

September 2010



## NEWS FROM THE APA

### **APA Resource: “Closing a Practice at Short Notice”**

Psychiatrists can protect their families, colleagues and patients by anticipating issues that will arise in the event of an emergency closing of a practice, according to a guide put together by the American Psychiatric Association.

Private practice physicians should consider assigning a special administrator to help deal with sensitive areas unique to a psychiatric practice, such as continuing clinical coverage and managing confidential medical records, in case of an emergency closing of their practice, according to the APA Resource Document [\*“Closing a Practice at Short Notice: What Every Psychiatrist and Their Family Should Know.”\*](#) The document was created by the APA Corresponding Committee on Physician Health, Illness, and Impairment and approved by the Joint Reference Committee in 2007. It is available to members on the APA website.

The guide includes an emergency closing checklist, templates for assembling information needed to make an emergency closing go more smoothly, and information for colleagues who want to help. It also includes information about medications, prescription pads, affiliations, location of patient records, billing, and sample letters, notices and release forms required for informing patients, suppliers, and others.

The full document is available on the [Closing a Practice](#) section of the APA website along with [other resources](#) assembled by the APA to provide guidance on managing a [Psychiatric Practice](#).

Links:

- Closing a Practice: <http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/PsychiatricPractice/ManagingYourPractice/ClosingaPracticeRetiring.aspx>
- Psychiatric Practice section: <http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/PsychiatricPractice.aspx>.
- Quick Practice Information: <http://www.psych.org/MainMenu/PsychiatricPractice/ManagingYourPractice/QuickPracticeInfo.aspx>

**Institute on Psychiatric Services Comes to Boston**



There's still time to register for the 62nd [Institute on Psychiatric Services](#), which will be in Boston October 14-17. Kay Redfield Jamison, Ph.D., author of the bestseller *An Unquiet Mind*, will be the keynote speaker at the opening session. Jamison is Professor of Psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and co-author of the standard medical text on manic-depressive illness. *An Unquiet Mind* is a memoir about Jamison's own experiences with manic depressive illness. She is author or co-author of five books and more than 100 articles about mood disorders, suicide, psychotherapy, and lithium.

IPS also includes lectures, full- and half-day immersion courses, workshops, and poster sessions for mental health professionals. [Advance registration](#) closes Sept. 24.

Links:

Institute on Psychiatric Services information and registration: <http://www.psych.org/ips>

### **Geller, Jeste Nominated for APA President in 2011 Election**

The APA Nominating Committee has announced the slate of candidates for the upcoming 2011 APA elections for presentation to and confirmation by the Board of Trustees at its September meeting.

Nominees are:

- President: Jeffrey L. Geller, M.D., M.P.H. and Dilip V. Jeste, M.D.
- Secretary: Roger Peele, M.D. and Sidney H. Weissman, M.D.
- Area 2 Trustee: Jack Drescher, M.D., and James Nininger, M.D.
- Area 5 Trustee: James Greene, M.D. and Gary Weinstein, M.D.
- Member-in-Training Trustee-elect: Kurt Cousins, M.D., David Driver, M.D. and Alik Widge, M.D.

For more information on the nomination and elections process, please visit the [election section](#) of psych.org. The APA is moving to an electronic balloting system. To ensure you are able to vote, visit [election update](#) for information.

Links:

APA election information <http://www.psych.org/Resources/Governance/Elections.aspx>

All-electronic election and email update <http://www.psych.org/Resources/Governance/Elections/Vote-Online.aspx>

### **APA Endorses New Malpractice Insurance Program**

The APA has endorsed a new APA [Members Only Malpractice Insurance Program](#), administered by American Professional Agency, Inc. ("APA, Inc."). The medical malpractice program, which includes occurrence coverage, is designed to meet the needs of mental health professionals, specifically psychiatrists. APA, Inc. has been insuring psychiatrists for more than 40 years and offers members risk management consultation services staffed by experienced professionals.

This program, which offers discounts and benefits to members, is currently available in 30 states, with the remainder of the states being phased in as they are reviewed by state insurance officials. To view currently approved states, visit [www.americanprofessional.com](http://www.americanprofessional.com) and click on "American Psychiatric Members" and then "Find Your Rate;" a map will be displayed with approved states appearing in red. In

the other 20 states (except Wisconsin), claims-made coverage is currently available and will automatically be upgraded with the new features upon state approval.

**Links:**

Program Information: <http://www.psych.org/Resources/Membership/APAs-Malpractice-Insurance-Program.aspx>

**APA Members Can Choose E-mail Options**

APA Members can tell the APA exactly what information they wish to receive via e-mail. The e-mail options form, [www.psych.org/options](http://www.psych.org/options), allows you to update your email address and choose which communications you want to receive from the APA. While you're online, you can also click on the Members Corner tab and then "update your membership profile."

**APA Members: Register Early for Housing, Courses at Hawaii Meeting**

APA members will have an exclusive opportunity to register, enroll in courses and make their hotel reservations for APA's 2011 annual meeting in Hawaii beginning **Nov. 2**. Non-member reservations will not be accepted until Nov. 15. Registration and hotel information, including hotel rates and descriptions will go live on APA's Web site at [www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org) on Nov. 2. APA members may access this information by logging into [Members Corner](#).



The Annual Meeting Advance Registration Packet will be available online beginning Nov. 2. It will include information on airline reservations, registration, housing, courses, local information about Hawaii, plus many other topics. The website will be updated as details on the scientific program are finalized.

**Hawaiian Island Tours Offered Pre- and Post-Meeting** Special tours will be offered to the outer Hawaiian Islands before and after the APA Annual Meeting in Hawaii May 14-18. While visiting Honolulu, be sure to take advantage of the many exciting tours and fun activities available for the whole family. Information on complete tour packages is available on the APA website.

For more information, call the APA Meetings and Conventions Department at (703) 907-7822 or write [apa@psych.org](mailto:apa@psych.org).

**For Your Calendar: Important Dates from the APA**

- Sept. 24 – [Institute on Psychiatric Services](#) Advance Registration Rate Deadline Sept. 24
- Dec. 1 – Deadline to update your email 1 so that you can participate in the all-electronic balloting process for APA's national elections. Go to the [Member's Corner](#) to update your email address.
- Nov. 2 – Annual Meeting registration open to members. APA Members can register, enroll in courses and make hotel reservations for the Annual Meeting beginning Nov. 2.
- Oct. 5 – Deadline for class members in the [UnitedHealth UCR Settlement](#) to file claim submissions.