



Welcome to the **April 2019** issue of *OCMA Connect*, our monthly publication focusing on issues specific to Orange County physicians. We hope you enjoy our newsletter and we welcome your input. Please send your comments, ideas or questions to Holly Appelbaum at happelbaum@ocma.org.

President's Message

By: **Paul B. Yost, M.D.**

Like swallows returning to Capistrano, this week, OCMA physicians made **the annual trek to Sacramento** to advocate on behalf of our patients and our profession. This year set an **all-time record** in attendance with **more than 600 physicians** from across the state attending **CMA's Legislative Advocacy Day**. The event actually sold out for the first time!

Orange County's delegation of 27 physician leaders, medical students and advocates started on Tuesday evening with a very intimate dinner with many legislators from Orange County at Café 15L. **This Orange County dinner has become a tradition and a very effective way for us to develop relationships with our state elected officials** and to become resources and content experts when it comes to health care.



[Learn more](#)

Now Accepting Nominations: 2019 OCMA Physicians of Excellence DEADLINE: May 31, 2019

Orange Coast magazine, in conjunction with the **Orange County Medical Association (OCMA)**, will publish its annual list of Orange County **Physicians of Excellence** in January 2020, and is currently **seeking nominations**. The Physicians of Excellence program is designed to honor outstanding physicians practicing in Orange County. The selection criteria that will be used to determine physician excellence were developed by a multi-specialty collaboration of the OCMA. **Anyone can nominate a physician** to be considered for the Physicians of Excellence program. Physicians need to be nominated only once to be eligible to apply for selection as a Physician of Excellence. **Multiple nominations for the same physician are discouraged. Self-nominations will not be accepted.**

Once nominated, an application packet will be sent to the nominee with the details of the application process. Membership in the OCMA is not a requirement for selection.

[Learn more](#)

CalOptima Commits \$100 Million for Homeless Health Programs

New initiatives have been created to address the complex needs of members who are homeless



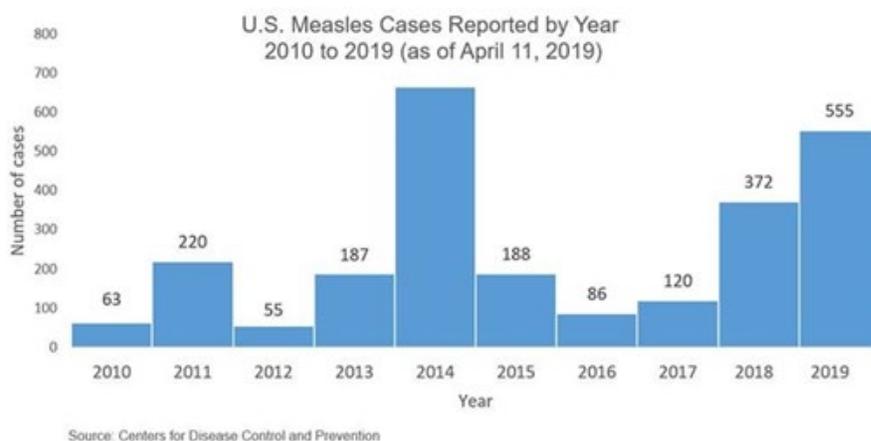
The CalOptima Board of Directors appropriated another \$74.8 million in funding for response, coordination and other new initiatives benefiting Medi-Cal members who are homeless. These initiatives involve medically necessary covered services and enhance CalOptima's recent commitment of \$25.2 million, including **\$11.4 million for mental health services, \$11 million for recuperative care services**, which is intended to improve outcomes for homeless members being discharged from the hospital **and \$2.8 million for clinical field and response teams.**

CD Health Alert: Measles on the Rise - Recommendations for Identification of Cases, Reporting and Testing



Measles cases in the **U.S. in the first three months of 2019 have already surpassed the year-end totals for every year except 2014 since ongoing transmission of measles was eliminated in this country nearly two decades ago.** From January 1 to April 11, 2019, 555 cases of measles have been confirmed in 20 states, including several outbreaks. Two outbreaks have been reported in California (CA) and, as of April 10, 21 measles cases, including 13 outbreak-associated cases, have been reported ([more info here](#)). **The two CA outbreaks were linked to international travel** followed by local transmission.

Several of the California cases were not isolated while at the hospital, leading to additional cases from exposure at hospitals. In Orange County (OC), we have evaluated several measles cases and exposures in recent weeks, although no cases have been confirmed in OC residents this year. Since measles is highly infectious, it is imperative that any suspect cases are immediately isolated, reported to Public Health, and appropriately tested (see Provider Recommendations below).



New and Noteworthy: Books by OCMA Members



Many OCMA members are physicians who write more than prescriptions. OCMA has dedicated this space to promote new releases by OCMA members.

If you are a member of OCMA who recently has released a book that you would like to announce here, please forward your name, the title of your book and website for the book to Holly Appelbaum at happelbaum@ocma.org.

Business Partner Profile

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