

# CONNECTICUT FAMILY PHYSICIAN

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## Highly Rated Speakers Return to Scientific Symposium

Three of the highest rated speakers over the past few years have been invited to return to the Scientific Symposium on October 16-17, 2019 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

Heading the impressive speaker panel will be Frank Domino, M.D. (The Ten Best Things I Have Learned in the Past Year); Kathleen Mueller, M.D. (Non-Pharma Approach to Neck Pain); and Karen Santucci, M.D. (Pediatric Psychiatric Emergencies).

Dr. Domino is professor of Family Medicine and

Community Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and editor of the 5 Minute Clinical Consult. Dr. Mueller is the medical director of the Center for Integrated Medicine at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford and the editor of the Core Content Review of Family Medicine. Dr. Santucci is the medical director and section chief of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Yale.

A lecture on Breast Disease will open the symposium on Wednesday, October 16 at 8:30 a.m. This will be

followed by a lecture on new medications in diabetes management and an update on the AHA guidelines of taking care of aortic disease with Dr. Mohiddin Cheema speaking.

A lecture on gait and one on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease will be held prior to luncheon on Wednesday. In the afternoon, Drs. Kathleen Abbott and Christopher Ahearn will join Dr. Kathy Mueller in a three-person presentation on non-pharma approach to neck pain.

At the end of the day on Wednesday, the Academy will hold the Connecticut Family Medicine Research Day with winning poster presentations and an evening reception from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This has attracted standing room participation for the past two years.

On Thursday morning, the first lecture will be on nutrition. This will be followed by two lectures: one on stress incontinence by Dr. Robert Carr, a past president of the CAFP, and one on restrictive lung disease.

Prior to lunch there will be a multi-speaker presentation on office efficiencies: strategies to alleviate administrative burden. This subject was included because it was requested by numerous participants in the 2018 symposium.

Following lunch, Dr. Sara Tabatabai will speak on CHF. There will also be a lecture on the evaluation of shoulder pain.

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*“The Academy has requested 14 Live Prescribed Credits from the AAFP. This credit is AMA Category 1 equivalent.”*

## Final Update on 2019 Legislative Activity

### Signed by the Governor

#### **On July 9, 2019 Governor Lamont signed off on AN ACT CONCERNING A COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND PHYSICIANS**

Section 1. Subdivision (5) of section 20-12a of the general statute is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(5) “Physician Assistant” means an individual who: (A) Functions in a **collaborative** relationship with a physician licensed pursuant to the chapter; and (B) is licensed pursuant to section 20-12b to provide patient services under the

supervision, control, responsibility and direction of said physician.

This Bill was initially drafted to change the scope of Physician Assistants to set up a collaborative agreement with physicians and remove supervision. After a public hearing with much opposition to the concept of independent practice, new language was drafted. The new language states that the PA/Physician relationship is collaborative rather than dependent, but does not remove the language for supervision. With the passage of this Bill, PAs will work in collaboration, but provide patient care under the supervision of a licensed physician.

*“The new language states that the PA/Physician relationship is collaborative rather than dependent, but does not remove the language for supervision.”*

## 2019 Legislative Update on Proposals of Interest

*(continued from page 1)*

### CAFP Mission Statement

The mission of CAFP is to promote excellence in health care and to improve the health of people of Connecticut through the advancement of the art and science of Family Medicine, the specialty of Family Medicine and the professional growth of Family Physicians.

#### Continuing Medical Education Bills

##### **SB827 AN ACT IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICES FOR ALZHEIMER'S PREVENTION**

**On July 1, 2019, the Governor signed into law (effective January 1, 2020) the additional language for State Mandated CME.** Now, when applying for license renewal physicians may fulfill the hour requirement for behavioral health with education on diagnosing and treating cognitive conditions, including, but not limited to, Alzheimer's disease, dementia, delirium and other mental health conditions.

##### **SB6522 AN ACT CONCERNING CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION IN SCREENING FOR INFLAMMATORY BREAST CANCER AND GASTROINTESTINAL CANCERS**

**Signed into law on June 21, 2019,** for registration periods beginning on or after October 1, 2019, physicians must complete one contact hour of risk management training or education that may now include screening for inflammatory breast cancer and gastrointestinal cancers, including colon, gastric, pancreatic and neuroendocrine cancers and other rare gastrointestinal tumors.

#### Opioid Proposals

##### **On July 9, 2019 the Governor signed into law - AN ACT ADDRESSING OPIOID USE.**

This Bill was filed as a Governor's Bill.

The law now includes:

1. Requiring pharmacists to

offer consultations to all patients when dispersing a prescription, not just Medicaid patients as under current law.

2. Allowing pharmacists to designate a trained pharmacy technician to access the Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System.
3. Requiring drug manufacturers and wholesalers to report to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) decisions to terminate or refuse an order from a pharmacy or prescribing practitioner for schedule II to V controlled substances.
4. Prohibiting life insurance and annuity policies or contracts from excluding coverage solely based on an individual having received a prescription for naloxone.
5. Requiring prescribing practitioners who prescribe an opioid drug with more than a (1) seven-day supply to include certain information on the prescription and (2) 12-week supply to establish a treatment agreement with the patient or discuss a care plan for chronic opioid drug use.
6. The President of each institution of higher education must develop and implement policy concerning availability and use of opioid antagonists. The new policy must be submitted and approved by the Department of Consumer Protection and posted to each institution's website.

For the full Public Act visit: <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2019/ACT/pa/pdf/2019PA-00191-R00HB-07159-PA.pdf>

#### Bills that were NOT enacted in the 2019 session:

##### **SB6943 AN ACT ALLOWING MEDICAL ASSISTANTS TO ADMINISTER VACCINES**

**While this Bill passed in the House, it was unfortunately**

**not called on the Senate Calendar.**

This Bill would have allowed MAs, who are under the direct supervision of a Physician or APRN who is on site, to administer vaccines and nebulizer treatments (amended language to state for those over the age of 18). The language of the Bill required MAs to have certification from one of two accrediting bodies.

##### **SB902 AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLANS**

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Senate passed an amendment to SB42 to establish a task force to study high deductible plans. The task force was to reply back to the Healthcare advocate prior to next session. **While this Bill was passed in the Senate it was not taken up in the House.**

##### **SB96 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO ENHANCE PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT IN THE STATE**

As drafted, the Bill would have established a working group to enhance physician recruitment in the state. The CSMS requested that they have a seat in the group. The Bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee for consideration. **Staff has strongly encouraged CSMS to name an Academy member to the working group should one be created. The Senate referred this to the Committee on Judiciary.**

##### **SB7004 AN ACT CONCERNING CONCUSSION EDUCATION FOR COACHES OF YOUTH ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

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## 2019 Legislative Update on Proposals of Interest

(continued from page 2)

The Bill requires youth coaches to complete an online concussion course. The Bill was referred to the Public Health Committee, which did not vote before the Committee deadline.

### HB5898 AN ACT CONCERNING AID IN DYING

As drafted, it would have permitted a physician to administer life-ending treatment to a patient who requests to terminate their life under certain circumstances. **The Bill was not called for a vote in the Committee, therefore missing the deadline to act on the legislation.**

## Symposium

(continued from page 1)

The symposium will close at 3:30 p.m. with a 90-minute presentation by Dr. Santucci on pediatric psychiatric emergencies.

The Academy has requested 14 Live Prescribed Credits from the AAFP. This credit is AMA Category 1 equivalent.

All available presentations will eventually be posted to the CAFP website at [www.ctafp.org](http://www.ctafp.org).

### Of Note...

- The CAFP made a contribution to the Primary Care Coalition of CT.

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Welcome to the  
Newest CAFP  
Member!

Lisa Schnurr, DO  
Manchester, CT

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**14 Clinical Lectures**

**Earn Live CME**

**Research Day**

**Sessions for Residents,  
Students and Office Staff**



CONNECTICUT ACADEMY OF  
**FAMILY PHYSICIANS**  
CARING FOR CONNECTICUT'S FAMILIES

## 2019 Scientific Symposium

**October 16 & 17, 2019**

**Aqua Turf Club**



**Quality Medical Education for**

**Improved Patient Care**