

WITHOUT TMA, YOU'RE MISSING OUT

CHERYL LYNN HURD, MD

Academic Physician, *TMA Member since 2001*

Psychiatrist Cheryl Hurd, MD, served in academic medicine as a preceptor and mentor for 15 years. Now she is an academic coach for medical students at the Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth and is a group practice physician in Weatherford. She trained residents at John Peter Smith Hospital. Prior to her academic medicine days, she ran a solo practice in Brownwood.

Regardless of where she has practiced, she always rooted herself in organized medicine.

With Me Throughout My Career

"I'll never give up my TMA membership," said Dr. Hurd. "From the beginning, once I got out of residency training and went into practice, TMA has been there for me."

"It was finding a connection to others, meeting other people," she recalls. "Meeting people in my discipline, then getting connected through our specialty society – but I met them through TMA."

She is also immersed in TMA's Physician Health and Rehabilitation Committee (now Physician Health and Wellness, or PHW) as a member and consultant.

She even protected her solo practice in her early years with liability insurance through Texas Medical Liability Trust – a TMA member benefit.

And she became active in her county medical society. "Somehow they finagled me into ... becoming president," she said. She invited physician health and wellness

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speakers to her county society meetings.

TMA professional connections even led to new employment twice in her career.

"Everything I did was through TMA," said Dr. Hurd.

Trumpeting TMA

After more than 10 years with TMA's PHW Committee, she's now the speaker who presents at county meetings about avoiding physician burnout.

She also challenges any hesitant colleagues to join TMA and get involved.

"Academic physicians must advocate for patients and our profession," she said. TMA provides that opportunity, and more. She believes representing organized medicine at TMA's First Tuesdays at the Capitol is a great way to defend the medical profession.

Her message to non-TMA members is direct.

"My first words out of my mouth would probably be, 'Oh man, you're missing out,'" Dr. Hurd said. The opportunities abound."



TMA SUPPORTS YOUR ROLE IN PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PHYSICIANS.

- **Advocacy:** Working to ensure Texas medical schools, residency programs, and academic health centers have resources for high-quality teaching, patient care, and research
- **Leadership:** Building your leadership skills – and CV – for promotion
- Protecting and encouraging **public health**
- **Employment:** Offering job opportunities and resources in the Career Center
- **Security:** Providing access to life and disability products to supplement your employment offerings via TMA Insurance Trust
- Making a **positive impact** in your community with TMA's free outreach programs like Walk With a Doc, Texas Bookshare, and Hard Hats for Little Heads