

Gerald Zarlengo, M.D., Named as COPIC's Incoming CEO



Handoffs are an essential part of health care, including those that happen at the executive level. We are proud to announce that Dr. Gerald Zarlengo will take over for Dr. Ted Clarke, COPIC's current CEO, who will step aside in 2019.

"Once you get exposed to all that COPIC does to improve medicine, you have a deeper appreciation for what it represents and how the company is true to its mission," said Dr. Zarlengo. "Our success resides in upholding this mission as we continue to maintain the strong relationships we have with our insureds."

Dr. Zarlengo, a COPIC board member since 2009, was selected as the next CEO after a detailed candidate review process overseen by the Board. Per the company's bylaws, the CEO must be a physician.

Dr. Zarlengo is the founding partner of Midtown Obstetrics & Gynecology in Denver. His background includes roles as the Medical Director of Perinatal Services at Sisters of Charity Leavenworth Health System and Medical Director of Women's and Children's Services at Saint Joseph Hospital. In addition, he is on the Board of the Colorado Physician Health Program, served as an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Colorado

Health Science Center, and is on the board of the Zarlengo Foundation, which supports families with learning disabled children.



A succession plan is underway, and Dr. Clarke's exact departure date is still being determined. When he was appointed to CEO in 2005, Dr. Clarke transitioned from his role as a surgeon and partner at Western Orthopaedics in Denver, where he was for nearly 20 years. During his tenure, COPIC reinforced its role as an industry leader in patient safety and risk management, expanded services into multiple states, and successfully grew the COPIC Medical Foundation to support health care initiatives.

"I am confident that Dr. Zarlengo is the right person to champion COPIC's mission for the years ahead. As our insured partners face new challenges, we are proud to continue to support them and deliver the trusted guidance and unmatched service that COPIC has become known for." —Dr. Clarke

INSIDE



2

COPIC LAUNCHES
UPDATED WEBSITE



3

CNE ACCREDITATION



3

NOW AVAILABLE:
2018 EDUCATION CATALOG
& 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW! COPIC LAUNCHES UPDATED WEBSITE

In late March, COPIC went live with an updated website at www.callcopic.com



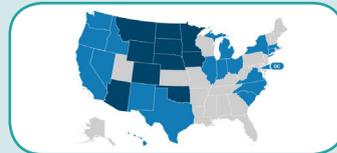
Mobile responsive design that makes it easily accessible on cellphones and tablets.



Downloadable HR resources that include sample HR forms, job descriptions, employment law resources, and more.



A fully searchable archive of COPIC newsletters.



An interactive map to show where COPIC coverage options are available.

A Service Center with a new format and improved functionality to perform tasks such as:

- View and change account information.
- Make a secure online payment.
- Search for certificates and print copies; also view and manage your certificate holders.
- View billing status and history
- View education history, COPIC points balance, and upcoming scheduled activities.

An enhanced Resource Center that provides access to medical guidelines and tools that include:

- Clinical guidelines
- Consent forms
- HIPAA forms
- Practice management resources
- Opioid resources



Feedback? We are committed to giving our customers a great online experience. Please provide us with your comments about what you would like to see on our website. Email rpeacock@copic.com and let us know your thoughts.

CNE ACCREDITATION

In December 2017, COPIC became accredited as a provider of Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) by the American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Accreditation (ANCC). As a provider, COPIC is now authorized to present and award CNE credits for nursing staff education programs.

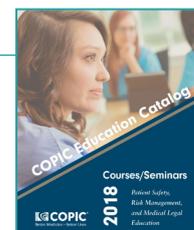
ANCC Accreditation distinguishes organizations that demonstrate quality and excellence in the curriculum design and delivery of CNE. Accredited organizations, like COPIC, meet comprehensive, evidenced-based criteria to ensure CNE activities are effectively planned, implemented and evaluated. Nurses in markets that COPIC serves now gain access to the highest caliber of education to meet certification or licensure requirements, which in turn contributes to improved health care outcomes.



PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE:

2018 COPIC EDUCATION CATALOG

Want to know what seminars and programs COPIC is offering this year? Take a look at our 2018 COPIC Education Catalog—a downloadable PDF that provides a comprehensive list of education activities, descriptions, length of time to complete, associated COPIC points/CME credits, and more.



- ➔ Download a copy at www.callcopic.com/professional-education
- ➔ Interested in scheduling a seminar at your practice or facility? Contact Carmenlita Byrd at cbyrd@copic.com or (720) 858-6131.
- ➔ To view a current listing of upcoming seminars and courses, please go to www.callcopic.com/education.

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Each year, COPIC releases our annual report to highlight accomplishments, keep stakeholders informed, and recognize the support we receive from our partners.



- ➔ This report includes information about the Iowa Medical Society endorsing COPIC as the preferred medical liability insurance provider and how COPIC is helping to address the issue of opioids through education, grant support, and legislative advocacy.
- ➔ An electronic version of the report is now available for download at www.callcopic.com/about-copic/newsroom.
- ➔ To request a hardcopy, please email kkumlin@copic.com.



RECENT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE COPIC MEDICAL FOUNDATION

The COPIC Medical Foundation supports initiatives that improve health care outcomes, patient safety and quality of care. Recent grant funding from the Foundation was provided to the following:

Share Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support—Funding to further expand perinatal bereavement care programs in Colorado and Iowa by presenting an accredited training program for professional caregivers in each state.

Patient and Family Partnership Councils—Funding will be used to subsidize the cost for implementing councils through Citizens for Patient Safety at several COPIC-insured facilities.

Our next deadline to submit an application for grant funding from the COPIC Medical Foundation is August 1. For more information, please visit www.copicfoundation.org



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COPICNEWS

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INSIDE

- 1 GERALD ZARLENGO, MD, NAMED AS COPIC'S INCOMING CEO
- 2 COPIC LAUNCHES UPDATED WEBSITE
- 3 NOW AVAILABLE: 2018 EDUCATION CATALOG AND 2017 ANNUAL REPORT
- 3 CNE ACCREDITATION

Did you miss a previous edition of COPIC newsletters? Don't worry. A full archive of past newsletters can be accessed on callcopic.com.

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THE LEGISLATIVE LANDSCAPE

ADDRESSING A PUBLIC EPIDEMIC AND PURSUING TRANSPARENCY

The Second Regular Session of Colorado’s 71st General Assembly adjourns on May 9th. It has been a busy session addressing many issues including funding for transportation and the Public Employees Retirement Association. Legislators demonstrated that they can push aside partisan differences to tackle difficult issues, however, those divides surfaced with certain spending and social issues as each party remained committed to their own principles. Many health care-related bills have been debated this year, and we want to highlight a few:



SENATE BILL

22

Aims to limit health care practitioners’ opioid prescriptions to seven days for an initial prescription, with certain exceptions, and require health care practitioners to query the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program before prescribing the first refill from their initial prescription (except under specified circumstances).



SENATE BILL

146

Aims to establish a requirement that a freestanding emergency department inform a person who is seeking medical treatment about the health care options that are available to that person. *Sent to Gov. Hickenlooper on 4/18.*



SENATE BILL

82

Aims to protect a physician’s right to provide continuing care to patients with rare disorders despite a covenant not to compete. *Signed by Gov. Hickenlooper on 4/2.*



HOUSE BILL

1207

Attempts to establish hospital transparency measures to analyze the efficacy of hospital delivery system reform incentive payments.

COPIC will continue to monitor the progress of these bills, and any resulting implementation of statutes, as we work with our partners. Other bills that are not expected to pass include a bill aimed at creating a statewide system of advance directives, two bills that aimed to create transparency around arbitration, and a bill that aimed to require electronic prescribing for controlled substances.

As always, COPIC is focused on preserving medical liability reforms and patient safety protections that have benefited Colorado. These include the cap on non-economic damages in medical liability lawsuit judgments established within the Health Care Availability Act. Additionally, we will be paying close attention to bills that may add unreasonable burdens on physicians and hospitals, or negatively impact patient safety in the delivery of care or impede access to quality health care.

We will continue to monitor policy and work with our partners at the Colorado Medical Society and Colorado Hospital Association. COPIC remains dedicated to improving medicine in the communities we serve and seeking out ways to change the status quo on medical professional liability so that it better serves all parties.

To learn more about COPIC’s legislative and policy engagement efforts, contact Beverly Razon, Vice President of Public Affairs, at (720) 858-6056 or brazon@copic.com.

For information on legislation or to find your candidate, visit us at www.callcopic.com and go to the Legislative Action Center link under the Resource Center section.

2017 COPIC Humanitarian Award—Dr. Carl Bartecchi

In 1970, Dr. Carl Bartecchi arrived in Pueblo, Colorado with two other physicians to establish the Southern Colorado Clinic. Since then, Dr. Bartecchi has displayed a selfless dedication to improving health care. For this, and many other reasons, he was chosen as the recipient of the 2017 COPIC Humanitarian Award in honor of Harold E. Williamson.



One of Dr. Bartecchi's accomplishments was founding the health care clinic at Los Pobres Center in Avondale in 2005. The Center helps migrant farm workers and their families with a broad range of services, including health care, through the generosity of volunteers and donations.

Dr. Bartecchi was also the lead investigator/organizer of the Pueblo Heart Study, which illustrated the decline in myocardial infarction admissions when secondhand smoke was eliminated from public areas in 2003. The study provided science-based evidence for the Pueblo Smoke-Free public health campaigns.

Additionally, he authors a weekly "Ask Dr. Bartecchi" column for the *Pueblo Chieftain*, has co-authored three books about the medical benefits of healthy lifestyle choices, serves as a Distinguished Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and established the Carl and Kay Bartecchi Special Collections Reading Area of the Health Sciences Library on the Anschutz Medical Campus.

The Humanitarian Award recognizes a physician going above the call of duty in the Colorado health care community. Dr. Bartecchi chose the clinic at Los Pobres Center as the beneficiary of the \$10,000 grant associated with the Award. In March 2018, Dr. Bartecchi was recognized at the state capitol, where he was welcomed and introduced before the Colorado General Assembly. He was accompanied by his wife along with Sister Nancy Crafton, the Director of Los Pobres Center.

COPIC would like to recognize and thank those who were part of the impressive group of nominees for the award:

- ★ Lynn Philip Beaulieu, M.D.; Colorado Springs
- ★ Joshua Blum, M.D.; Denver
- ★ Robert Gibbs, M.D.; Monument
- ★ Donald Stader III, M.D.; Morrison
- ★ John Tarr, M.D.; Gunnison
- ★ Barbara Troy, M.D.; Alamosa

PRACTICE ADMINISTRATOR MEETINGS 2018

Join COPIC for our next practice administrator meeting to connect with other practice staff and learn about timely topics. The meetings are hosted at COPIC's Denver office from 11:30am-1pm (MDT) with lunch provided.

- **WEDNESDAY, JULY 18**

Treating Minors/the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP); COPIC Legal Dept.

- **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

Ageism in the Workplace; COPIC Human Resources Dept.



Can't make it in person?

Call and connect through our video conferencing services to watch and participate remotely. Please contact Diane Laff at (720) 858-6165 or dlaff@copic.com for more information.



NOMINATE A COLORADO PHYSICIAN FOR THE COPIC HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Do you know a Colorado physician who deserves to be recognized for going beyond the scope of their practice to improve lives in his or her community? If so, please consider nominating him or her for our annual COPIC Humanitarian Award. **Nominations are being accepted May 1 through August 31, 2018.** The award provides a \$10,000 grant to be given to a Colorado health care-related nonprofit organization of the recipient's choice.

To nominate a physician, visit COPIC Medical Foundation at www.copicfoundation.org and select "COPIC Humanitarian Award," or email Kathy Brown at kbrown@copic.com.



THE LEGISLATIVE LANDSCAPE

THE SHORT-SESSION HAS ADJOURNED

Nebraska's Second Regular Session of the 105th Unicameral adjourned on April 18th. Of the 469 bills introduced and the 440 bills that carried over from the 2017 session, 141 were passed into law with Governor Pete Ricketts' signature. An additional 67 bills were amended into other bills that passed. The Legislature killed 10 bills and withdrew seven others. The Governor vetoed four bills that the Legislature passed.

Many health care-related bills were passed this session. Those of note include:

-  A bill that reduces the requirement for proof of graduate medical education from three years to two years for foreign medical school graduates.
-  A bill that allows patients with an advanced illness to use a drug that has completed phase one of clinical trials.
-  A bill that creates the process for establishing a surrogate to make health care decisions for patients if the patient has been determined by the primary physician to lack capacity and no agent or guardian has been appointed.
-  A bill that requires licensed practitioners or health care facilities to advise the patient of a nonviable birth that she may request a certificate; if requested, the patient must be provided a letter certifying the nonviable birth.
-  A bill that aims to reduce opioid abuse and overdose. Among other things, it requires:
 - 7-day supply limits for opiate prescriptions for minors.
 - Practitioners to direct patient education upon prescribing certain controlled substances.
 - Patients to present identification prior to receipt of dispensed opiates.
 - Prescribers to obtain 3 hours of opioid-related CME every two years.

Other bills that did not make it out of the legislature this year include a bill that would have increased licensing fees by \$10 per year to fund the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety, a bill that aimed to require five hours of biennial continuing education regarding prescription opiates, a bill aimed at creating prescription drug price transparency, and a bill attempting to amend the physician assistants' and nurse practitioners' scope-of-practice statutes to allow them to render expert opinions on matters within their scope.



After adjournment and before the Legislature convenes again in January of 2019, the Legislature will study various issues and release reports and recommendations for further action. Legislators will also be heading home to their districts as many will work toward re-election this November.

In addition to monitoring these study committees and meeting with candidates ahead of elections, COPIC will also follow the efforts of the state's agencies whose work has just begun, to establish rules and policies to enact those bills that have become law. COPIC will work with our partners at the Nebraska Medical Association to keep you apprised of requirements and any changes that may impact your practice.

Bills passed this year will become law on July 19th (three months after adjournment) unless the bill otherwise specifies an effective date or the bill contains an emergency clause. A bill with an emergency clause becomes law the day after it is signed by the Governor.

To learn more about COPIC's legislative and policy engagement efforts, contact Beverly Razon, Vice President of Public Affairs, at (720) 858-6056 or brazon@copic.com.

For information on legislation or to find your candidate, visit us at www.callcopic.com and go to the Legislative Action Center link under the Resource Center section.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE **2018 Symposium** AND MADE IT A GREAT EVENT!



This annual event is dedicated to empowering our insureds and their staff with evidence-based best practices as reported by state and national trends. We hope participants use the educational information and tools to improve patient safety and mitigate risk in their practice settings.

We are proud to have had more than 200 people participate in the 2018 Symposium which included the following seminar topics:

- ✓ Current issues with patient safety
- ✓ Potential risks with systems and processes in the clinical setting
- ✓ Medication management with a focus on opioids
- ✓ Embracing social technology in health care
- ✓ Dealing with diverse patient populations and legal requirements

SAVE THE DATE 2019 Symposium

The 2019 Patient Safety and Risk Management Symposium will take place April 25 & 26, 2019. Be sure to mark your calendar so you can arrange to attend this valuable event.

COPIC's HR HOTLINE

Expert Advice is Just a Phone Call Away

Are you aware of recent changes in HR-related laws that impact how you hire, manage, and terminate employees? Are you looking for an HR expert to use as a sounding board for a tough decision you are facing?

COPIC's HR Hotline connects you with our HR experts who can help resolve employment-related issues. In addition, we can help identify outside resources to handle complex employment law situations. The HR Hotline is available during regular business hours, 8:30am-5pm (Mountain time), Monday through Friday by calling:

(844) 208-4680

NOMINATE A NEBRASKA PHYSICIAN FOR THE COPIC HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Each year, COPIC honors a Nebraska physician for his or her volunteer medical services and contributions to the community outside of their day-to-day lives. Please nominate a worthy candidate for this award.

The recipient of the award receives a \$10,000 grant from the COPIC Medical Foundation to be provided to a 501(c)(3) organization of the recipient's choosing (on his or her behalf) to fund ongoing efforts to deliver and/or improve health care. We established this award in remembrance of Harold E. "Hal" Williamson. His encouragement and active participation led to the establishment of the COPIC Medical Foundation.

The nomination deadline for this year's award is **May 30**. Visit www.copicfoundation.org to download a nomination form, or email Kathy Brown at kbrown@copic.com for more information.