

August 2019

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## President's Message *Tracy McCall, MD*

We're near the end of summer!

Another year has come around and it is again time for our September Town Hall meeting. A number of state legislators are confirmed to join us. Each year, this event brings a whole host of interesting questions, and this year is no exception. With so many things going on politically that affect the practice of medicine, I encourage as many people as possible to attend and discuss our questions, concerns, and successes with our state legislators.

This year, WCMS continued the tradition of sponsoring a medical student in the WMS Foundation Summer Fellowship Program (see article below), and we are happy to have invited our sponsored student to showcase her work with a poster at our Town Hall meeting.

Of course, perhaps the best part of the Town Hall event is the opportunity to socialize with our fellow physicians. Social activity is one thing we can do to help combat the effects of burnout on our lives. Come and enjoy the camaraderie!

Please [contact me](#) anytime through the WCMS office, and thanks for your membership.

~Tracy

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## WCMS Sponsored Esha Afreen through the WMS Foundation Summer Fellowship Program

### State Law Designed to Decrease Postoperative Opioid Prescriptions: Is it Best for the Patient?

*Esha Afreen, MS2; Zachary Colvin, DO; Anna  
Palatnik, MD; Erika Peterson, MD*

Opioid-related deaths have been steadily rising to alarming levels in the United States over the past twenty years. In fact, deaths resulting from opioid overdose accounted for 68% of all drug overdose deaths in 2017. The dangers of overprescribing opioids for pain management include chronic opioid dependence, pill diversion, and accidental ingestion by children due to storage in unsecured locations, further fueling the worsening opioid epidemic <sup>2,3</sup>.

[Read more.](#)

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## Upcoming Events

September 3<sup>rd</sup> - Wisconsin Medical Society Seeks Input on Proposed Governance Change

September 17<sup>th</sup> - WCMS Town Hall Meeting with Local Legislators

The full [list of events](#) is available on the Society's [website](#).

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### Doctor Day 2020: Your Participation Makes a Difference

Doctor Day in Madison includes strong representation by physicians from all specialties and from all regions of the state. The day-long event is a

partnership among physician organizations in Wisconsin, including WCMS, that provides a unique opportunity for physicians from across the state to collaborate and share with policymakers facts and data on timely health care issues.

Since Doctor Day follows the legislative cycle, plans are already underway for Doctor Day 2020, taking place on **Wednesday, January 29, 2020**. Registration is open! Sign up today at [www.WIDoctorDay.org](http://www.WIDoctorDay.org).

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