

AID FOR HAITI EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS - MORE WAYS OCMS MEMBERS CAN HELP

The **Florida Medical Association** has developed a relief fund through the FMA Foundation to assist with the ongoing efforts to provide medical help to the people of Haiti. The FMA is asking for help to provide aid and resources to the medical teams traveling to Haiti. Visit the FMA website at www.fmaonline.org to register if you are interested in traveling to Haiti to help with medical relief efforts or if you would like to donate medical supplies.

The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** advises that the immediate and long-term health and medical needs of Haiti are currently being assessed by the United Nations and the Pan American Health Organization with the Haitian government. Once more is known about the results of the assessment, there will be a better sense of the need for medical care volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an e-mail to Haiti.volunteer@hhs.gov and include your name, clinical area, specialty skills, degrees, and language capabilities. HHS will log your information and share it with USAID. You may be contacted if an opportunity becomes available that matches your skill set.

PUBLIC HEALTH NOTE – PREVENT CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

The Orange County Health Department urges residents to take precautions that can help prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning during the colder winter months or during any situation involving a loss of power. As temperatures drop, the potential for CO poisonings and deaths rises.

Advise your patients to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning by following these tips:

- Install and use fuel-burning appliances according to manufacturer instructions.
- Inspect exhaust ventilation systems every year, including chimneys, flues and vents.
- Avoid using unvented gas or kerosene heaters in enclosed spaces, especially sleeping areas.
- Never leave an automobile running in a garage, even with the garage door open.
- Install battery operated CO alarms or plug-in CO alarms with battery backup inside your home.
- Never use a portable generator or a fuel-powered tool indoors, including in homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces, sheds and other enclosed or partially enclosed areas.

For more information about suspected poisoning emergencies, call the Florida Poison Information Center at (800) 222-1222.

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 10, 2010

Spring Quarterly Meeting
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
The University Club

Now taking reservations! Call (407) 622-8188 or e-mail frontdesk@ocms.org to RSVP.

April 14, 2010

Board Meeting
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
FSU College of Medicine

EARN CME CREDIT AT ABA'S HIV LAW & PRACTICE CONFERENCE FEB. 3 – 4 IN ORLANDO

Doctors and other health care professionals are often unsure of their legal and ethical obligations to patients, particularly where socially charged ailments such as HIV and AIDS are concerned. The American Bar Association's HIV / AIDS Law and Practice: Taking Stock, Looking Ahead conference will be held at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel in Orlando. This conference offers a maximum of 18 hours of CME credit; registration fees will be waived for physicians. Contact Shelly Hayes at (202) 234-0831 for more information on registration.

BALDWIN PARK FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL TO BENEFIT CYSTIC FIBROSIS MARCH 6, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are now available for the Baldwin Park Food and Wine Festival to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Call the OCMS office at (407) 622-8188 and ask for Lane or e-mail lmahood@ocms.org to purchase a ticket. Tickets are a \$65 donation in advance or \$75 at the door.

JANUARY 30 CME SEMINAR CANCELLED

Due to lack of registrants, we have had to cancel our CME Seminar that was to be held on January 30. Please let us know if you are interested in seeing more CME events in the future by calling our office at (407) 622-8188 or e-mail Lane Mahood, Executive Director at lmahood@ocms.org. At OCMS we are striving to offer relevant and useful member benefits. Please let us know if there is anything you would like to see us provide that would be of value to you.