

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 DUES?
DEADLINE IS APRIL 30!**

Please take a moment to make sure your OCMS dues are current so that you don't lose out on OCMS member benefits such as discounted malpractice insurance through FPIC, discounted banking services through SunTrust, and the opportunity to receive cash dividends on workers compensation insurance through OptaComp. If you aren't sure of your membership status, please call the OCMS office today at (407) 622-8188 or e-mail frontdesk@ocms.org to check.



FloridaMedical
ASSOCIATION
Helping Physicians Practice Medicine

**FMA COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS FOR 2010 - 2011**

FMA President-Elect, Madelyn Butler, MD, is considering appointments to FMA councils and committees during her term as President of the FMA (July 2010 – July 2011). If you are interested in serving on any of the councils and committees listed below, please submit your request listing your first, second, and third choice to lmahood@ocms.org. **You must be an FMA member to be considered. Nominations are due by Tuesday, May 11.**

Committees of the Board of Governors

Committee on Membership

Councils of the Board of Governors

**Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs
Council on Legislation
Council on Medical Education and Science
Committee on Accreditation and CME
Council on Medical Economics
Council on Public Health**

MEDICARE CLAIMS HOLD EXPIRES

On April 1, the second short-term reprieve from a 21.3 percent Medicare physician payment cut that was scheduled to take effect in 2010 expired, after the Senate failed to approve a House-passed bill that would have extended 2009 payment rates a third time, through the end of the month. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) subsequently instructed its contractors to refrain from processing physician claims at the reduced rates for 10 working days, anticipating that Congress would return from its spring recess and pass another short-term extension of 2009 rates and avoid implementation of the cut.

On April 15, Medicare's hold on physician claims officially expires. While some carriers have the capacity to hold claims for an additional day or two and still meet Medicare law's prompt payment requirements, others will begin processing claims today at the reduced rates.

Importantly, claims for services provided on or after April 1 will not be processed all at once; rather, they will be processed on a rolling basis, with claims for services provided earliest completed first and later claims held for as long as possible. We fully expect that retroactive payment adjustments will be made for claims processed at the reduced rate.

**UPCOMING EVENTS
MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

June 9, 2010

Summer Quarterly Meeting

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Harry P. Leu Gardens

Special Guest Speaker

Madelyn Butler, MD

August 4, 2010

Board of Directors Meeting

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

FSU College of Medicine

August 13 – 15, 2010

Florida Medical Association Annual Meeting

Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek