

# JPS Physician Group and TMA Working Together

The JPS Physician Group Board of Directors  
**has generously agreed to pay one-half of your dues**  
for membership in the Tarrant County Medical Society and  
the Texas Medical Association.

**JPS to pay  
one-half of  
your dues.  
JOIN  
TODAY!**

The remaining one-half will be allocated from your annual development funds.

*Now is a great time to join the association that works hard for you every day!*  
Here's a sampling of what membership means for you.

## TMA's Advocacy in Action

Texas physicians and our patients came out winners in the 2015 Texas Legislature — thanks to the grassroots strength of TMA.

**Medicaid** — Secured physician due process in fraud investigations by clarifying that “fraud” doesn't include unintentional, technical, clerical, or administrative errors, and by requiring the Office of Inspector General to give physicians a detailed summary of its evidence relating to any allegations.

**Tax Relief** — Eliminated the \$200 occupation tax physicians pay each year.

**Safety Measures for Kids** — Stopped sales of e-cigarettes to minors; protected physicians, schools, and pharmacists who stock and use EpiPens in anaphylactic emergencies; extended storage of vaccination records until age 26 (instead of 18) in state's vaccination registry.

**Scope of Practice** — Defeated every bill that would expand midlevel practitioners' scope of practice beyond what is safely within their education, skills, or training.

**Public Health Funding** — Helped secure an \$80 million increase for outpatient mental health services, a \$50 million increase for women's health, \$20 million for infectious disease prevention and response, and \$11 million for tobacco cessation programs.

**Balance Billing** — Preserved for out-of-network services.

## Help With Meaningful Use

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the meaningful use modification rule in October with a 60-day comment period. TMA asked for relief on the patient engagement measures, and CMS listened! If you have questions about the meaningful use program, email [hit@texmed.org](mailto:hit@texmed.org) or call TMA's Health Information Technology Department at (800) 880-5720.

## Resources for Your Practice

- CME: An array of topics in a variety of delivery methods, and more than 50 ethics courses.
- Staff experts and online tools to help members with regulatory compliance, billing and coding, payment, and insurance and licensure issues.
- DocbookMD, a secure, HIPAA-compliant application to communicate and collaborate.
- Leadership and career-building opportunities including the TMA Leadership College.
- TMA Knowledge Center specialists to answer all your professional questions.

**Join today! Simply contact Kim Vanbrunt at [kvanbrunt@jps.org](mailto:kvanbrunt@jps.org) or (817) 927-3554.**



Physicians Caring for Texans