



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Gayle Griffith
gayle@iacunato-mclane.com

Judy McLane
judy@iacunato-mclane.com

888-356-6406

**PHYSICIAN'S GROUP NAMES WELLS SHOEMAKER, M.D.,
AS THE ORGANIZATION'S FIRST MEDICAL DIRECTOR**

Los Angeles, Calif., August 3, 2006—The California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG), a professional organization committed to improving health care for Californians, today announced the appointment of Wells Shoemaker, M.D., to the newly created position of medical director. In his new role, Shoemaker will focus on helping CAPG members continually improve the quality of health care services they provide. He will be based at the CAPG headquarters in Los Angeles, California and will report to Donald Crane, CEO and president for CAPG. Shoemaker will assume his role as CAPG's first medical director on August 14, 2006.

"With the opening of our Sacramento office and the addition of our Vice President of Government Affairs last fall, CAPG has greatly expanded its ability to positively influence and impact access, quality and affordability of health care in our state," said Crane. "Adding a medical director to our team and appointing Dr. Shoemaker to this position is another gigantic leap forward for CAPG. Dr. Shoemaker is a proven leader and change agent in health care, and under his direction, our Association will continue to make great strides to improve health care for Californians."

2-2-2-2-2

In his role as medical director, Shoemaker will spearhead the Association's efforts to advance the pay for performance program; facilitate the collection and sharing of best practices including those related to disease management, clinical programs and patient satisfaction; and gather, analyze and interpret research, data and information from a variety of sources and make evidence-based policy recommendations from the findings. Additionally, he will actively explore, review and make recommendations on new technologies that enhance health care delivery.

"Quality, accountability and affordability are the cornerstones of effective health care and the coordinated system of care embraced by CAPG members is the best and only proven way to accomplish these goals," said Shoemaker. "I look forward to working with CAPG members and others to promote a Camelot environment of true collaboration where we all work together to improve health care in California by identifying and implementing evidence-based solutions that move us in the right direction. This is the only way we'll make strides toward maintaining an optimum level of health for all of California's residents."

Shoemaker has been a practicing physician for more than 30 years and is board certified in pediatrics. He has been active in medical administration since 1995 and was the medical director for Physicians Medical Group of Santa Cruz County (IPA) prior to joining CAPG. Shoemaker earned his Bachelor of Arts in engineering from Stanford University in 1968 and his Doctor of Medicine from the Stanford University School of Medicine in 1972. He is also one of a very select group of graduates from the California HealthCare Foundation Healthcare Leadership Fellowship program.

- more -

3-3-3-3-3

About CAPG

The California Association of Physician Groups (CAPG) is a professional association committed to improving health care for Californians. Based in Los Angeles, California, CAPG membership includes 150 of California's leading physician groups that employ or contract with approximately 59,000 physicians who provide health care services to more than 15 million Californians. For more information about CAPG, please visit www.capg.org.

#####