

Florida Medical Directors Association

2006 FACT SHEET

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of FMDA is to promote the highest quality care in the postacute care continuum by providing leadership, professional education, and advocacy.

MEMBERSHIP: FMDA maintains a database of more than 250 members and 1,100 total contact names.

BACKGROUND: FMDA was founded in 1990 to help medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants (PAs), advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs), and other health care practitioners in postacute care navigate their way through the continuum of care.

GOVERNANCE: The Board of Directors consists of the Chairman of the Board, Immediate Past-President, President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and five other FMDA members. Each is elected for a two-year term and can be re-elected for another two-year term, except for the Immediate Past-President and President-Elect, who are not elected. The office of the Chairman of the Board will be held by a board member and will be elected by a majority vote of the Board of Directors and can only be held by a Past-President. All elections will take place at the annual meeting every two years. During a non-election year, elections will be held only for vacated offices due to unforeseen circumstances and will be good for the remaining term until the next election. Such an office will not count as a two-year term. All candidates for position as an officer must have been a board member within the last three years.

ANNUAL MEETINGS: FMDA's 15th Annual Program is to be held Oct. 20–22, 2006, at Disney's Contemporary Resort in Orlando.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: There are two classes of dues-paying FMDA members. **A. Regular Members:** Every medical director or attending physician of a long-term care medical facility or organization in the state of Florida and neighboring states shall be eligible for Regular membership (physicians only) in FMDA. Members in this classification shall be entitled to a vote, shall be eligible to be a member of the Board of Directors and to hold office. **B. Affiliate Members** (non-physicians): Composed of two categories, they may be any individual or organization in the medical, regulatory or political field of long-term care that wishes to promote the affairs of FMDA. An Affiliate member shall have all FMDA privileges except shall not be eligible to vote nor hold office. The two categories are: 1. **Professional Affiliate Members.** This category is comprised of physician assistants, advanced registered nurse practitioners, directors of nursing, administrators, etc. Professional Affiliate members may be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve on FMDA committees, and 2. **Organizational Affiliate Members.** Includes vendors and all other professionals and organizations.

ANNUAL DUES: Regular and Professional Affiliate membership dues are \$45 annually; Organizational Affiliate member dues are \$145 annually. Corporate membership packages are available for groups of 5 or more.

Membership Benefits and Services:

- ✓ FMDA is the official state affiliate of the Columbia, Maryland-based, American Medical Directors Association (AMDA).
- ✓ FMDA is a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association (FMA).
- ✓ FMDA promotes the education of its membership in issues pertaining to long-term care (LTC), with a special emphasis on scientific, legislative, regulatory, and Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.
- ✓ Membership in FMDA links you to physicians, PAs, and ARNPs and opens dialogues for problem-solving and information sharing. Networking opens opportunities to become familiar practicing in postacute care, and helps you build relationships with and gain support from our practitioners.
- ✓ FMDA represents more than 250 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in Florida's postacute care continuum.
- ✓ As the scope of operation for postacute care facilities continues to evolve and expand to accommodate an aging population, practitioners face many new and complex challenges. FMDA is the only organization in the state of Florida devoted to practitioners in all specialties practicing in skilled nursing units, subacute, hospice, home care, assisted living facilities, as well as in continuing care retirement communities.

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- ✓ FMDA hosts a highly-successful and nationally-recognized annual educational program and trade show every October, which features the newest trends and challenges from some of the top long-term care experts in the country.
 - This annual educational program is the only conference of its kind in the country which offers educational accreditation for physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, consultant pharmacists, directors of nursing, licensed nurses, and nursing home administrators.
 - Because of the high caliber of this conference, it attracts attendees from dozens of other states in the country.
 - Convenient, online registration is available at www.fmda.org.
- ✓ FMDA publishes a dynamic, statewide newsletter titled Progress Report — winner of the Apex Award for Publishing Excellence.
- ✓ FMDA's official Web site is at www.fmda.org.
- ✓ "FMDA CareerCenter," its online job board, will be introduced in April 2006.
- ✓ "FMDA NEWS CLIPS" is a regular e-mail news service for local, state, and national health care news with an emphasis on long-term care, geriatrics, and skilled nursing care. FMDA sends its members real-time news clips straight from the actual news sources. Stay on top of legislation, regulations, reimbursement issues, as well as industry trends, with news stories that have been selected to meet the unique needs of its members.
- ✓ Annual update on Medicare billing strategies.
- ✓ Annual update on Medicare comparative performance reports for physicians practicing in postacute care.
- ✓ Discounted member registration fee for educational programs — including the annual program.
- ✓ Listing as an expert witness, upon request.
- ✓ Assistance in earning AMDA's medical director certification.

ADVOCACY:

- ✓ Networking with the other acute care and postacute trade and professional associations.
- ✓ Advocacy in Tallahassee on behalf of the members of FMDA.
- ✓ Representation in the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association.
- ✓ Providing testimony at public hearings and in front of the Florida Legislature on issues important to physicians in long-term care such as the availability and affordability of liability insurance, "Granny Cams" in nursing homes, and other hot button issues.

FUTURES IN GERIATRICS:

FMDA takes an active role in outreach efforts to residents, interns, fellows, and young-career physicians with an interest in long-term care. It recently started offering \$1,000 educational grants for medical students, interns, and residents in geriatrics, internal medicine, and family practice who participate in poster presentations at its Annual Program.



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