



Medical Director in the Spotlight

Dr. Brian Quinn is the medical director at Good Samaritan Society – Ottumwa in Ottumwa, Iowa. He is a family practice geriatrician who is boarded in hospice and palliative medicine. Brian and his wife, Meagen, returned to their hometown to raise their growing family. Brian is an AMDA Certified Medical Director,

which supports him in his efforts to be an outstanding team member, demonstrating kindness and leadership in assuring excellent medical services.

Prescriber's Pad

Megestrol acetate (megace) is a pro-gestational medication that has been shown to have some benefit for cancer patients with weight loss and malaise. Unfortunately, in the long-term care resident, significant adverse effects have been found to outweigh marginal benefits. In particular, impaired function of the corticoadrenal axis, exacerbation of CHF and increased incidence of DVT contribute to excess mortality in geriatric patients treated with this medication. **Bottom line:** megestrol is rarely appropriate to prescribe in LTC.

CMD Educational Stipend Update

It is not too late to apply for financial support to pursue your CMD through AMDA-The Society for Post-acute and LTC. Completing the Core

Curriculum recently became more flexible, with the addition of an online module. For more information about this option, go to <http://www.amda.com/cmedirect/core-part-1.cfm>. To apply online for financial support, go to good-sam.com/physicians.

AMDA-The Society of Post-acute and LTC Membership

If you would like to benefit from the educational resources of AMDA, please talk to your administrator about covering the cost of your membership. This has great value to the residents and staff of the Good Samaritan Society, as well as professional value to you. As a corporation, the Society has access to a discounted annual membership rate. For further information, contact Mary Sandbulte at msandbulte@good-sam.com.

Clinical Corner: INTERACT

INTERACT is an acronym for a cohesive approach for nursing homes to take to improve their identification and communication of change in conditions. The goal is to provide optimal care in the most appropriate setting. This important approach is being rolled out to all Good Samaritan Society centers; I encourage you to work with your Director of Nursing to make this a success.

Ask the Expert

If you have a clinical question that you would like to pose to your colleagues, please send an email to vwalker3@good-sam.com. The Good Samaritan Society Medical Director Advisory Board will be happy to provide expert advice..

Our vision: To create an environment where people are loved, valued and at peace.