

ment. Task force members concluded that among the necessary changes is the way family physicians are paid.

Thus, a sixth FFM task force was born.

"If you can't create a viable business model for the new model of family medicine, then it's not going to work," said AAFP President Michael Fleming, MD, of Shreveport, La, a member of Task Force 6. "This is not just an academic exercise. The focus is on the real-world practice of medicine."

Task Force 6 comprises not only representatives from within family medicine, but also from paying entities: employers, insurers and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

"The payers agree they must find a way to pay us that values what we do," said Fleming. He predicts the improvements will take place "over a spectrum of about 3 to 5 years."

Discussion of the recommendations has been rampant among e-mail discussion groups and at meetings. Michael Sevilla, MD, of Salem, Ohio, a new physician delegate to the AAFP Congress of Delegates, learned about some of the recommendations at the cluster of AAFP commission-committee meetings in January. Some of his colleagues, fed up with issues of liability and reimbursement, say the project is a "waste of time with recommendations created in an ivory tower and not based in reality," he said.

"Personally, I'm optimistic about the recommendations, but I certainly am sympathetic to physicians who are needing more immediate results," he said.

President Fleming shares that optimism, noting the symbolism of releasing the findings in spring. Spring is not only the season of renewal, but also the season of graduations, he said. "The publishing of this report is just the beginning. The leadership committee's work is at an end, and this is the commencement."

Toni Lapp
AAFP News Department



From the American
Board of Family Practice

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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY PRACTICE (JABFP)

NEW! Instructions for Authors Updated and Enhanced on JABFP Web Site

Newly revised instructions for authors are now available at the JABFP Web site at <http://www.jabfp.org>. While retaining information on the journal's areas of inter-

est, several additions have been made to the journal's guidelines. The additions include detailed information on manuscript preparation, conformity with professional standards, and instructions for submitting manuscripts to JABFP—with step-by-step instructions for using Rapid Review. All of these sections have been enhanced with links to mentioned examples embedded in the text.

Rapid Review Update

Since its launch in March, the Web-based Rapid Review has been available for authors to submit their new manuscripts to JABFP. Authors submitting their first manuscript through Rapid Review must create an author account. Authors must include an e-mail address when creating their account, and they will receive an e-mail confirmation that their manuscript has been received. The JABFP editorial staff will also use e-mail to correspond with authors about the status of their manuscript.

Peer reviewers also enjoy the convenience of Rapid Review. Manuscripts are e-mailed to reviewers, who in turn, send their reviews back via Rapid Review. This eliminates the delays associated with postal mail deliveries.

Looking for a Job? Need to Post a Position?

The online version of the JABFP's classified ad section is updated immediately as classifieds and other ads are received. Jobs are listed by region and are seen by all. Links to the contact person and/or organization are provided when listed by the advertiser.

Victoria Neale, PhD, MPH
Deputy Editor, JABFP



From the Society of Teachers
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STFM OFFERS TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR PRECEPTORS

The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), a leader in family medicine education, offers educational resources for volunteer preceptors who teach medical students and residents. Highlighted below are the tools to help community preceptors be better teachers.

Preceptor Education Project Curricular Materials

The STFM Preceptor Education Project (PEP2) is a faculty development workshop curriculum for family physician preceptors who teach clinical medical students. PEP2 educational materials prepare family physicians to teach medical students effectively and efficiently

in community settings. The primary audience for PEP includes potential, relatively inexperienced, and experienced family physician preceptors.

Now in their second edition, the PEP2 curriculum materials, packaged as both a participant workbook and facilitator's guide, are divided into core modules, plus introduction and summary modules. Module topics include organization and planning strategies, direct observation skills, teaching and feedback skills, evaluation strategies, approaches to dealing with problems that might be encountered with a student, assessing the learner, and teaching and learning collaboratively. Videotape vignettes, overhead transparency masters, and a preceptor action card are also included among the PEP2 materials.

The Teaching Physician

STFM offers *The Teaching Physician* as a valuable educational tool for volunteer preceptors. *The Teaching Physician* is an electronic newsletter designed to provide teaching tips to community preceptors. The newsletter is sent quarterly (July, October, January, and April) to subscribing departments and residency programs as an Adobe Acrobat PDF file that can be forwarded by departments or residency programs (either electronically or in print) to their community preceptors.

STFM recognizes the importance of providing training for family medicine's cadre of volunteer faculty. *The Teaching Physician*, a quick and easy-to-digest e-mail newsletter, compiles relevant training material for preceptors. Published by STFM and edited by leaders in predoctoral education, each issue of *The Teaching Physician* features:

- Reprints from the best of the "For the Office-based Teacher of Family Medicine" column from *Family Medicine*
- Two examples of Patient-Oriented Evidence That Matters (POEMs) geared for the teaching family physician
- Technology news tailored specifically to preceptors
- Teaching Points—A 2-minute mini-lecture on a family medicine subject, complete with assessment questions and the answers, that can be easily adapted into a preceptor's teaching repertoire
- A clinical guideline that applies to the teaching physician

Institutional subscriptions to this e-mail newsletter are available for only \$190 annually. If you are a preceptor and are interested in receiving this newsletter, contact the department or residency where you are a preceptor and ask them to add you to their mailing list or to contact STFM about an institutional subscription. If your department or residency is not a current subscriber or chooses not to subscribe, we do offer com-

munity preceptors a special discounted subscription rate of \$25.

To download a sample issue and a subscription form, visit <http://www.stfm.org/teachingphysician/index.htm>. For more information, contact Aleta Hayes, STFM subscriptions coordinator, ahayes@stfm.org, 800-274-2237, ext 5416.

Family Medicine's "For the Office-based Teacher of Family Medicine" Column

Family Medicine, the official journal of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, has a regular column, "For the Office-based Teacher of Family Medicine." Published 10 times a year, this column provides peer-reviewed articles that give office-based teachers usable knowledge about issues of concern to family physician preceptors, presented in a readable, enjoyable format.

Preceptor Basic Book List

STFM members have developed a list of publications, included within the STFM Bookstore, that are considered valuable to preceptors. The list is not intended to be all-inclusive; it is offered as a starting point for preceptors who are looking for educational resources. The list can be accessed at <http://www.stfm.org/bookstore/basic.html#precep>.

STFM Conferences

STFM sponsors 4 educational conferences a year, each of which offers sessions of interest to community preceptors. Two conferences—the Predoctoral Education Conference and the Annual Spring Conference—provide specific tracks, as well as discounted registration fees for preceptors. Go to http://www.stfm.org/calendar/st_cal2.html for information and dates of STFM conferences.

STFM Membership—Community Preceptor Category

STFM offers a membership category specifically for community preceptors at a reduced fee. This membership category is available to any part-time family medicine teacher or community preceptor who devotes no more than 10 hours per week or 3 months per year to a family medicine program. This category also applies to physicians in private practice. For more information about joining STFM, visit <http://www.stfm.org/NewMember/Start.cfm> or contact Mary Ruhl at 800-274-2237, extension 5404, or e-mail mruhl@stfm.org

For more information about any of these teaching tools, contact Stacy Brungardt, CAE, STFM deputy executive director, at 800-274-2237, extension 5406, or e-mail sbrungardt@stfm.org.

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