

The IAMSS Insider

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Congratulations to IL Newly Certified . 1
 IAMSS Membership Application & Renewal 1
 Join Us on IAMSS Voice. 2
 18th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day 2
 IAMSS Member Spotlight 3
 Save the Dates 3
 American Board of Medical Spec. . . . 4
 Nat'l Med Staff Svs Awareness Wk. . .5
 IAMSS Voice Policy. 6-7

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Congratulations to Illinois Newly Certified Medical Services Professionals!

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The IAMSS Board and our members understand the **hard work, dedication, and milestone achievement** both of these prestigious certifications represent.

We are proud of your accomplishment!

IAMSS Membership Application & Renewal

Your IAMSS Membership Application & Renewal will be sent out in November. We are proud that again this year, the Membership Fee remains at **\$60** for the year.

Please encourage one of your colleagues to become a member!

Even if they are not certified at this time (or don't have any plans to be), there are **so many benefits!**

- **Networking opportunities** – get to know colleagues & experts in your field!
- **Participation in IAMSSVoice** – talk with your colleagues & the experts about similar MSO/credentialing issues; share ideas and solutions
- **Quarterly Newsletter** – find out about what is happening and/or changing in the industry, events coming up, State and Local news, and get to know your colleagues in the IAMSS Spotlight
- **Discounts to local state education events** – some events are no charge or at a discounted rate
- **Professional Growth** – Awareness of the profession, leadership skills & career growth!





Join Us On . . . **IAMSS VOICE**

Let's Get Connected!

If you have a question, there have to be others out there who have a same or similar question. We are all in the field of Medical Staff Services and Credentialing, with the emphasis ultimately being on patient safety. Yet the nature of our work and encounters on a daily basis can be very unique.

One of the many benefits of being part of IAMSS includes participation in the **IAMSSVoice**, which is your online connection with other IAMSS members via Yahoo Group email messaging. You can reach your IAMSS colleagues with your unique situation, question, or problem . . . by signing up with **IAMSSVoice**.

How do you sign up?

As a member, you can request an invitation to join by emailing maureen.bradley@rushcopley.com Shortly thereafter, you will receive an email, which will include the link to the subscription site. If you do not have a Yahoo account or email address, you will need to create one. Through the site, you can manage your **FREE** subscription, including method of delivery and subscription preference.

We have attached the Rules for use of IAMSSVoice to this newsletter for your convenience.

18th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day ***“Save Lives and Protect the Environment”***



The DEA and its national and community partners will hold the **18th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day across the country on Saturday, October 26**. This organized service is held biannually and is in its ninth year. It is a free, safe, easy, anonymous and responsible way to properly dispose of unused or expired prescription medications. It is a means to help prevent theft and misuse which can result in accidental overdose, poisoning or death. The program also helps to protect the water supply and environment from contamination caused by disposal of unused drugs in toilets, drains or the trash.

The DEA reported the following results from the last collection in April 2019:

- Total Collection Sites: 6,258 **(200 in IL)**
- **Total Law Enforcement Participation:** 4,969 **(189 in IL)**
- Total Weight Collected: 937,443 lbs. / 468.72 Tons
(35,590 lbs. / 17.8 tons in IL)

Find more information and resources and search for a nearby collection site at <https://takebackday.dea.gov/>. Although the official take back days occur in the spring and fall, there are authorized collection sites for disposal year-round that can be found [here](#). You can also check with your local law enforcement agency. The [Cook County Sheriff's Prescription Drug Take Back Program](#) alone has a network of over 150 authorized collectors.

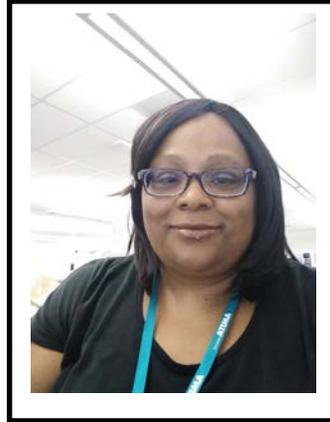
IAMSS Member Spotlight

Name: **Yolanda Hill-Williams**
Employer: **AMITA Health**
Job Title: **Credentialing Manager**
Home Town: **Chicago**
Family Status: **Married**
Birth Place: **Chicago**

How long have you worked in Medical Staff Services? **21 years**
What's something that has surprised you about your chosen career path? **I really enjoyed it, and the constant change.**
How do you describe what you do for a living to family and friends? **I'm making a difference and have an impact on the quality of care for patients; our jobs are important because we screen providers and make sure they have the correct training so they can service our patients.**

Would you jump into the pile of leaves, or worry about what might be hiding in there? **Jump right in**
What is your biggest complaint about your job? **Time management**
What is your favorite fall food or beverage? **Taffy Apples**
What inspires you at your current position? **Growth and building a standard process across AMITA.**

Who would you haunt if you were a ghost? **The City of Chicago**
When you're not working, how do you like to spend your time? **Family gatherings and working on a foundation created in honor of my Mom.**
What's the best advice you've been given as it relates to your career? **It's business and don't take it personal. Keep doing what's right and do your job to the best of your ability.**
What's one thing about you that surprises people? **I'm shy.**
If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be? **Visit Heaven to hug my Mom, but come right back down to earth.**



If you are interested in being in the **IAMSS Member Spotlight**, please contact Maureen Bradley at: mbradley@rushcopley.com



Join us on April 22, 23, & 24
at the Marriott in
Bloomington-Normal
for the
IAMSS 2020 Conference!
(Details in January/February)

National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week
November 3-9, 2019
(see page 5 of this Newsletter for more information)



American Board of Medical Specialties

Higher standards. Better care.®



ABMS Approves New Pediatric Hospital Medicine Subspecialty

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) has officially recognized subspecialty certification for **Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHM)**. **The first exam will be administered November 12 and 13, 2019, and then will fall on odd years in the future.**

“A Pediatrician who specializes in Pediatric Hospital Medicine has expertise in the care of children with a variety of illnesses and medical needs that require hospital care. Pediatric hospitalists provide leadership in the care of pediatric patients throughout the hospital including the pediatric ward, labor and delivery, the newborn nursery, the emergency department, the neonatal intensive care unit, and the pediatric intensive care unit.”

To be eligible, a physician must hold current certification in Pediatrics by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) and meet specific training pathway, practice pathway, or combined fellowship and practice requirements. Read more about Eligibility Criteria for Certification in Pediatric Hospital Medicine (PHP) on the ABP website.

References: <https://www.abp.org/news/abms-approves-pediatric-hospital-medicine-certification> and <https://www.abp.org/content/pediatric-hospital-medicine-certification>

ABMS Guide to Medical Specialties 2019 Edition Available

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) released its 2019 edition of the **ABMS Guide to Medical Specialties**, which provides a comprehensive listing of the specialty certifications offered by the 24 ABMS Member Boards and descriptions of each specialty and subspecialty. Currently, there are **40 specialties and 87 subspecialties** in which ABMS Members Boards offer certificates.

Highlights of the updated [ABMS Guide to Medical Specialties](#) include descriptions for new subspecialties in Neurocritical Care, Micrographic Dermatologic Surgery, and Complex Family Planning. Additionally, new infographics on the basic requirements physicians must meet for initial certification and continuing certification are featured.

For your reference, the **2019 ABMS Guide to Medical Specialties** is available at: <https://www.abms.org/media/194925/abms-guide-to-medical-specialties-2019.pdf>

National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week November 3-9, 2019

In 1992, President George Bush signed Congressional House Joint Resolution #399 **proclaiming the first week in November as National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week**. Since then, NAMSS has partnered with hospitals, managed care organizations, doctor's offices, health systems, and government agencies to promote awareness of the Medical Services Professional (MSP). The NAMSS [Fast Facts on the Medical Services Profession](#) showcases MSPs as the "gatekeepers of patient safety, ensuring quality care through the credentialing and privileging of healthcare providers in an ever-changing industry".

It is up to us to communicate the importance of our profession!

What are your plans to celebrate National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week?

Visit the NAMSS website at:

<http://www.namss.org/About/NationalMedicalStaffServicesAwarenessWeek.aspx>.

Here you will find a "tool kit" for the week, including a video, ideas for celebration, a fact sheet and the NAMSS State of the Profession Report. There are also downloadable items, such as the NAMSS logo, banners and a poster template. These are great resources to get your planning started!

In addition to those found in the [Seven Steps for a Successful Celebration](#) document, here are other ideas to consider:

- Decorate your office area with balloons, streamers, posters, photos, etc. Make yourself visible! Grab attention! Get noticed!
- Hold an open house with refreshments.
- Have a pot luck breakfast or lunch. (Food is always important!)
- Choose a color theme for clothing for each day that week.
- Play a Medical Staff Services trivia game. Form teams if you have a large group.
- Create a word search puzzle with MSP-related words. There are word search puzzle maker tools on the internet you can use.
- Play "What does this acronym mean?" - We are certainly not short on these!
- Award small giveaways for winners of any competition.
- Hold a recognition and appreciation event, acknowledging successes, talents, expertise or contributions of the team or individual team members.

Communicate, Educate, Celebrate!!!

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL STAFF SERVICES

POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

SUBJECT: Rules for the Use of IAMSSvoice

IAMSSvoice - Instructions, Information, Rules and Etiquette

Please read the following for the important things you need to know as a subscriber to IAMSSvoice.

1. **SUBSCRIPTION:** limited to members of the Illinois Association Medical Staff Services with current email addresses on file. Invitations to join will be sent via email and will include the link to the subscription site.
2. **DELIVERY OPTIONS:** there are two, standard and daily digest. With standard delivery, you receive each message sent to the list individually throughout the day, along with any attachments that are posted. With digest delivery, you receive one message a day that contains all the individual messages but do not receive attachments; attachments are available at the groups' Yahoo page. If you wish to review messages only at your convenience and not have any emails sent to you, a third option exists to access the messages via the website. As with the second option, there are no attachments with the message, but attachments may be accessed at the groups' Yahoo page.
3. **MANAGE SUBSCRIPTION:** to manage your subscription including changing your method of delivery: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IAMSSvoice>. To unsubscribe, see the unsubscribe link at the bottom of any message. Never send unsubscribe requests or other commands to the list address.
4. **POST MESSAGE TO LIST:** send your message to email address: IAMSSvoice@yahoogroups.com.
5. **PRIVACY:** subscribers may not sell or distribute the email addresses of the list subscribers.
6. **ADVERTISING:** subscribers may not post advertisements, solicitations of any kind. Posting of other educational or state conferences is also prohibited. Job opportunity advertisement must be sent to the Immediate Past President for review and approval.
7. **SPAM AND USE OF EMAIL ADDRESSES:** no one is allowed to collect or use subscribers' email addresses for purposes of unsolicited email marketing, or "spam."
8. **IDENTIFICATION:** Identification is mandatory. Members must identify yourself and your organization in your messages. An email "signature" is the most convenient way to do this.
9. **ATTACHMENTS:** in lieu of attached files, include text in the body of an email. Attachments (if absolutely necessary) must be relevant and kept to a small file size. Check all attachments before sending and before opening. Because attachments may contain viruses and some viruses may elude built-in virus-checking features, every subscriber should be cautious about opening file attachments. Recipients open attachments at their own risk.
10. **VIRUSES:** are an unfortunate fact of life for anyone who uses email. Email messages and file attachments are frequently used to transmit viruses, often without the sender being aware that their computer is infected. Every subscriber should be alert for the possibility of viruses. Be cautious of all file attachments. Do not open files that are unusual, those you weren't expecting to receive and those from individuals you do not know. Make sure your computer has good, up-to-date virus software. Encourage your organization to install virus protection software on their email server. Subscribers participate in this service at their own risk.
11. **REPLYING:** When replying, reference current compliance standards whenever possible. When replying to a message, we encourage you to reply to the list whenever possible to share your thoughts and keep the discussions active. If you reply only to the original sender, sharing will not occur with the list subscribers.
12. **AUTO-REPLIES AND OUT OF OFFICE MESSAGES:** if you will be away and plan to use an auto-reply or out of office message (also called autoresponder), please change method of delivery (see #2) as a courtesy to other subscribers.

13. **RESPECT OTHER SUBSCRIBERS:** this is a forum for respectful, professional discussion. No personal attacks, or “flames,” are allowed. Similarly, messages must not contain any content that could reasonably be considered abusive, profane, or obscene.
14. **AVOID “ME TOO” MESSAGES:** when you see a message asking for information about a particular subject that you’re interested in, instead of posting a message asking that you receive a copy of the information (such as “me too”), privately ask the initial poster to pass on any private responses s/he may receive.
15. **STAY ON TOPIC:** all posts should be relevant to the scope of this list.
16. **USE A GOOD SUBJECT LINE:** when posting a message, pick Subject line text that concisely describes the topic of your message. Also if you are replying to a message in a digest email, change the subject line to “Re:” and then the subject of the original message. You should also change the subject of your message when the topic of a discussion thread has changed significantly.
17. **QUOTE SMARTLY:** quoting previous messages can help provide context to your reply. Most replies should include the previous messages in the discussion. However, this makes the messages larger and can make the list run slower, so delete previous messages in the thread if they are no longer relevant to the discussion or the thread is very long. If you are replying to a message in a digest email, please remove all other messages from your reply.
18. **INVOLUNTARY REMOVAL:** permanent removal may occur for non-compliance with posted rules.

Approved: 05/21/02

Revised: 10/03; 5/06; 10/06; 11/10;10/13;8/15;9/17