



Dr. Verma speaks after accepting the Boucher award.



5 things you need to know this week

April 22, 2013

1. NAP Induction Banquet and Awards Ceremony: Optometry Academy Presents James A. Boucher Award of Excellence; NAP Presents Interdisciplinary Group Recognition Award

On April 6th, at NAP's Induction ceremony and Awards Banquet, two prestigious awards were presented.

First, the Optometry Academy presented the **James A Boucher Award of Excellence** to NAP's President-Elect, **Dr. Satya Verma**, for his exemplary contributions to the profession of Optometry, and to the field of healthcare. Dr. Verma has demonstrated excellence in his upholding NAP's mission to advance science and the concept of interprofessional healthcare.



Dr. Rider (center) accepts the Interdisciplinary Group Recognition Award for CEHL, with NAP President John Herbold (left) and Medicine Academy Chair Dr. Brook Longmaid (right).

Then the **Interdisciplinary Group Recognition Award** was given to **Children's Emotional Healthlink (CEHL)**, a group which is dedicated to helping parents and interprofessional healthcare practitioners improve the lives of children, adolescents and their families. CEHL was founded by Medicine Academy member Howard King MD, MPH. Dr. King was unable to attend, but Dr. Elizabeth Rider accepted for the group. More information about Children's Emotional Healthlink [is available here](#).

Congratulations to both Dr. Verma and CEHL. NAP appreciates the work you do to advance the cause of interprofessional healthcare.

2. The Affordable Care Act and the Doctor Shortage: Nurse Practitioners Help Fill the Gaps

[Here you can read](#) an examination of the state of the doctor shortage in New York State, and how nurse practitioners are positioned to help meet the increasing demand for healthcare due to the Affordable Care Act.

3. Communicating with Patients with Mental Health Needs

The Health Affairs blog has a column by Ming Tai-Seale responding to a question about tools and the process for screening for depression. She notes that “about 50 randomized, controlled trials have shown that depression treatment outcomes were improved with collaborative care.” [Read her analysis here.](#)

4. The President’s Budget and Medicare: The Impacts on Beneficiaries and Providers

Kaiser Health News provides an analysis of Obama’s new budget, and the changes that will impact both beneficiaries and providers. Some are plusses, some minuses, but the Administration hopes the changes will “strengthen program financing and encourage beneficiaries to seek high-value health care services.” [Read more here.](#)

5. Individual Health Insurance Policies Could See Substantial Rate Hikes

The Seattle Times has a report on how insurance companies are warning that insurance rates will increase next year from 20 – 100% for millions of people. They note how the limits on increased premiums for the elderly, the elimination of gender-based pricing, among other elements of the ACA all will have an actuarial impact. [Read the story here.](#)

Do you have a submission or suggestion for 5 things? Send to Heather Outhuse at houthuse@napractice.org.



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