

Welcome to the **January 2018** 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](mailto:happelbaum@ocma.org).

## President's Message

By: William M. Thompson, IV, M.D.



2018 is going to be a rollercoaster year, politically. **No matter what your political affiliation, political determinations have consequences.** The entire commission on HIV & AIDS was fired without notice, for I don't know what reason. The new Tax Bill got rid of "The Mandate" for the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The last I checked, politicians did not get rid of the auto insurance mandate; they are targeting only the ACA.

I saw a newly diagnosed HIV patient last month. Due to a blood transfusion years ago, he got infected with HIV and unwittingly infected his wife (and probably his ex-wife and child). He is here on a visa and could not get government insurance, so he got "ObamaCare". Let's say his monthly premium is \$1000, his anti-retroviral medications cost \$5000 per month, plus he gets labs and sees me quarterly. **If only sick people are getting insurance, the system will collapse.** THIS IS WHY ALL PEOPLE NEED TO BE INSURED.

Personally, I have private PPO insurance for me, my child and employees. My premiums went up 25% last year and 28% the year before. It is not just ObamaCare premiums that are going up, like the Republicans cite when refuting the ACA. **We are trying to educate our elected officials about the realities of insurance,** but it has been frustrating, to say the least. At my inauguration last summer, an Orange County Congressional Representative's solution was to have all people with "pre-conditions" (I think he meant 'preexisting conditions') get Medicare and the rest of the healthy people get commercial insurance. So the taxpayers pay for all the sick people and the insurance companies make out like bandits making money on all the healthy people? **We physicians need to educate not only our politicians, but our patients and friends, as well.**

## OCMA Is Moving

*OCMA Moves to New Facility on February 1, 2018*

We are very excited to announce that **OCMA will be moving to its new home on February 1, 2018.** Our new location is **5000 Campus Drive in Newport Beach**, just a short distance from our current location in Irvine.

Please update your records.

We look forward to the **open house sometime in late spring** after we get settled.



Behavioral Health Information & Referrals  
**855-OC-Links**  
(625-4657)

**OCLinks**

**Jason Austin, MA, LMFT**  
Division Manager  
BHS Homeless Coordinator  
Behavioral Health Navigation, Innovation, and Training  
Orange County Health Care Agency

OCLinks is an information and referral phone and online chat service to help callers navigate the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) system of care within the Health Care Agency. It allows folks who call (855) OC-LINKS or visit [www.ochealthinfo.com/oclinks](http://www.ochealthinfo.com/oclinks) for a live chat session to be linked to any one of the County's more than 200 behavioral health programs and services through one simple point of contact.

The OCLinks team is staffed by a group of trained clinicians, or "navigators," who understand how to assess and screen each individual caller or chat participant.

**They provide services in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Farsi, Korean, and Arabic**, and can also work with any other language using phone-based translation systems.

"When an individual contacts OCLinks, I listen carefully for ways to understand the caller and model a sense of calmness and compassion in trying to find solutions to meet their needs," said Rose Stock, Marriage and Family Therapist II. "My position gives me the opportunity to be part of the solution and to help people at a difficult time in their lives."

**Together, the team brings knowledge from all the major areas within BHS and is acknowledged for their strengths, problem solving skills and creativity in making OCLinks a success.** Since the program's inception in October of 2013, this group of navigators has been instrumental in working with over fifty-thousand people from many different cultures and languages.

## OCMA Welcomes Its Newest Members

**Richard Baick, M.D.**

Family Medicine  
*Irvine*

**John Brandon, M.D.**

Pediatrics  
*San Juan Capistrano*

**John Chien, M.D.**

Internal Medicine  
*Newport Beach*

**Yujuan Choy, M.D.**

Psychiatry  
*Irvine*

**Paul Chung, M.D.**

Radiology  
*Anaheim*

**Trung Dang, M.D.**

Family Medicine  
*Santa Ana*

**Katie Doering, M.D.**

Emergency Medicine  
*Orange*

**Samuel Ejadi, M.D.**

Oncology  
*Orange*

**Lloyd Greaser, M.D.**

Radiology  
*Santa Ana*

**Jay Hill, M.D.**

Pediatrics  
*Anaheim*

**Matthew Kaplan, M.D.**

Emergency Medicine  
*Mission Viejo*

**Sanjay Kedhar, M.D.**

Ophthalmology  
*Irvine*

**Peter Kennedy, M.D.**

Emergency Medicine  
*Orange*

**Baruch D. Kuppermann, MD**

Ophthalmology  
*Irvine*

**James Learned, M.D.**

Orthopedic Surgery  
*Orange*

**Nancy Magness, M.D.**

Family Medicine  
*Anaheim*

**Sofia Meraz, M.D.**

Family Medicine  
*Anaheim*

**Hien Nguyen, M.D.**

Internal Medicine  
*Newport Beach*

**Lam-Quynh Nguyen, M.D.**

Pediatrics  
*Fountain Valley*

**Raj Patel, M.D.**

Emergency Medicine  
*Mission Viejo*

**Thang Pham, M.D.**

Internal Medicine  
*Newport Beach*

**Hamsa Ramkumar, M.D.**

Pediatrics  
*La Habra*

**Hema Ramkumar, M.D.**

Ophthalmology  
*Fullerton*

**Kavita Rao, M.D.**

Ophthalmology  
*Irvine*

**Jay Shah, M.D.**

Obstetrics and Gynecology  
*Irvine*

**Kenneth Su, M.D.**

Internal Medicine  
*Newport Beach*

**Tam Tackson, M.D.**

Internal Medicine  
*Orange*

**Kathryn Yung, M.D.**

Radiology  
*Anaheim*

**Matthew Zore, M.D.**

Ophthalmology  
*Fullerton*

## 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](mailto:happelbaum@ocma.org).

## Business Partner Profile

### Kinley Law Practice



**Kinley Law Practice provides legal services, including business & employment law, litigation, and healthcare, to individuals and businesses throughout California.** With over 25 years of experience, Kinley Law Practice delivers personalized, trusted, quality service and results-driven expertise for each and every client.

#### **BUSINESS LAW**

Representation of businesses of all sizes, from small business owners to large corporations, assisting with **a wide range of business law matters ranging from business formation to transactions.** He also provides outside general counsel for a clients.

#### **LITIGATION**

Over two decades of **litigation experience in state and federal courts,** arbitrations and alternative dispute resolutions on behalf of individuals and entrepreneurial businesses with a **successful track record in real estate, business and corporate disputes.**

#### **HEALTHCARE**

Specialized representation of healthcare clients in **several different aspects of healthcare,** including federal and state laws, regulations and compliance, licensing, medical board representation, managed care contracting and disputes, fraud and abuse issues, unique healthcare employment issues, HIPAA compliance, creations and mergers, and acquisitions of healthcare practices.

**Matt Kinley** is the founder of [CaliforniaHealthcareLaw.com](http://CaliforniaHealthcareLaw.com), a blog serving as a legal source for the practice of medicine in California.

[www.kinleylawpractice.com](http://www.kinleylawpractice.com)