

U-M president to discuss health insurance ethics

ANN ARBOR, MI - How can the United States tolerate a situation in which nearly 40 million of its people are without health insurance, and as a result are sicker and die sooner than their fellow citizens? Why do the uninsured receive worse health care, even in emergencies, than people with health insurance? And what can be done about this?

University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman will grapple with those ques-

tions and more on Oct. 9, when she gives the seventh annual Raymond W. Waggoner Lecture on Ethics and Values in Medicine at the U-M Health System.

Coleman is no stranger to the issue of the uninsured. For the past year, she has co-chaired a committee for the prestigious Institute of Medicine on this subject. She also holds a professorship in biological chemistry at the U-M Medical School in addition to her role as president.

Her talk, a compilation of three reports from the IOM's Committee on the Consequences of Uninsurance, is titled "Are Without Coverage: Too Little, Too Late. The lecture will be held at 4 p.m. in the Ford Amphitheater on the second floor of the University Hospital at the U-M Health System campus. For more information, contact Ruthann Bertl at 647-8762 or rbertl@umich.edu. The IOM committee evaluat-

ed numerous studies of how lack of insurance affects the health and health care of Americans, and the difference that insurance could make. It concluded that people in late middle age, those with chronic illnesses, lower-income adults and members of racial and ethnic minorities could benefit the most from increased health care coverage. And, it called for insurance strategies that include prevention and screening, not just "rescue" options

for people who are already ill. The Waggoner lectureship is named for the late Dr. Raymond Waggoner, who died in June, 2000 at the age of 98. He was chairman of the U-M Department of Psychiatry for 33 years, from 1937 to 1970. A noted U-M psychiatrist, medical administrator and government advisor who was one of the first to see mental illness as both an emotional and physical problem, Waggoner maintained a strong interest in med-

ical ethics and values throughout his career. The U-M Department of Psychiatry established the lectureship in his honor in 1995. The talk will be preceded by a brief recognition of Waggoner's life and career. After the talk, Coleman will take questions from the audience on topics relating to the U-M Health System and the U-M Life Sciences Initiative, as well as the issues addressed in her talk and report.

PROSTATE

FROM PAGE C4

In contrast to seed implant therapy, prostatectomy involves the removal of the prostate gland during a two-to-three-hour procedure. After the prostate is removed, the bladder and the urethra are reattached.

"For most patients, this is the only treatment they'll ever need, and it's unlikely their cancer will ever recur," says Sanda.

Some of the common side effects of either prostatectomy or seed implants include erectile dysfunction and temporary urinary problems.

The SPIRIT trial won't just use cancer survival rates to determine the most effective cure. Researchers also will use confidential patient surveys to

evaluate patients' quality of life and the presence of side effects after seed implant therapy and surgical removal of the cancer.

"We've come to a juncture where providing quality care goes beyond just curing the cancer," says Sanda. "Now, we want to do more. We want to cure the cancer and know the patient has a high quality of life and an outcome with which he can be happy."

To learn more about research studies conducted at UMHS, contact the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center at 1-800-865-1125.

For more information, visit the following Web sites:

■ UMHS Health Topics A-Z: Prostate Cancer <http://www.med.umich.edu/llbr/cancer/renal04.htm>
■ UMHS Health Topics A-Z: PSA (Prostate-Specific

Antigen) Screening for Prostate Cancer <http://www.med.umich.edu/llbr/cancer/renal04.htm>

■ U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center: Prostate Cancer Home Page <http://www.cancer.med.umich.edu/prostate/prostate.htm>

■ U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center: Patient Education Resource Center <http://www.cancer.med.umich.edu/learn/learn.htm>

■ American Cancer Society: All about Prostate Cancer http://www.cancer.org/epise/main/docroot/CRI/CRI_2x3ait.cfm?L1N=6136

■ National Cancer Institute: Prostate Cancer Home Page http://www.cancer.gov/cancer_information/cancer_type/prostate/

ONGOING

Self-Help groups
Anyone seeking information on a variety of self-help groups may call the Michigan Self-Help Clearing House at (877) 777-5555.

Divorce support
The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College will offer a "Divorce Support Group" 7-9 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Call the WRC at (734) 462-4443.

Fibromyalgia
"Fibro-Friends & More," a support group for sufferers of fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, meets 1 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. Call Tina at (734) 495-0226 or Lucy at (734) 933-8576.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Bereavement
"Together to Share," a grief support group, meets 10 a.m. the first Monday of each month at American House on Middlebelt Road in Livonia. The group meets 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Dorvin Nursing Center on Middlebelt Road in Livonia. Both groups are facilitated by a bereavement coordinator from Heartland Hospice in Southfield. Call (800) 770-9859.

Overeaters Anonymous
Support group for overeaters meets 7 p.m. every Friday at Providence Park-Hovi, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi. Help Line: (313) 439-HELP or (248) 474-9456.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Everyone is welcome to the AA meetings held at noon every Tuesday and Thursday at Providence Medical

Office Center-Novi, 39500 W. 10 Mile Road (at Haggerty), Novi. Call (248) 348-9362. AA meetings also held noon every Wednesday at Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia, 37595 Seven Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 953-1188.

Thyroid cancer
Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc. support group meets 7-8:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Public Library, 223 S. Main Street, downtown Plymouth, in the Gold Room. For more information about the ThyCa SE Michigan Support Group, call Mary Rose at (734) 997-2801 or e-mail: SE-MI@thyca.org. For more information on thyroid cancer and our other free support services, visit www.thyca.org or call toll free (877) 588-7904.

OBSERVER CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK!
Call 800-579-SELL today!!

TAX PROBLEMS?
Never Talk to The IRS.
Talk to Tax Resolution Specialists of Michigan.
We Can Help!
• Offer in Compromise • Remove Liens/Levies
• Penalty Abatement • Audit Representation
• File Old Returns • Innocent Spouse Relief
• Installment Payments • Payroll/Sales Relief
Call (248) 985-HELP (4357) for a FREE consultation, or call our recorded information line Toll Free (866) 775-4TAX (877-4829)
Members of American Society of Tax Problem Solvers
Tax Resolution Specialists of Michigan
Farmington Hills

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860
SURGERY OF THE HAND IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS
You may have seen how the hand looks in someone with advanced rheumatoid arthritis. The fingers are misshapen, the digits are off at an angle to the wrist. Often the fingers are in a flexed and distorted position. The wrist itself loses the capability of movement, so that the hand and wrist are in a frozen position.
You would think that people with such deformities or their doctor would not permit such distortions to go without treatment.
Neither the physician nor the patient are ignorant of what has happened, or indifferent to the effect of the arthritis. However, the hand surgeon may not be aware of several features of rheumatoid arthritis of the hand that determines if a hand surgeon will intervene.
One is that there are large differences between how a hand looks and how it performs. Individuals with grinded fingers may be capable of playing the organ, using a laptop, and may sew or knit for relaxation. Looking at a hand does not tell you how well it works.
Another consideration is bone stock. The digits and bones of the wrist are small bones. Operations that involve placing artificial parts are procedures that the hand surgeon can do only once. When bone stock is used, there is too little left to put in another replacement later. If an artificial joint fails, no substitute will be forthcoming. It may be better to keep going with the joint you have, than to risk further loss of function if a replacement fails.
For the above reasons, hand surgery is never a first choice, always a last resort.
www.drjweiss.yourumid.com

SPOTLIGHT ON:
Orthodontics
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.
VISION OF THE FUTURE
In the future, orthodontic treatment could find itself benefiting from a mix of aerospace engineering and dentistry. Specifically, scientists at Georgia Tech Research Institute have recently developed a "virtual mouth" that can be utilized by orthodontists to accurately calibrate the movement of teeth and help them formulate treatment plans. The virtual mouth represents a collaborative effort between an aerospace engineering team and a dentist who combined their expertise to produce an exact anatomical image of a patient's tooth position. When images from at least three high-resolution X-rays or a computerized tomography (CT) scan are loaded into a computer, specialized software generates a three-dimensional image of a patient's mouth that can be used to design a treatment plan.
The orthodontic field has come a long way, and this generation is benefiting more than any other in the past. For more information about new discoveries and treatment options, call to meet patients in THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, and would be happy to speak with you about your teeth. We use a computer imaging system that helps patients visualize what the end result of orthodontic treatment may look like. Call 442-8885 to set up an appointment. Located at 19850 Middlebelt, we have day and evening appointments available. No referral is necessary. Look for our next article in two weeks.
THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP
19850 Middlebelt • Livonia • (248) 442-8885

Arden Courts.
Absolutely 100% dedicated to Alzheimer's care. (Just like you.)
Individual attention for each resident.
To continue leading meaningful, fulfilling lives, people with Alzheimer's need to maintain their daily routine. That's why we work so hard to understand each resident's particular needs. This way, we can emphasize their remaining strength and allow them to continue doing as much for themselves as possible.
40 years of caregiving experience.
Arden Courts is part of HCR Manor Care, the company that pioneered Alzheimer's care, with a 40-year reputation of helping seniors and their families. We have the expertise and experience to simplify and enhance your loved one's life. And to help you find the peace of mind you deserve.
If you're caring for someone with Alzheimer's chances are you are frustrated and uncertain about what to expect, how to cope and what kind of assistance is available. You're not alone. We can help.
A new kind of assisted living residence.
Arden Courts specializes in caring for people with Alzheimer's. Every detail is designed to make life simpler and more fulfilling for residents - from the secure layout to the meaningful activities to the staff trained in the latest caregiving techniques.
24005 West 15 Mile Rd. Bingham Farms, MI 48025 (248) 644-8100
32500 Seven Mile Rd. Livonia, MI 48152 (248) 426-7055
Arden Courts Alzheimer's Assisted Living
In a room for a personal tour of Arden Courts, call the location nearest you!

Complement your health. 25% off massage therapy*
COMPLEMENTARY & INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE
Henry Ford Health System
Feel free to find yourself - at the new Henry Ford Center for Complementary and Integrative Medicine. It's a healing environment where natural therapies are used to optimize your health. Visit us now and receive 25% off massage therapy* - a deal that will have you feeling great.
For more information call (248) 380-6201 or go online to HenryFord.com/cim.
HENRY FORD MEDICAL CENTER
Novi
40000 West 8 Mile Rd. Northville, MI 48167
Services Include:
ACUPUNCTURE
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE
THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE / REIKI
ST. JOHN'S NEUROMUSCULAR THERAPY
MOVEMENT RE-EDUCATION
HOLISTIC NUTRITION
MIND-BODY THERAPY
SPINAL MANIPULATION
RESTORE YOUR HEALTH
HELPING YOU UNLOCK YOUR BODY, MIND, AND OTHER HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES.
COMMUNITY CLASSES
CALL FOR TERMS AND SCHEDULE
*offer expires 10/31/2002