

# Taconic **TALK**

From the Taconic IPA.  
Exclusive physician network for **MVP**.

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## Taconic IPA Committees & Committee Chairmen

*Credentialing Committee*  
Imtiaz Mallick, M.D.  
meets on the first Tuesday  
of the month at 7:30 AM

*Finance Committee*  
David R. Field, C.P.A.  
meets quarterly on the third  
Thursday of the month  
at 6:00 PM

*Medical Council Committee*  
Michael D. Freedman, M.D.  
meets on the fourth Thursday  
of the month at 6:30 PM

*Peer Review Committee*  
James Wise, M.D.  
meets on the first Thursday  
every other month at 6:00 PM

## TACONIC OFFICE INFO

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## A. JOHN BLAIR, III, M.D. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



As I did in the last *Taconic Talk*, I will summarize developments in Taconic IPA, THINC RHIO, Inc. and MedAllies.

### Taconic IPA

As mentioned in the November 2005 issue of *Taconic Talk*, the IPA is assisting eligible physicians in achieving NCQA recognition. The IPA is covering the NCQA charges to physicians and the IPA representatives are assisting practices in submitting materials. We will be reporting physicians who have been recognized since the last *Taconic Talk* along with the total number recognized in the IPA. The process of NCQA recognition is extensive. Currently, we have six groups representing over 100 physicians going through the process. We hope to be able to name some or all of those groups in the next issue. Any group receiving recognition deserves mention because of the amount of work required to obtain the prestigious award. Any offices interested in participating in the NCQA recognition program should contact Jennie Youmans at (845) 897-6363.

### THINC RHIO, Inc.

Currently, the costs of Electronic Health Records (EHR) and interoperability are born primarily by providers (physicians and hospitals) while employers and health plans derive the most financial benefit. This misalignment of incentives creates the greatest barrier for widespread EHR adoption (Health Affairs 24, no.5 (2005)). The Taconic Health Information Network and Community (THINC) was formed approximately two years ago as a large multi-stakeholder collaborative to address the misalignment of incentives for health care technology. While the collaborative has been working on incentive programs, the stakeholder group has significantly expanded to represent all stakeholders in the health care community including: physicians, hospitals, payers, employers, federal agencies, state agencies and multiple trade associations.

As mentioned in the last *Taconic Talk*, the collaborative was a non-formal affiliation. In late 2005, the THINC collaborative became incorporated as a New York State, not-for-profit called THINC RHIO, Inc. The board represents the entire healthcare stakeholder community with physician, hospital, consumer, safety-net provider, business and public health members. The mission of the organization is to realize the value (quality improvement, cost savings, error reduction) promised from the adoption of interoperable EHRs and to create options for transforming our health care financing system through a nationwide health information network (NHIN) enabled quality framework that measures and pays for clinical outcomes. THINC's committees are Consumer and Privacy, Clinical and Quality, Technology and Security, Public Health and Financial Oversight.

## MedAllies

### E-Prescribing

The e-Prescribing licenses have all been used at this time. If we are able to obtain additional licenses for physicians, we will make an announcement in this publication.

### Electronic Health Records

MedAllies will continue to implement electronic health record (EHR) applications in physician practices. **Please note: MedAllies supports individual practitioners as well as physician groups — regardless of group size.** MedAllies also provides practice management/EHR integrated software for those practices looking to change from their current practice management system. The software runs both systems from one database, eliminating the need for interfacing. Practices interested in an EHR application can contact Dianne Koval, Project Manager, MedAllies at **(845) 298-8360** or **dkoval@medallies.com**.





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