

2024 Annual Meeting: Memories of MetroCare

After brief network business updates, Dr. Carter Towne, Bill Breen, and Donna Abney reminisced about the founding of MetroCare and HealthChoice and their relationships with MLH with attendees that included Dr. Jim West, Maurice Elliot, Gary Shorb, Chuck Utterback, and the daughters of Dr. Richard Raines.

Dr. Towne spoke of the early days and the pivotal role of Dr. Raines in founding MetroCare. Donna Abney spoke of the importance of the contracting work of MetroCare Physicians for LeBonheur and Methodist and area physicians, and Bill Breen spoke about the beginnings of HealthChoice as a healthcare contracting entity.

In the early 2000s, MetroCare and HealthChoice, along with Methodist Le Bonheur hospitals, grew our network to hold the contracts for 72% of the entire commercial book of business in the Memphis area. [Click here for details/photos](#)

Dr. Towne Retires from MetroCare Board

From the start of his gastroenterology career, Dr. Carter Towne assumed teaching duties at UTHSC and took part in the early development of MetroCare. He has served on the MetroCare board of directors since 1987 and chaired it for over twenty years, as well as serving on the HealthChoice board, functioning there at times as interim CEO.

Additionally, Dr. Towne served on the board of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare for 14 years, allowing him to build valuable relationships and important channels of information for both the hospital and area physicians, bolstering the role of MetroCare and HealthChoice in healthcare for our area.

For the last four years, Dr. Towne has been even more hands on with the work at MetroCare, incorporating the duties of a medical director with his board chair responsibilities. We appreciate and honor his long service and wish him well in his new life.



NEW CIGNA EVICORE PRECERT PROCESS EFFECTIVE NOV 1

*Spine Surgery and related procedures added to musculoskeletal precert program [click here](#)

*Cardiac and Vascular Intervention Precert now to be managed by Evicore [click here](#)

*Molecular Laboratory Testing Program now to be managed by Evicore [click here](#)

Board Election Results

Six board positions were filled for three year terms beginning January 1, 2025, by three primary care physicians and three specialists.

C. Christopher Hanson, MD, Pediatrics
Jason Williams, MD, OB-GYN
Catherine Womack, MD, Internal Medicine
Ravi Chauhan, MD, Urology
Bryan Thompson, MD, Gastroenterology
Andrew Wodowski, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery

Returning board members with continuing terms:

Matt Ballo MD
Schorr Behnke MD
Brian Borkowski MD
John Buttross MD
Charles L. Carter MD
B. Todd Chappell MD

Matthew S. Fields MD
Kimberly Freeman MD
Dale Hansen, III MD
Randall Huling MD
Jimmie Mancell MD
Mark P. Miller MD

In Case you Missed It: Important Coding Topics Repeated

Nov 15: 9 AM GI Coding

1 PM Coding Cardiology

Nov 22: 9 AM Coding ObGyn

1 PM Coding Musculoskeletal

NOV 13 and 20 12:15 PM: One Hour on Modifier 25

December 6 and 13: CPT 2024 Updates 9AM and 1PM

SVMIC Monthly Lunchtime Webinars

Practice management experts give these excellent monthly presentations from a risk management perspective.

DEC 5: Coping with difficult Coworkers

2025 CODING BOOT CAMP

Fridays in January

Jan 10: 9AM Basic Medical Terminology

1 PM Adv Terminology and Anatomy

Jan 17: ICD 10 with Official Coding Guidelines

Jan 24: CPT/HCPCS Coding and Modifiers

Jan 31: Review and Test Taking Tips

[click here for more info/rsvp](#)

We Are Here to Assist You

A dedicated team of professionals is committed to assuring MetroCare physicians have the tools and resources to achieve success with the changes required by transition to value-based healthcare.

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Education/Event Calendar



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