Health Care Reform Briefing August 10, 2009

Nancy W. Dickey, M.D.

President, Texas A&M Health Science Center

Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, Texas A&M System

Inadequate Primary Care Providers

- Family Medicine
- Pediatrics
- General Internal Medicine
- Nurse Practitioners
- Physician Assistants

Unfilled GME Positions by Specialty Academic Year 2007-2008

• Family Medicine 9,622/10,266 (6.27%)

General IM
 22,284/23,985 (7.09%)

• OB/GYN 4,813/5,041 (4.52%)

Pediatrics
 8,145/8,497 (4.14%)

Non Primary Care 62,987/70,862 (11.11%)

ACGME Data Resource Book



Pediatrician \$203,000

Family physician

With OB \$211,500

Without OB \$200,000

Radiologist \$556,000

Dermatologist \$323,500

Neurosurgeon \$645,000

Why?

- Money
- Lack of Mentoring
- Medical School Recruitment
- Practice Demands
- Additional Challenges for rural and inner city needs

Enhancing Medical School Production of Primary Care Physicians

- Medical school recruitment
- Faculty Mentoring
- Loan Payback
- Opportunities for Training

Medical Home

- The Patient-Centered Medical Home is an approach to providing comprehensive primary care for children, youth and adults. This health care setting facilitates partnerships between individual patients, their physicians, and when appropriate the patient's family.
- The good physician treats the disease; the great physician treats the patient who has the disease.
 William Osler
- What I call a good patient is one who, having found a good physician, sticks to him till he dies.
 Oliver Wendell Holmes

What is in the House Language?

- Loan Repayment (Section 2201, 3401)
- Expanded National Health Service Corp
 - Redefined Service Payback Options (Section 2201)
- Payment (Section 1303,1821, 3131)
- Training (Section 2213, 2241-44)
 - Non-hospital Based (Section 1502, 2214)
 - Transition of Unfilled Primary Care Positions (Sect 1501)
- Interdisciplinary Training Incentives (Section 2251, 2252)
- Medical Homes (Section 1302-03)
- Support for nursing, public health & dental training (Section 2211, 2221, 2231-35, 2213-15)

Special Needs Areas

- Funding for pilot programs to evaluate potential solutions (Section 1301 – Accountable Care Organizations, Section 1302 – Medical Home pilots,
- Extension of the geographic floor for work – effects fees paid for rural areas (Section 1194)
- Comparative effectiveness research (Section 1401)

Bibliography

- Boex JR. et al. Measuring the costs of primary care education in the ambulatory setting. Academic Medicine 2000; 75(5): 419-425.
- Bowman RC. Measuring primary care: the standard primary care year. Rural and Remote Health 8:1009. (Online), 2008.
- Bowman RC. Five periods of health policy and physician career choice. Rural Medical Education. www.ruralmedicaleducation.org

