

# To the Point



From the desk of  
**Victoria Walker MD, CMD**  
Chief Medical and Quality Officer



## Medical Director in the Spotlight

Robert Tello, MD is an internist in Loveland, CO. After a distinguished career with service in the IHS, the Navy, the Loveland community and a stint as president of the Larimer Medical Society, he could be considering



retirement and resting on his laurels. Instead, he has found a new niche in medicine that is intellectually challenging and fulfilling - serving as the Loveland Village Medical Director for the past three years. Dr Tello has

found AMDA resources to be very helpful in this new role and is taking advantage of the Society's offer to cover the costs of becoming a CMD. He is enjoying the expanded horizons and enthusiastically working with the administrative staff to apply what he is learning, including an effort to credential his medical staff.

## Clinical Corner

Ebola fervor has invaded the public sphere. Undoubtedly a serious health threat, we know that other, more common maladies pose much greater risk to the senior population. During this influenza season, please use the public worry over Ebola to remind staff, residents, patients and their family members to get vaccinated against influenza, a disease that leads to death in 45,000 Americans annually. It isn't as exotic as talking about Ebola, but it is very relevant. Visit [good-sam.com/physicians](http://good-sam.com/physicians) to review the Society's guidance to staff regarding Ebola.

## Prescriber's Corner

More about infectious disease: there is updated guidance on pneumonia vaccination in people over 65. In summary, 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (prevnar) was recently recommended by the ACIP, in

addition to 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (pneumovax.) Medicare B covers the cost in high risk patients and is working on changing the rules to expand coverage to everyone. For details, click [here](#).

## AMDA Update

The Society recognizes that excellent medical services are foundational to our locations and has made a commitment to invest in AMDA membership for every medical director. Please take advantage of this excellent resource and share ideas with your local administrative team!

## Choosing Wisely

Medical specialties across the spectrum are critically self-reviewing and identifying common practices that should be reconsidered. AMDA has weighed in with five recommendations. Click [here](#) to view those recommendations.

## Society Updates

Linda Nolen, NP, has joined the Society as the Director of Special Clinical Initiatives. She brings an analytic mind, boundless energy and broad clinical experience to the role. She is working on a number of clinically relevant projects, ranging from pharmacy integration, geriatric nurse residency, and palliative care to bundled payment.

## QAPI

Data driven quality improvement. This is the approach to the Quality meeting that you have been longing for! Your center QAPI coordinator will be providing meaningful data reports with guidance on how to interpret the information, starting in January 2015.

Questions? [ywalker3@goodsam.com](mailto:ywalker3@goodsam.com)

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