EXCITING YEAR AHEAD FOR WELLMD CENTER!

2017 promises to be a banner year for our newly formed WellMD Center, as it builds on the developmental strategies initiated in 2016 that have produced tangible benefits for our medical staff and trainees.

The most important news is that the findings from the 2016 Physician Wellness Survey will be available in January. These results will be presented to individual departments and to the entire medical community, as our Center advocates for Physician Wellness to become a quality metric not only for department chairs, but for hospital administration as well. In addition, ideas generated from the survey will be assessed and utilized to inform interventions to improve the work environment. Our Center research team is also available to provide guidance for clinicians or trainees regarding potential wellness-related research ideas.

In addition, the Center will continue to support a variety of programs for physicians, including the popular Literature & Medicine dinner group. (See sign-up page for the next session beginning 1/25.) Our confidential Peer Support Program will continue to be available to support you or a colleague/trainee about whom you are concerned, and our Website contains a wealth of resources to test yourself, find help, get healthy, or access a wellness-related CME course. Address news or website ideas to Dr. Harise Stein, our webmaster.

This coming year, our Center will participate in the leadership of several national projects. Find out more about the Center’s mission, projects and publications on our website, and look for our year-end report that will be available next month. Finally, please save the date – September 28-29, 2017 as the Center and our co-sponsors Mayo Clinic and the AMA will host a conference in San Francisco that will focus on physician wellness from an organizational level.

Research:


Excellent review article. “Although burnout is a system issue, most institutions operate under the erroneous framework that burnout and professional satisfaction are solely the responsibility of the individual physician…There is a strong business case for organizations to invest in efforts to reduce physician burnout and promote engagement…Leadership and sustained attention from the highest level of the organization are the keys to making progress.”