# Improving Patient Safety in Physician Office Practices and Ambulatory Settings

The Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors and the Massachusetts Medical Society offered this patient safety forum to promote an increased awareness of factors that contribute to medical errors and practical strategies to improve safety in the ambulatory setting/office practices. The program included a focus on medication errors and communicating critical test results.

## Award Winning Program:

The conference included a presentation of an outpatient anticoagulation management system developed by Abington Memorial Hospital for use by physician practices which won the 2003 John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety Award and the 2003 American Hospital Association's Quest for Quality Award.

#### DATE & LOCATION:

Thursday, February 12, 2004, 7:30 am – 12 pm The Conference Center at Waltham Woods Massachusetts Medical Society 860 Winter Street Waltham, MA 02451

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Patient safety in an office-based health care setting is receiving a great deal of national attention. The Massachusetts Medical Society and the Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors are seeking to establish the Commonwealth as a leader in the development of techniques for improving patient safety in the office-based health care setting. As a way of gathering physicians and leaders around a common issue, this program focuses on the problems facing health care providers regarding medication errors and communicating critical test results. The program will help to increase awareness of the contributing factors to medical errors in office-based practices/ambulatory settings and will discuss practical strategies for reducing these errors.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Increase awareness of the issue of patient safety and major sources of medical errors in the office-based practices/ambulatory settings
- Increase awareness of contributors to medication errors and errors in communication of critical test results in the office-based practices/ambulatory settings
- Provide specific patient-safety improvement strategies and tools for medication safety and communication of critical test results
- Demonstrate of how these improvement strategies can be implemented successfully in office-based practices/ambulatory settings

#### **SPONSOR INFO:**

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Medical Society and its Committee on the Quality of Medical Practice, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Coalition for the Prevention of Medical Errors

### Faculty:

- Thomas E. Sullivan, M.D., Massachusetts Medical Society
- Daniel Stryer, M.D., Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHR)
- Tejal Gandhi, M.D., Brigham & Women's Hospital
- Keith Sweigard, M.D., Abington Memorial Hospital, Abington, PA
- Dale Magee, M.D., M.S., Massachusetts Medical Society; Internal Medicine
- Stanley Hochberg, M.D., CareGroup Provider Service Network

#### CME CREDIT/ACCREDITATION:

The Massachusetts Medical Society designates this educational activity for a maximum of 4 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

This program meets the criteria of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for risk management study.

The Massachusetts Medical Society is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

#### **CONTACT HOURS:**

Attendance at this program meets the Board of Registration in Nursing's requirements for continuing education in Massachusetts pursuant to 244 CMR 5.00, Rules and Regulations.