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NSMA and CCMS Past President Selected for Prestigious National Health Policy Fellowship

Ronald M. Kline, MD, FAAP named one of six 2013–2014 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows

[Las Vegas, Nevada]—For millions of people across the United States, health and well being depends on policy decisions made at the Federal level. Ronald M. Kline, M.D., former President of both the Nevada State Medical Association and the Clark County Medical Society and current Nevada Alternate Delegate to the American Medical Association, will bring his expertise in treating childhood cancer and advocating for physicians and their patients to Capitol Hill and the Executive Branch as a 2013–2014 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow. He will gain front-line experience in federal health policy-making and become part of the program’s 40-year legacy as the most prestigious learning experience at the nexus of health science, policy, and politics.

Dr. Kline was chosen through a competitive selection process and will join five other exceptional health professionals for a one-year fellowship in the nation’s capital. The fellows hold a range of expertise in fields spanning nutrition science to oncology and will utilize their academic, public health, clinical, and community-based experience to support the formation of health policy on Capitol Hill. A three-month orientation program is followed by a nine-month assignment in which fellows work in either a congressional office or the executive branch. This experience is enhanced by leadership development activities and media training provided throughout the year.

“The real-world health and health care leadership experiences of our fellows provide a critical perspective to major health policy decisions, and will be invaluable as the country strives to transform health care,” said Marie Michnich, DrPH, director and alumna of the *RWJF Health Policy Fellows* program. “While working with key players on Capitol Hill, our fellows gain an insider’s view of the political process, critical leadership skills, and a professional network that lasts a lifetime.”

“Dr. Kline represents the best in the profession of medicine. He is a skilled and respected pediatric hematologist/oncologist who has contributed significant time to public policy issues, including most recently as a member of the board of the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange,” said David E. Hald, M.D., Nevada State Medical Association President. “The experience and skills that Dr. Kline will add through this experience in the RWJF Policy Fellowship will surely benefit the profession of medicine.”

Dr. Kline has practiced pediatric hematology/oncology in Las Vegas since 2001 and has been the medical director of the Pediatric Division of Comprehensive Cancer Centers of Nevada since 2006.

The *RWJF Health Policy Fellows* is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with direction and technical assistance provided by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. Additional information about the *RWJF Health Policy Fellows* can be found at www.healthpolicyfellows.org.

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The Nevada State Medical Association (<http://www.nsmadocs.org>) and the Clark County Medical Society (<http://www.clarkcountymedical.org/index.html>) represent the physicians and medical students in the State of Nevada and Nevada's largest County. The NSMA is Nevada's largest and oldest physician advocacy organization, representing over 2,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Reno and Las Vegas and has 6 component County Medical Societies, including the Clark County Medical Society, around the State. NSMA's key objective since 1875 is to improve the health of all Nevadans.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, measurable, and timely change. For more than 40 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.