

Member Interest Groups

Member Interest Groups (MIG) provide an avenue for IAFP members across all levels (active, life, resident and student) to connect and collaborate on a topic of interest or situation of common ground. Think of it as a club, rather than a committee. Only IAFP members may join Member Interest Groups. IAFP approved MIGs will have the opportunity to meet face to face at IAFP's annual meeting, or at other IAFP sponsored events to be determined. MIGs may be formed based on geographic region or a special interest. The bylaws, rules and/or regulations of such groups shall be subject to the approval of the IAFP Board of Directors and shall be consistent with the [Bylaws of the Academy](#) and AAFP. MIGs must have a purpose that connects to the IAFP [strategic plan](#). Each MIG is also required to develop SMART goals and submit updates regularly to the Board.

[Login to your profile](#) and then you can join any MIG by subscribing to the corresponding E-list. Simply hover over "My Features" and click "E-lists." You can subscribe by switching the E-list to "On" to subscribe and "On" for e-mail delivery so that new messages come directly to your inbox. If your preferred MIG doesn't have an e-list to join, please contact the staff person assigned to the MIG for assistance.

You may also want to [investigate the many member interest groups offered by AAFP.](#)

IAFP Member Interest Groups

[Women in Leadership Interest Group](#) Co-Chaired by Janice Benson, MD and Emma Daisy, MD
([Gordana Krkic](#), CAE - staff)

Support family physician women leaders in Illinois through mentoring and discussion groups, both in face-to-face meetings and virtually.

Direct Primary Care Interest Group - Chaired by Deborah Chisholm, MD - *Note: AAFP also has an MIG on this topic)*

[Vincent D. Keenan](#), CAE - staff

Are you in a Direct Primary Care (DPC) model or interested in learning more about them?
(Note: AAFP has an existing member interest group on this topic)

FPs in FQHCs (Federally Qualified Health Centers) Chaired by Mara Divis, DO - [Ginnie Flynn](#)

, Staff

Open to all members who are employed by FQHCs or interested in working in this setting.
Provides a forum for identifying issues of concern to FPs in FQHCs.

[Reproductive Health Care](#) -Chaired by Kristina Dakis, MD and Tabatha Wells, MD - [Sara Ortega](#)

, Staff

(Note: AAFP has an existing member interest group on this topic).

This MIG has the following goals

- 1) providing comprehensive reproductive health and maternity care services and incorporating these services into their practices
- 2) advocating for patient access to comprehensive, evidence-based reproductive health and maternity care in Illinois
- 3) mentorship of Illinois medical students and residents interested in careers caring for women and their children

[Food is Medicine](#) - [Kate Valentine](#) Staff - Access to healthy foods, nutritive value awareness, and meal preparation education are just some of the challenges facing people with complex health problems. Join us as we explore the Food is Medicine movement through:

- support of patients with limited access to healthy foods through clinic-based food pantries
- education for health care professionals about the role of food in medicine
- support for ourselves as busy professionals with healthy food choices

Objectives

1. Share best practices and challenges among medical clinics that have a food pantry or are associated with a food pantry.
2. Educate family physicians about the role of food in medicine through sharing information on conferences and other educational opportunities
3. Host events that include tips on healthy meal preparation for busy professionals and their

families

Learn more about existing food pantries powered by family medicine residencies

[UI-Pilsen in Chicago](#)

SIU Center for Family Medicine clinic food pantries – [State Journal-Register story](#)
[West Suburban “Eat and Be Well” food pantry video](#)

Urgent Care - Katie Raschka, MD - Chair - [Jennifer O'Leary](#) , Staff

Objective: Provide support to family physicians who practice or wish to practice in urgent care settings by the following activities:

- Provide monthly discussions on-line or via teleconference/web on the following topics:

Is your practice fully or partially Urgent Care?

What challenges and opportunities are you facing in your practice?

Managing volumes?

Expanding your procedural skill set?

Personal leadership development?

- Coordinate our state MIG activities with those of the AAFP Emergency Medicine/Urgent Care MIG and recruit Illinois AAFP members on the AAFP MIG to the Illinois MIG
- Assist the IAFP in membership recruitment and retention of family physicians who practice in an urgent care setting

Geriatrics- [Eukesh Ranjit, MD, Chair](#) and [Raj Shah, MD, Vice Chair](#). Staffed by [Vince Keenan](#)

There are 2.7 million adults over the age of 60 in Illinois, who make up about 21.9 percent of the current population. Per US Census projection, the percentage of adults over 60 in Illinois is expected to grow from 17.4 in 2012 to 22.3 by 2030. Currently, there are 4,545 family physicians and 227 geriatricians in Illinois. With this growth, the panel of older adults in most primary care settings is likely to grow more in future. The growth in the older adult population

provides a wonderful opportunity for both primary care providers and providers with added qualification in geriatric medicine to enhance our roles in serving our community better.

Current planned areas of engagement of Geriatrics MIG include:

- Advise IAFP on legislation in the Illinois General Assembly on geriatrics
- Provide annual CME webinar on geriatric topics for IAFP members
- Share best practices and challenges to family physicians who provide service to older adults
- Create a statewide network of family physicians interested in geriatrics.
- Offer learning opportunities for trainees (Medical Students, Residents, Fellows)

Some starting ideas include:

- Creating a Geriatrics delegate team for White Coat day at the Illinois State Capitol
- Presenting at least one CME webinar per year
- With COVID-19 resurgence looming in horizon and Long Term Care centers likely being epicenter of this resurgence, creating a peer-to-peer interaction network for family physicians working in Nursing Homes and LTCs
 - Creating internet-based contents for network and education (short Youtube videos, Instagram, Facebook posts)
 - Geriatrics Workshop for residents/medical students/fellows in IAFP annual meetings

How does a member interest group work?

- A staff coordinator is appointed to assist the MIG with logistics.
- All MIG members will need to subscribe to the designated email list (you can do this via www.iafp.com and [log into your profile](#))
- The MIG is not board-directed, but self-directed
- The MIG may request funding from the IAFP Board of Directors for specific activities.
- The MIG shall report to the IAFP Board of Directors twice annually
- The MIG may suggest policy and programming recommendations directly to the IAFP Board of Directors for consideration.
 - The IAFP Board of Directors can vote to dissolve a MIG for not submitting reports or lack of participation (less than 10 IAFP members).
 - The IAFP Board of Directors cannot consolidate or dissolve MIGs for any other reason.
 - Those MIGs requesting to be consolidated with another MIG must be approved by the IAFP board prior to being consolidated.

How can I start up a new MIG?

Proposals to create a MIG must be submitted to the IAFP Board of Directors for consideration at one of its four meetings each year.

The board uses the following criteria when reviewing a MIG application

- Focus is consistent with the IAFP's definition of a MIG (i.e. Forum of IAFP Active Members who have shared professional interests).
- Furthers the IAFPs [strategic objectives](#) .
- Does not duplicate groups represented by the current Board-appointed committees and task forces. Membership is limited to Illinois members, but MIG members should not be employed by a single entity (for example Advocate Medical Group family physicians).
- Does not duplicate categories that currently exist.
- Does not substantially overlap the goals or objectives of any existing MIG.
- Conflicts of interest for the MIG officers have been disclosed and there are no significant conflicts.

How do we move from a proposed MIG to an official MIG?

1. A proposed MIG must have ten (10) or more IAFP Active members signify their desire to join the MIG. The application must be submitted to the IAFP Board of Directors and approved at one of the four board meetings each year. [Click here](#) to see the schedule of board meetings.

2. Each MIG must annually identify a chair and vice chair and identify those leaders to IAFPs Executive Vice President, [Vince Keenan](#) .

3. All members of the MIG need to submit a conflict of interest/disclosure form to the IAFP staff coordinator.

What do I need to do next? [Use this form](#) to submit your idea for a Proposed Member Interest Group

MIGs

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