

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL
ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL SESSION ON HEALTH CARE REFORM
CONFERENCE CALL
JANUARY 23, 2017

Present

Abel Torres, MD, JD, MD, President
Kenneth J. Tomecki, MD, Vice President
Henry W. Lim, MD, President-Elect
Brian Berman, MD, Vice President-Elect
Mark Lebwohl, MD, Immediate Past President
Barbara M. Mathes, MD, Secretary-Treasurer
Marta J. Van Beek, MD, MPH, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Neal D. Bhatia, MD
Erin Boh, MD, PhD
Kimberly J. Butterwick, MD
Linda Stein Gold, MD
Neil S. Sadick, MD
Marc D. Brown, MD
Kevin D. Cooper, MD
Terrence A. Cronin, Jr., MD
Sheila Fallon Friedlander, MD
Jane M. Grant-Kels, MD
Janet G. Hickman, MD
Julie A. Hodge, MD, MPH
George J. Hruza, MD
Mark D. Kaufmann, MD
Paul A. Storrs, MD
Gary S. Wood, MD

Incoming Board Members

Suzanne M. Olbricht, MD, Incoming President-Elect
Valerie D. Callender, MD, Incoming Class of 2021
Patricia K. Farris, MD, Incoming Class of 2021
Robert S. Kirsner, MD, PhD, Incoming Class of 2021

Not Present:

Robert T. Brodell, MD
Ted Rosen, MD, Incoming Vice President-Elect
Robert A. Weiss, MD, Incoming Class of 2021

Speakers / Guests

Sabra Sullivan, MD, PhD, Chair, Council on Government Affairs and Health Policy
Denise Henry Morrissey, AADA Legislative Consultant

Staff

Elaine Weiss, JD, Executive Director and CEO
Robert M. Portman, JD, General Counsel
Steve Debnar, Chief Financial Officer
Barbara Greenan, Senior Director, Advocacy and Policy
Melanie Tolley Hall, Sr. Director, Integrated Communications
Nancy Ali, Sr. Director, Community, Corporate & Philanthropic Relations

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Sarah Tancredi, MBA, PHR, Managing Director, Administration
Stephanie Peditto, Sr. Director, Quality Improvement & Data Collection
Diane Simons, MPA, RN, CAE, Senior Director, Education
Krista Kauper, JD, Senior Director, Constituent Relations
Cyndi Del Boccio, Director, Executive Office
Shawn Friesen, Director, Political and Grassroots Advocacy
Beth Laws, Director, Advocacy and Policy Operations

CALL TO ORDER

Abel Torres, MD, President and presiding, called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Dermatology Association to order at 8:04 PM (CDT) on Monday, January 23, 2017.

QUORUM

Barbara M. Mathes, MD, Secretary-Treasurer declared that a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES AAD/A ANTITRUST COMPLIANCE POLICY

Dr. Torres noted that conflict of interest disclosure statements had previously been sent to the Board via email on January 23, 2017. He reminded them that the Academy's Antitrust Compliance Policy applies to this meeting. Dr. Torres asked if anyone had additional conflicts to declare with respect the agenda items. No additional conflicts were disclosed.

Briefing on Future of Affordable Care Act

Dr. Torres welcomed and thanked the members for joining this special session of the Board of Directors. He noted that the purpose of the call was to brief the Board on the new political climate in Washington, DC and on the current and upcoming agenda of legislative and regulatory health care issues that will be of critical importance to dermatology. He asked Barbara Greenan, Sr. Director of Advocacy and Policy, and AADA's outside legislative consultant, Denise Henry Morrissey, to present their views and guidance on these issues. Among other things, Ms. Greenan and Ms. Henry provided their analysis of what to expect with respect to legislative and administrative actions relating to the various proposals to repeal and replace of the Affordable Care Act and its implementing regulations (collectively ACA), the confirmation hearings of Tom Price, MD for Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the prospects for modifying the rules recently issued to implement the Medicare Access and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act (MACRA). They stressed that while the Republicans have majorities in both congressional houses and now hold the White House, there remain significant legal and political barriers to quick and radical change. They also stressed the importance of working in coalitions with other physician groups.

SETTING THE STATE: THE AADA 2017 ADVOCACY AGENDA

Dr. Torres then asked Dr. Sabra Sullivan, chair of the Council on Government Affairs and Health Policy (GAHP), to discuss the Council on GAHP's proposed AADA Advocacy Agenda for 2017. Dr. Sullivan stated that the Council met on January 18, 2017 to discuss and deliberate the AADA's advocacy priorities and to develop its recommendations to the Board of Directors 2017 AADA Advocacy Agenda.

Dr. Sullivan referred the Board to p. 8 of the agenda packet and stated that this document divides the issues into three (3) tiers according to the relative numerical value members assigned them.

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These tiers determine the general level of resources and time devoted to each issue. The top tier includes

- reassessing and replacing aspects of the Affordable Care Act, including the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB)
- advocating for changes to MACRA
- eliminating penalties associated with electronic health records (EHRs)
- pushing for overall regulatory relief
- ensuring patients have access to board-certified dermatologists and to the treatments they prescribe at affordable prices
- preservation of Fee-for-Service and especially Global Period Codes
- appropriate use of telemedicine to facilitate access to dermatologists
- scope-of-practice: both appropriate supervision and truth-in-advertising

PROCEDURAL NEXT STEPS-RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

Dr. Torres explained the process the AADA would continue to follow as AADA works to establish its priorities and develop strategies, as issues arise and decisions have to be made quickly, AADA leadership will continue activating the “rapid response” process that has been used in the past. The Rapid Response Team includes the AADA leadership, Council on GAHP Chair, Board Liaison to the Council on GAHP, and the appropriate Committee Chair, based on the substantive issue.

Ms. Weiss noted that the Council on GAHP had recommended the AADA send a letter to Congress in support of Dr. Price’s nomination as HHS Secretary. She noted, and AADA staff echoed, that Dr. Price has been very supportive of dermatology issues over the years. At the same time, his nomination is not without some controversy.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK

Dr. Torres opened the floor to general discussion.

It was noted that Medical Liability Reform had been ranked as a Tier 2 issue, but inadvertently left off of the list of priorities and needed to be added back in.

The Board also discussed the Council on GAHP’s recommendation to send a letter of support for Dr. Price’s nomination to be HHS Secretary. After significant discussion, the consensus was that it would be prudent to wait and see how Dr. Price’s confirmation hearings play out before deciding whether to send a support letter; with the understanding that the decision to send the letter must be made before the Senate votes on Dr. Price’s nomination, which could require quick action by the Board.

A motion was made and duly seconded to let the Rapid Response Team monitor the Price hearings, make a recommendation regarding a letter of support, and present a draft letter for quick Board review if their recommendation is to send a support letter.

ACTION: Approved (no opposition)

Dr. Torres noted that the Board will review and approve the 2017 AADA Advocacy Agenda recommended by the Council on GAHP at the March Board meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Torres adjourned the AADA Board of Directors Meeting at 9:27 PM (CDT).

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Mathes, MD, FAAD
Secretary-Treasurer