

ISMIE-news



Your Source for News on Medical Liability and Managing Risk

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They're at it Again ...

Lawyer's Courtroom "Shocker" Goes South

Aesop, O. Henry, and Mark Twain were masters at crafting brief tales that illuminated larger truths. But sometimes such short parables spring from real life.

Case in point: In a negligence case involving the severity of

1. "Spruce Up" Your Risk Management Strategies with June Seminars

CME offered

It's that time of year when all sorts of advice is written about gardening — what to pull, prune, snip and clip.

Your risk management strategy may need similar sprucing up, so dig in by attending a live Practice Management Day either on [June 17 in Collinsville](#) or [June 26 in Skokie](#).

This day-long program, designed for policyholders and office staff, will provide the following sessions:

- Establishing a Quality Improvement Program
- Protecting Privacy and Security in Your Practice
- The Do's and Don'ts of E-Communications and Social Media
- Practice Requests: A How-to Guide

There is no cost for ISMIE

electric currents, an expert witness testified that 1.5 volts could not be felt by a human. That's when the cross-examining lawyer [handed the witness a trick pen to hold](#), literally shocking him as a way to (misguidedly) prove him wrong.

Unfortunately, it came to light that the pen in question was tricked out with a transformer that boosted the pen's voltage to up to 750 volts.

Ouch. The presiding judge called the incident "witness battery" and ordered the lawyer to compensate the electrified witness while also restricting the lawyer's future cross-examining privileges.

This small story tells a larger one: There's no place in our legal system for the harmful tactics of all-too crafty lawyers!

policyholders and staff. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

[See all of ISMIE's upcoming learning opportunities](#). Questions? Contact ISMIE's Risk Management Division at 800-782-4767 ext. 3300 or [by email](#).

2. Protect Your Practice While Away for an Extended Period

Whether it's maternity/paternity leave, extended travel, completing a fellowship or an unexpected illness, sometimes *life happens* and you have to be away from your practice.

ISMIE understands, and our suspended coverage is designed to accommodate policyholders when they leave their practice for a period of one to 12 months. When your policy is on suspended coverage, no coverage is afforded for patient care on your part, and your premiums are reduced by 75 percent from the full-time base premium.

Please note: If your absence is due to illness, a letter from your treating physician will be necessary prior to reestablishing coverage for your return to active practice.

For more information or to request this unique coverage, [email](#) the Underwriting Division or call 800-782-4767 ext. 3350. If you utilize an insurance broker, you may also wish to contact him or her.

3. Watch for Your Policy Renewal Paperwork

Summer activities are already ramping up, and if that includes processing your ISMIE policy renewal, watch your snail mail for a large white envelope from ISMIE Mutual. The packet should arrive to you 30 to 60 days prior to your renewal date and will contain policy documents detailing your coverage specifics.

Remember to advise ISMIE of any practices changes as they might affect your policy. Note that your basic policyholder contact information (address, phone, email) can now be updated online - simply [log in](#), click on "Policyholder Information" and amend as necessary.

But if any of the following substantial changes have occurred, [fill out a change request form](#) and fax it to 312-782-2023 immediately. (You may also update your basic contact info via this form.)

- Changes to your practice time or patient volume (full-time, part-time, retired).
- Changes in practice relationships (partners, shareholders, employees or allied health personnel).
- Additions or deletions to your hospital affiliation.
- Your desire to change your policy limits of liability.
- The decision to add or drop medical practice activities

(such as a nursing home practice, medical director or advisor position of a medical or day spa, or practice as a hospitalist).

- The deletion or any additional procedures to your practice (especially procedures not typically performed by physicians practicing within your trained medical specialty).

For questions about your policy renewal, [contact Underwriting](#) or call 800-782-4767 ext. 3350. If you utilize an insurance broker you may also wish to contact him or her.

Let us know how we can make **ISMIE-news** more useful to you.
Please send your comments to e-news@ismie.com.