



Doc-Net



What is Doc-Net?

Doc-Net is an e-mail discussion group, open to any licensed New Mexico physician. It is supported by the *New Mexico Medical Society*, but NMMS membership is not required for participation. Doc-Net has been incredibly successful, now numbering nearly 600 active participants, and growing daily.

Why Should I Participate?

There is great power in numbers. In the current competitive environment, our medical community has become increasingly splintered, and often at odds with itself. Doc-Net has demonstrated that by maintaining open lines of instant communication that reach to all parts of our medical community, that we can bring ourselves together, articulate our common goals, keep each other informed, and even speak with a united voice when the situation warrants. Doc-Net has proven itself to be an incredibly powerful tool. Because it is e-mail, not “chat”, you do it on your own time.

What Kinds of Topics have been Discussed?

Topics have been wide-ranging. Here’s a small sample; this list is always changing:

- Legislative reports and alerts from NMMS.
- ¡Salud! program: problems and fixes (some of our ideas have been implemented!)
- Managed care, payment models, physician contracting, etc.
- Physicians leaving New Mexico, shortages of specific specialties, rural vs urban issues.
- How can we best organize ourselves?
- Development of a statewide medical information system.
- Alternative and complementary medicine.
- Clinical issues: new medications and treatments, medical topics of general interest.
- Social issues: abortion, adoption, domestic violence, smoking, doctor humor...

What Does Doc-Net Cost? Do I need special equipment?

There is no cost to participate, other than any cost you might have to obtain access to e-mail. (You can get free e-mail from Physicians Online). You need no special equipment – you only need an e-mail address, on whatever system you’d like.

Can I get a computer virus from participating in Doc-Net?

No. Doc-Net uses plain-text e-mail and does not permit attachments. Additionally, all mail is electronically screened and formatted by the list moderator. You cannot get a virus from Doc-Net.

How do I join Doc-Net?

Send an e-mail message to this address: Doc-Net-Approval@NMMS.org

Please include your full name, town, and phone number. You’ll receive a welcome message with full instructions by e-mail. Or, visit the Doc-Net page on the NMMS web site www.nmms.org/nmms and complete the online sign-up form.