



For Immediate Release

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American Academy of Home Care Physicians and Florida Medical Directors Association to Collaborate on Conference

West Palm Beach, Fla. – Florida Medical Directors Association (FMDA) President Carl Suchar, DO, CMD, is pleased to announce that FMDA and the American Academy of Home Care Physicians (AAHCP) will be collaborating on an annual meeting, Oct. 20-22, 2006, at Disney's *Contemporary Resort* in Orlando. AAHCP will be joining the Florida Chapter of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, which has been sharing joint meetings with FMDA for the past five years.

“We cannot be more pleased that AAHCP has decided to join us in our efforts to educate physicians all along the continuum of care,” Suchar said. “FMDA’s annual meeting has earned a national reputation for offering quality continuing medical education programs with some of the most dynamic national speakers available,” he added.

At the upcoming conference in October, the AAHCP is presenting two unique sessions and is supporting FMDA and FL-ASCP in the planning process. Dr. George A. Taler, Past-President, AAHCP, and Director of Long-Term Care, Department of Medicine, Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC, will present an overview of the house call/domiciliary care Medicare billing codes. In addition, AAHCP will present an educational session on the practical aspects of physician practice management in the home care setting.

FMDA, FL-ASCP, and AAHCP remain committed to ensuring their members have access to the latest information, opportunities for educational advancement, and the framework to advocate the positions that will benefit their members and patients. This annual medical educational program has evolved into a regional gathering for physicians, nurse practitioners, senior care pharmacists, directors of nursing, and nursing home administrators, all working in long-term care, assisted living, and now home care. It provides a unique opportunity to network and enjoy educational seminars from the top experts in their fields. More information concerning this conference is available at www.fmda.org/conference.html.

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The Florida Medical Directors Association represents nearly 250 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in Florida's postacute care continuum including subacute care, hospice, skilled nursing, and assisted living facilities, as well as in continuing care retirement communities. The mission of FMDA is to promote the highest quality care in the postacute care continuum by providing leadership, professional education, and advocacy.

FMDA is the official state chapter of the American Medical Directors Association and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Fla.

The American Academy of Home Care Physicians is based in Edgewood, MD. Since 1988, it has served the needs of thousands of physicians and related professionals and agencies interested in improving care of patients in the home.

Academy Board member volunteers and members work to reduce barriers and enhance practice education. Notable successes include: fostering increased reimbursement, sponsoring multiple educational and scientific seminars, and providing the practice community with a variety of helpful publications.

Academy members include home care physicians – physicians who make house calls, care for homebound patients, act as home health agency medical directors, or who refer patients to home care agencies. Specialties include internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, geriatrics, psychiatry, emergency medicine, and more.

Florida Chapter, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (FL-ASCP), is the professional association representing senior care pharmacists, providing leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to advance the practice of senior care pharmacy. Consultant pharmacists manage and improve drug therapy, and improve the quality of life of the senior population and other individuals residing in a variety of environments, including hospitals, nursing facilities, subacute care and assisted living facilities, psychiatric hospitals, hospice, and home- and community-based care.