

IMGs Filling Gaps in Primary Care Workforce

BY JOYCE FRIEDEN
Senior Editor

ARLINGTON, VA. — International medical graduates have become an integral part of providing medical care in federally designated physician shortage areas, according to results from a recent study.

“Compared to U.S.-trained physicians, IMGs provide more primary care and more [overall] medical care to populations living in primary care shortage areas” as well as to minorities, immigrants, patients in poor areas, and Medicaid recipients, said Esther Hing of the National Center for Health Statistics, Hyattsville, Md. Ms. Hing and her colleague Susan Lin, Dr.P.H., studied 2005-2006 data from the

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey. The survey was nationally representative, and the data used by the researchers included information from 2,390 physicians in office-based practices. Surveyors performed a face-to-face interview and abstracted medical records for about 30 office visits. Ms. Hing presented the survey results at the 2008 Physician Workforce Research Conference.

The survey showed that IMGs make up 25% of office-based physicians. They tend to be a little older than U.S.-trained doctors, with an average age of 52 years, compared with 50 years for physicians trained in the United States. The racial and ethnic differences were more pronounced: 71% of U.S. medical graduates were non-Hispanic white vs. 26% of IMGs. Asian/Pacific Islanders

made up 32% of IMGs, compared with 5% of U.S. medical graduates. Hispanic and Latino physicians accounted for 7% of IMGs, compared with 2% of U.S. graduates.

IMGs also practiced more often in counties that included primary care shortage areas than did U.S.-trained physicians—87% vs. 79%. And IMGs more often saw patients during evening and weekend hours than their U.S.-trained counterparts. IMGs were more likely to accept new patients and to accept Medicaid.

“This study illustrates how the U.S. health care system continues to rely on IMGs to address shortages in primary care,” Ms. Hing said at the conference, which was sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and Harvard Medical School. ■

CLASSIFIEDS

www.obgynnews.com

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (REI)

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Medicine is searching for a faculty member (M.D.) with a broad spectrum of REI clinical care and research interest to join its Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (Assistant/Associate Professor, tenure track). The position includes responsibilities for clinical care (including IVF), research, and teaching. UAB has an outstanding OB/GYN residency program as well as a fellowship program in REI. Excellent research staff is available in the department and university. The University has recently been awarded a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) from the NIH, one of 38 in the United States. Salary and benefits are competitive. Women and minorities are strongly urged to apply. The position will remain open until filled.

Please send letters of application (including CV) to:

Cynthia Sites, M.D., REI Division Director
UAB Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
OHB 340, 619 19th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35249
Phone: 205-934-1030

The University of Alabama at Birmingham is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer.

INSURANCE COMPANIES

Are you paying too much for your Medical Malpractice Insurance?

CALL US IF YOU NEED:

- To get out of the non standard market
- Rates for part time practice
- Coverage for cosmetics procedures
- **A Premium reduction on your next renewal**



*Special discount programs for Non Standard Physicians
and Medical Groups.*

Call HCP National at 1-888-478-6756 (Toll Free)
Or visit our web site: WWW.HCPNATIONAL.COM

License #OC97525

GIVE

To The
AMERICAN
CANCER
SOCIETY



CATHOLIC HEALTH
INITIATIVES

Franciscan Medical Group

A Part of Franciscan Health System

Exciting OB/GYN Opportunities in the Pacific Northwest

Do you want to join a healthcare system ranked in the “Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks” in the nation and “Best Place to Work” by Washington CEO magazine? Then don’t miss this opportunity!

Franciscan Health System (FHS), located in Washington State, is the preeminent health system serving the South Puget Sound region. We have openings for BE/BC OB/GYNs to join our growing team of specialist and primary care providers. These are full-time, employed positions with outstanding benefits package, competitive wage guarantees, a production based compensation model, relocation assistance, and great work-life balance.

Located a short **30-45 minute drive south of Seattle**, you’ll enjoy easy access to freshwater lakes, miles of Puget Sound waterways, and the Cascade and Olympic Mountain Ranges for the best in year-round recreational activities.

Interested applicants please contact Francine Kyaw at (253) 779-6182 or email your CV to francinekyaw@fhshealth.org.
FHS is a drug free and tobacco free organization. EOE

ATTORNEYS

CAN YOU COLLECT DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS?

Our law firm represents medical and business professionals who are either preparing to file or have been denied benefits under their insurance policy. We also handle lump-sum buyouts.

Established in 1979, our litigation experience and disability claim handling knowledge has allowed us to help our clients receive disability benefits. Visit our website at: DiAttorney.com

FREE PHONE
CONSULTATION
REPRESENTING
CLIENTS
NATIONWIDE

800-797-7091
Call to learn how we can help you
with your disability claim.

DELI & SCHAEFER
ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING YOUR FUTURE
DISABILITY INCOME DIVISION



Hollywood