on Card (Print) _____ Signature _____

NEPHROLOGIST/FELLOW - EDUCATION

Medical School: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

Fellowship _____
Academic Institution

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Year Attended _____

CERTIFICATION

Specialty Board Certification (ABIM) ☐ Yes – Year _____ ☐ Nephrology Board Certification ☐ Yes – Year _____ ☐ No

LICENSURE INFORMATION

License # _____ State _____

PRACTICE MANAGER/ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE/PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ONLY

Professional Reference (Must be RPA nephrologist member employed by the same practice group as the applicant.)

Name _____
First Middle Last

Mailing Address _____
Street City State Zip

Telephone _____

I hereby declare that the information presented in this application is complete and true to the best of my knowledge

Signature _____ Date _____

FOR RPA USE ONLY; CODE AM

Date Received _____

☐ Approved ☐ Denied

Office Signature _____

Date _____

SEND YOUR COMPLETED FORM:

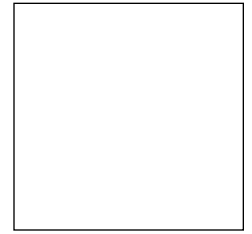
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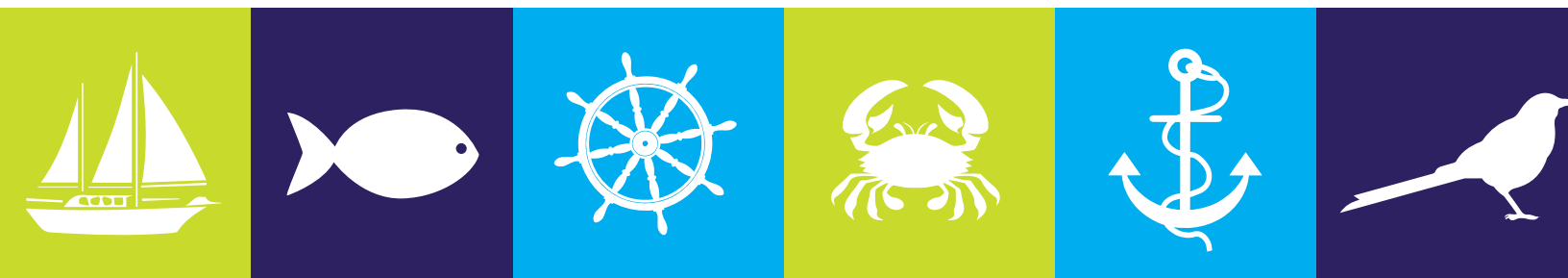


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2015 ANNUAL MEETING

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