



SOCIETY OF ACTUARIES

Article from:

# Health Watch

January 2016 – Issue 76

# Chairperson's Corner

By Donna Kalin

**A**s the new Chair of the Health Section Council, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the newly elected Health Section Council members:

**Theresa Bauer** Aetna  
**Julia Lambert** Wakely  
**Michelle Roark** Blue Cross Blue Shield  
North Carolina  
**Troy Holm** Humana

We look forward to their contributions to the Health Section Council for the next three years.

I would like to give special thanks to our outgoing council members. **J. Patrick Kinney** served as the council's chairperson this past year. His leadership was inspirational. **Dewayne Ullsperger** was our liaison to the American Academy of Actuaries and coordinated our sessions at the SOA Annual Meetings for the last two years. **Karl Volkmar** coordinated the SOA Health Meetings for the last two years. **Tom Handley** helped coordinate our Boot Camps and Medical School for Actuaries events. We welcome their continued participation as a "friend" of the Health Section Council.

## 2014 Schedule of Events

We are planning an exciting year of events for the upcoming year. Major meetings to put on your calendars are:

- Payment Reform Seminar: Feb. 24–25, Chicago
- Canada Health Day: TBD (one day) in May, Toronto
- Health Meeting: June 23–25, San Francisco
- Annual Meeting: Oct. 26–29, Orlando
- Boot Camps: TBD in November, likely Phoenix or Las Vegas

For our Canadian members, **Canada Health Day** will debut this year. We will be working with the Canadian Institute of Actuaries in planning this informative day.

Medical School for Actuaries will immediately follow the Health Meeting in San Francisco, so look for that as well if you would like to extend your trip. While not your typical actuarial event, Medical School for Actuaries changes each time and is a great way to learn about the clinical matters underlying health care claims.

The boot camps were a great success this year; they offer access to great speakers and provide a less formal venue for staying on a specific topic for 1.5 to 2 days. We plan to offer even more boot camps next November, so stay tuned. Watch for more information on specific topics, dates and locations. We plan on expanding to nearly twice as many webcasts this year as well.

## Member Survey

Thank you to all who participated in our recent member survey. It has been two years since we last conducted a survey and the responses are very helpful for planning future services to meet the needs of section members.

Some brief highlights of the survey follow:

- Our methods of providing research and educational information are perceived to be generally effective, although there is room for improvement.
- The top five topics members would like to see an increased educational focus on include:
  - The Affordable Care Act's (ACA) impact on commercial pricing and reserving
  - Risk adjustment/risk assessment
  - Trend analysis
  - Accountable care organizations
  - Predictive modeling
- The top five topics members would like to see an increased research focus on include:
  - ACA outcomes
  - The ACA's impact on commercial pricing and reserving
  - Risk adjustment/risk assessment
  - Predictive modeling
  - Trend analysis



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# Health Watch

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To join the section, SOA members and non-members can locate a membership form on the Health Section Web page at <http://www.soa.org/health/>

### 2014 Section Leadership

Donna Kalin, Chairperson  
Andrea Bykerk Christopherson,  
Vice Chairperson  
Troy Holm, Secretary/Treasurer  
Theresa Bauer, Council Member  
Kara Clark, Council Member  
Eric Goetsch, Council Member  
Nancy Hubler, Council Member  
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underlying benefit packages offered in the market. These articles focus on the methodologies used in these calculators and propose potential future improvements to these models.

The edition concludes with a detailed discussion of the Risk Management and Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (RMORSA) Model Act that

was recently approved by the NAIC and is being adopted by legislatures across the country. As highlighted by Eli Russo, Lee Resnick, and Jacky Kwan, the guidelines include establishing an appropriate governing process, developing a methodology to quantify risk, and ensuring adequate capital reserves are in place to support the risk accepted by the organization. ■

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Not surprisingly, these are the same top topics that rose to the top in the survey conducted two years ago. We will continue to provide our members with information regarding these topics in the upcoming year.

There were many comments requesting more dental focused items. As a result, the Health Section Council approved the formation of a **Dental Special Interest Group**. We hope to get this group started by January 2014. This group will be open to all interested members. The group will be a forum for more frequent communication and professional discussion. Information regarding this group should be available soon; look to our e-newsletter and join the listserve.

We were pleased to receive a number of offers from Health Section actuaries to **volunteer** their services in our future work. We are a council of only 12

elected members and about 15 active “friends” to help coordinate activities, so we can use additional help. The more **volunteers** there are to work with us, the more we can accomplish to serve our membership.

If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out the volunteer interest form found on the SOA Health Section website (<http://www.soa.org/professional-interests/health/hlth-detail.aspx>) or contact me at [donna.kalin@milliman.com](mailto:donna.kalin@milliman.com), or contact any member of the Health Section Council. ■