

# The Future of Anesthesiology

**Propelled by Technology,  
STA please rescue me**

Kenneth Y. Pauker, M.D.

Society for Technology in Anesthesia  
2014 Annual Meeting  
Rosen Hotel  
Orlando, FLA

Thursday, January 16, 2014

## Rescue Me by Buckcherry

*I cherish the love and I cherish the life that's inside of me*

*I know I'm not a sight to see*

*But baby I'm alive*

*Won't you come and rescue me*

*Separate myself from me*

*Maybe I'm too blind to see*

*Save my life*

*Won't you come and rescue me*

*I'm torn away from what I need*

*Help me now I'm way too deep*

*Save my life*

*Rescue me*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YugNWEVckWY>

Time of video 2:32-3:12

*No Conflicts of Interest to Disclose*

# **Kenneth Y. Pauker, M.D.**

## **California Society of Anesthesiologists**

*Past-President*

*Associate Editor, CSA Bulletin*

*Former Chair, Division of Legislative and Practice Affairs*

## **American Society of Anesthesiologists**

*House of Delegates*

*Committee on Performance and Outcomes Measurement*

*Committee on Communications*

*Committee on Credentials*

*Formerly, Committee on Governmental Affairs and*

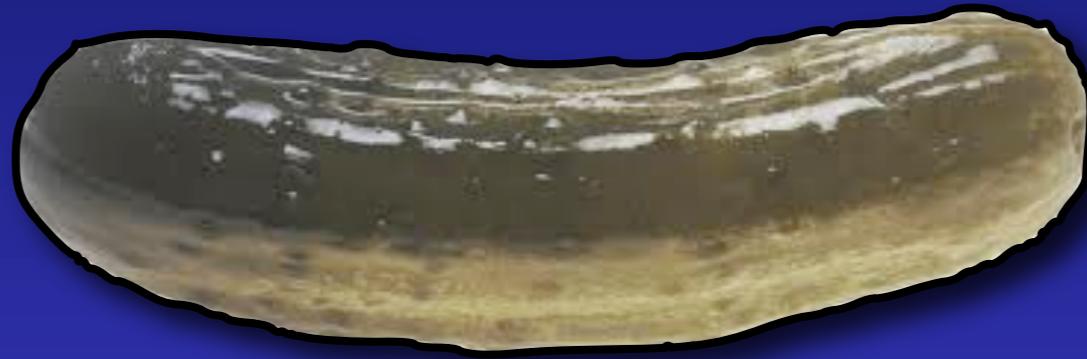
*Committee on Anesthesiologist Assistant Education and Practice*

## **University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine**

*Assistant Clinical Professor (Volunteer)*

*Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Care*

# ***The Pickle***



# ***What is the basis for the anticipated radical changes in American Medicine?***

**Demographics** — aging boomers

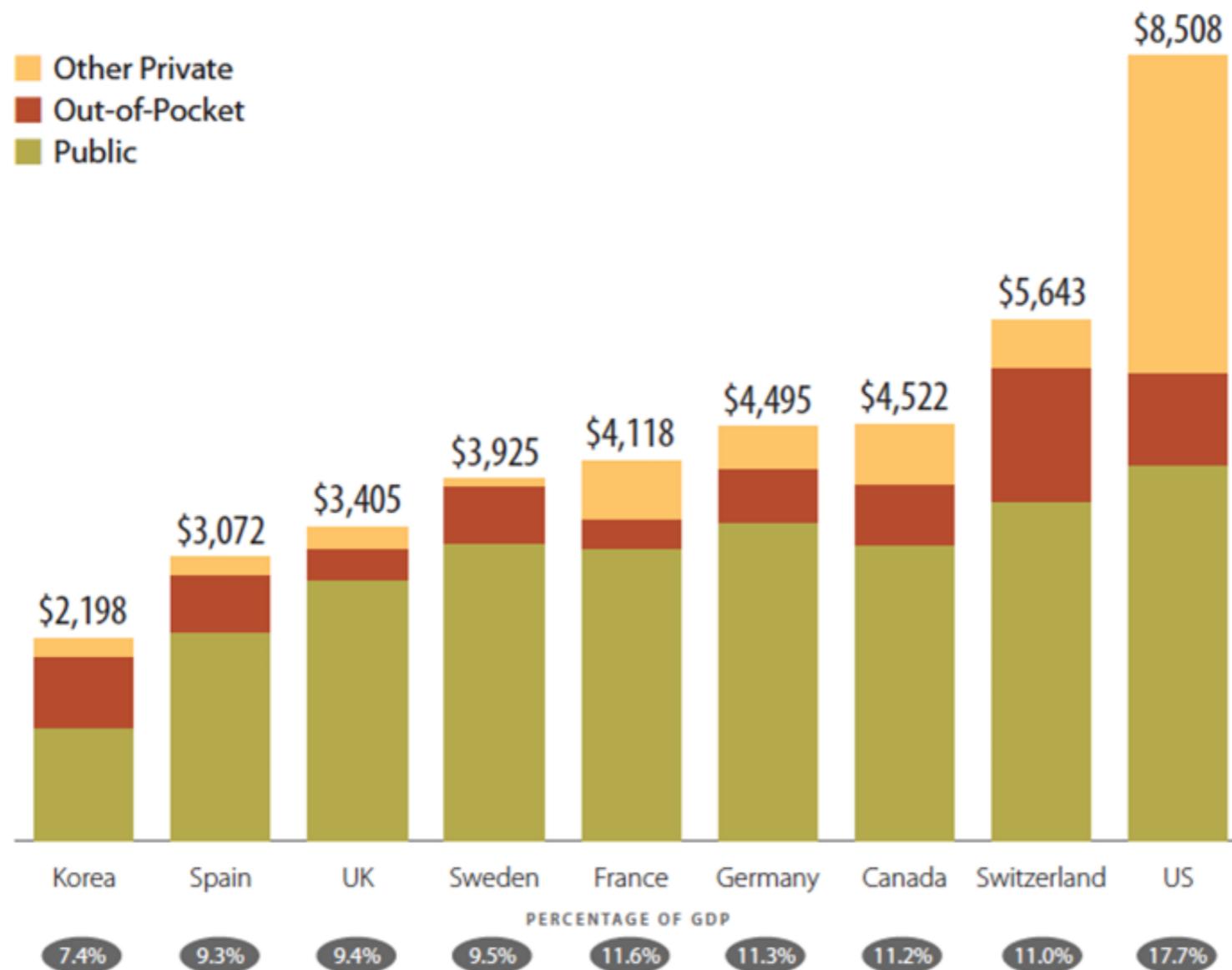
**Healthcare costs:**

- Share of economy — 7.2% (1970) to 17.9% (2010)
- US is #1 % GDP (2009, 2010, 2011) — 17.9%
- US is #1 per capita (2011) — \$8,680
- #2 per capita is Norway — \$5,352 (9.6% GDP, #16)
- #2 % GDP is Netherlands — 12% (\$4,914, #4)
- Europe generally 11-12% GDP

# Health Spending Per Capita and as a Share of GDP

## Selected Developed Countries, 2011

- Other Private
- Out-of-Pocket
- Public



Note: US spending per capita as reported by OECD differs from figures reported elsewhere in this report.  
 Source: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *OECD Health Data 2013*, June 2013, [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org).

### Health Care Costs 101

#### Spending Levels

US health spending far exceeds that of other developed countries, both in per capita spending and as a percent of GDP. Unlike the United States, in most developed countries the public sector dominates health spending.

Healthcare Costs 101  
 CHCF  
 September 2013

#### PAYER DEFINITIONS

**Other private** is computed as total spending less public spending and out-of-pocket spending.

**Out-of-pocket** includes consumer spending on copays, deductibles, and goods and care not covered by insurance; it does not include premiums.

# ***Federal Share of Payments***

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Federal, state, and local **government payments** for US healthcare

- ▶ 45% of total \$2.7 trillion (2011)

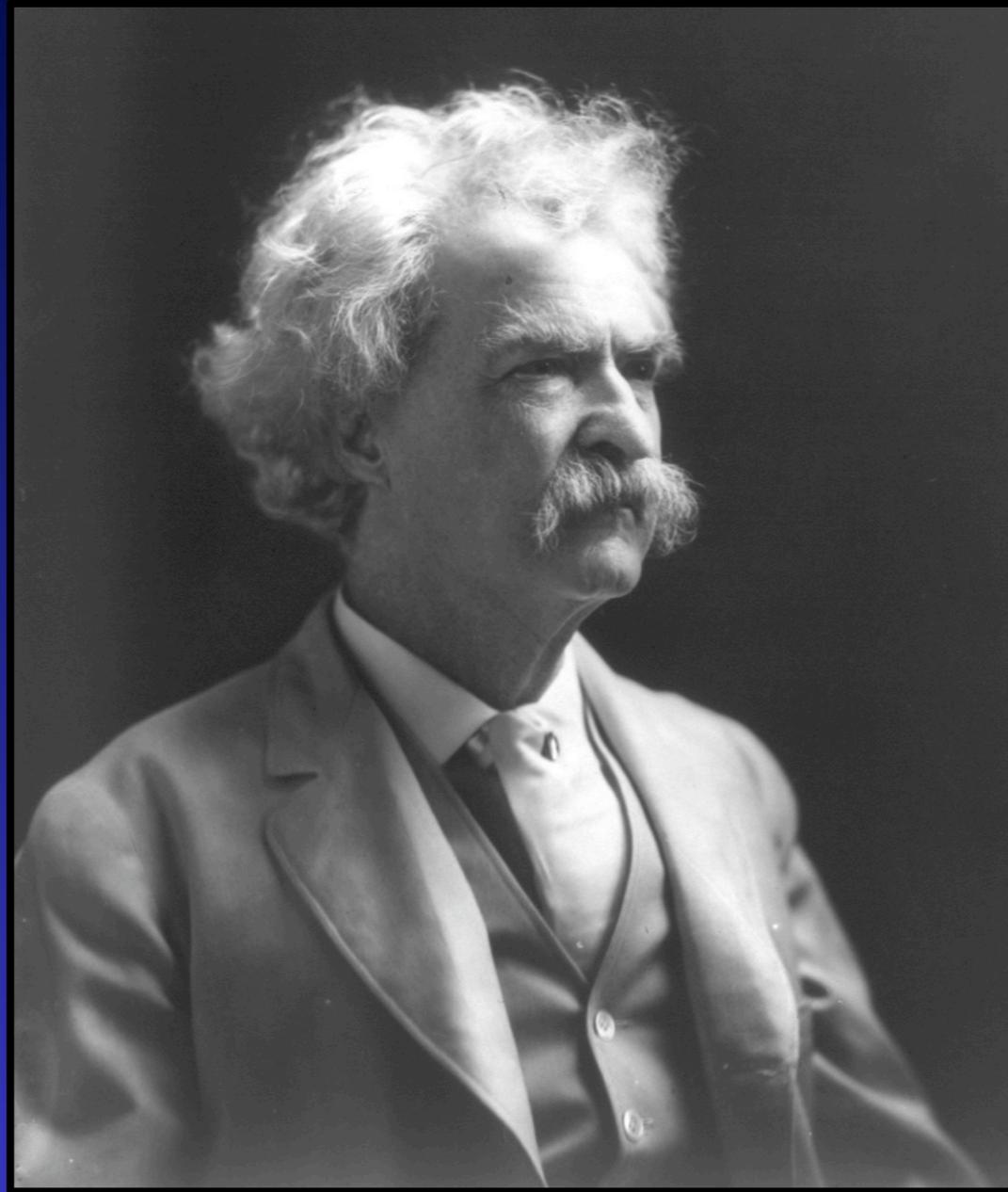
# **Federal Share of Payments**

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## Federal share

- ▶ 28% of total payments (cf. 23% in 2007)
- ▶ 46% of federal revenue
- ▶ 6% of household income



*"Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please."*

# ***Under the Hood of Socio-Politico-Economic Influences***

- **Supply produces demand** with incentives to do more
- Inertia to render **non-beneficial care**
- Hidden **medical liability** influences
- **Technology** as a major driver

# ***Under the Hood of Socio-Politico-Economic Influences***

*“Technology as a ‘major driver’ of health care costs: a cointegration analysis of the Newhouse conjecture”*

Okunade AA and Vasudeva NRM. *Journal of Health Economics*: 21(1), January 2002, Pages 147–159.

## **Abstract**

Per capita real income on the demand-side and technological change, proxied by total R&D and health R&D spending, on the supply-side are hypothesized as major drivers of per capita real health care expenditure in the US during the 1960–1997 period. The findings are robust to a battery of unit root and cointegration tests. They support **the Newhouse** [Journal of Economic Perspectives 6 (1992) 3] **conjecture that technological change is a major escalator of health care expenditure** and confirm a significant and stable long-run relationship among per capita real health care expenditure, per capita real income and broad-based R&D expenditures. Policy implications are noted.

RESEARCH SYNTHESIS REPORT NO. 16  
OCTOBER 2008

**Paul B. Ginsburg, Ph.D.,**  
President, Center for Studying Health  
System Change

# High and rising health care costs: Demystifying U.S. health care spending

## Findings

Table 1. Estimated Contributions of Selected Factors to Growth in Real Health Care Spending Per Capita, 1940–1990

Drivers of Cost Trend	Studies Estimating Contributions of Selected Drivers		
	Smith, Heffler and Freeland (2000)	Cutler (1995)	Newhouse (1992)
Aging of the Population	2%	2%	2% <sup>a</sup>
Changes in Third-Party Payment	10	13	10 <sup>b</sup>
Personal Income Growth	11–18	5	<23
Prices in the Health Care Sector	11–22	19	*
Administrative Costs	3–10	13	*
Defensive Medicine and Supplier-Induced Demand	0	*	0
Technology-Related Changes in Medical Practice	38–62	49	>65

Notes: Amounts in the table represent the estimated percentage share of long-term growth that each factor accounts for.

\* = not estimated.

<sup>a</sup> Represents data for 1950–1987

<sup>b</sup> Represents data for 1950–1980.

Source: Congressional Budget Office, 2008 (17) based on Smith (79), Cutler (19) and Newhouse (59)

**Technology.** Measuring the contribution of changing medical technology is particularly challenging because of the inability to measure aggregate technological change directly. Nevertheless, all of the studies reviewed obtain broadly similar results. Most studies measure technology as a residual; that is, after estimating the contributions of all of the directly measurable drivers of spending, attributing the proportion of spending increases not otherwise explained as the contribution of technology. These approaches are vulnerable to confounding technological change with other factors for which the contribution is not fully captured (or measurement errors). For example, the role of increasing rates of obesity has not been studied until recently, so some of its

# ***Under the Hood of Socio-Politico-Economic Influences***



# ***Bending the cost curve***

Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report (2000) results in demand for safety and cost-effectiveness:

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# ***Bending the cost curve***

Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report (2000) results in demand for safety and cost-effectiveness:

- The promulgation of Pay for Performance (P4P)
- The advent of the new science of performance measurement
- Now Value Based Purchasing (VBP) and Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)

# ***What is constant in Medicine?***



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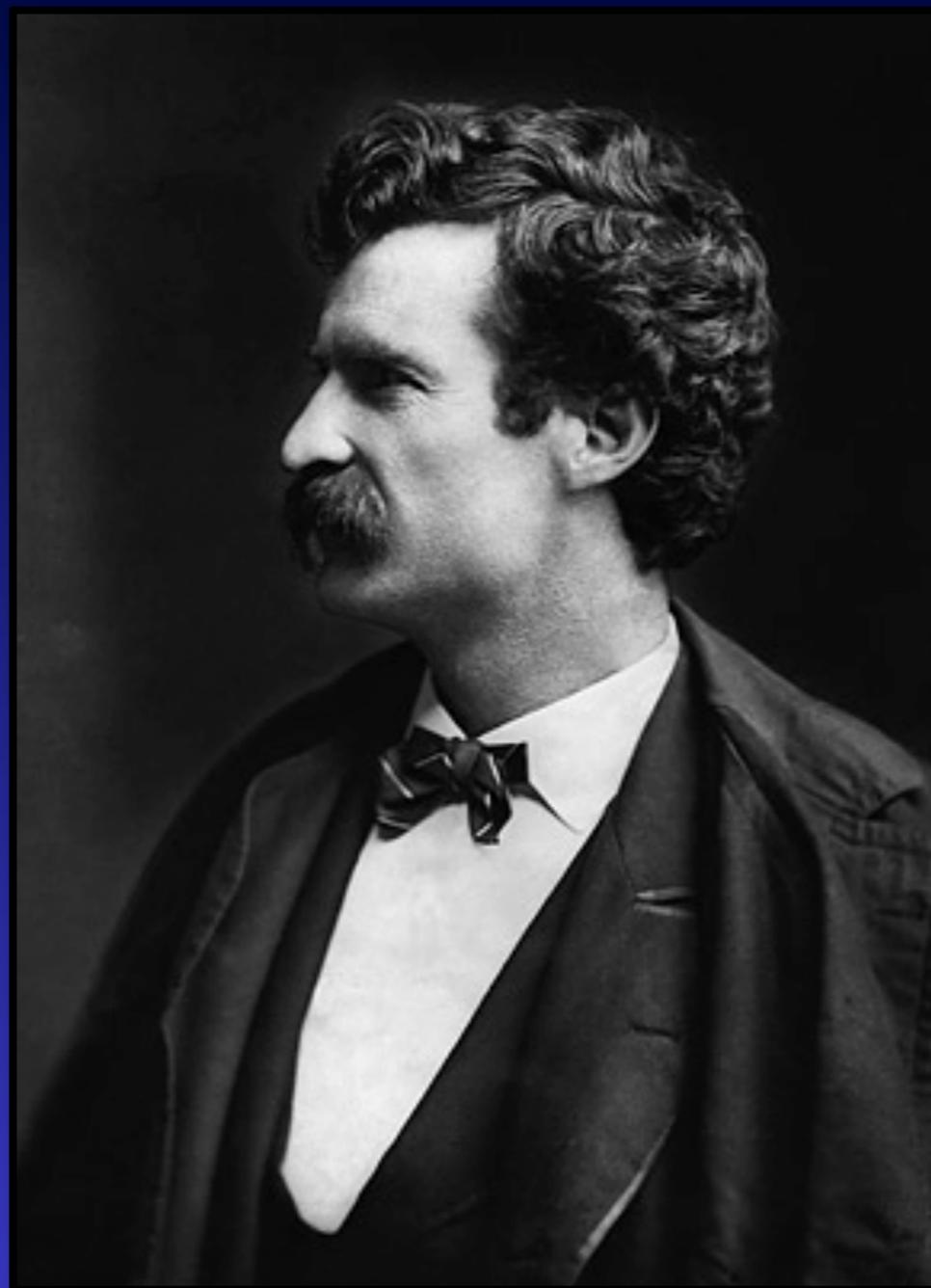
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- The necessity for engagement with professional organizations like the STA and the ASA

# ***What is constant in Medicine?***

- The evolution of the Art and Science of Medicine
- The altruistic idealism of newly minted MDs
- The imperatives for individual professionalism
- The necessity for engagement with professional organizations like the STA and the ASA
- Medical politics – local, state, and national



*“There is no distinctly native American criminal class except Congress.”*

# ***What is constant in Anesthesiology?***



# ***What is constant in Anesthesiology?***

Our commitment

- to the critically ill and those with acute/chronic pain
- to improve patient care and safety

# ***What is constant in Anesthesiology?***



# ***What is constant in Anesthesiology?***

The tension between

- what is comfortable v. what is unknown
- minimizing risk v. pushing forward for ?reward
- academic v. community perspectives

*“It’s all about the patient,  
because we have no other reason to exist.”*



Roger Litwiller, MD  
ASA President, 2003-2004

# ***The Future***

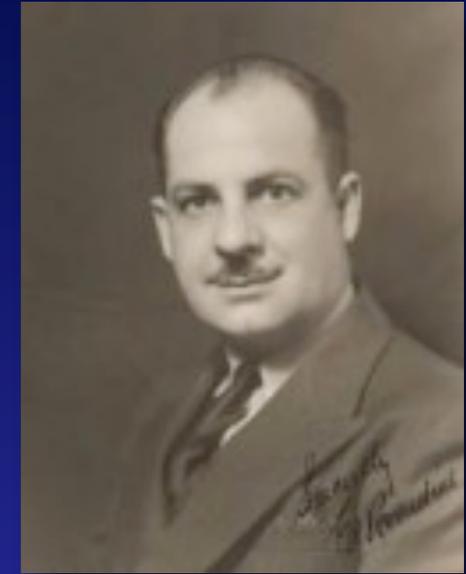


***The Future***

***Is it here today?***



# Who was Emery A. Rovenstine?



1895-1960

- 1935 — Chair of Anesthesiology, Bellevue Hospital
- 1937 — 2nd American Professor of Anesthesiology, NYU School of Medicine
- 1943-1944 — President, American Society of Anesthetists  
(precursor of ASA)
- 1948 — a founder of ASA
- 1957 — ASA Distinguished Service Award
- 1962 — Inaugural Emery A. Rovenstine Memorial Lecture  
at ASA Annual Meeting

# How to synthesize this into predictions?

- David E. Longnecker, 1996

Rovenstine

*Navigation in Uncharted Waters: Is Anesthesiology on Course for the 21st Century?*



- Mark A. Warner, 2005 Rovenstine

*Who Better than Anesthesiologists?*

- Ronald Miller

- ▶ TF Future Paradigms, 2005

- ▶ Rovenstine, 2008 *The Pursuit of Excellence*



- Patricia Kapur

- ▶ CSA Bulletin, Summer 2008

- ▶ Rovenstine, 2011 *Leading into the Future*



*“Difficult to see, always in motion the Future is...”*

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Longnecker DE: Navigation in uncharted waters. Is anesthesiology on course for the 21st century? The 35th Annual Rovenstine Lecture. *Anesthesiology* 1997; 86:736–42

Miller RD: Report of the Task Force on Future Paradigms of Anesthetic Practice. *ASA Newsletter* 2005; 69(10, October):20-23

Warner, MA: Who Better than Anesthesiologists? The 44th Annual Rovenstine Lecture. *Anesthesiology* 2006; 104:1094–101

Kapur PA: The Future Practice of Anesthesiology. *CSA Bulletin* 2008; (Summer):30-35

Miller, RD: The Pursuit of Excellence: The 47th Annual Rovenstine Lecture. *Anesthesiology* 2009; 110 (4, April):714-720

Kapur, PA: Leading Into the Future: The 50th Annual Rovenstine Lecture. *Anesthesiology* 2012; 116(4, April):758-767

# *Longnecker's Rovenstine 1996*

- **Cost** containment imperative
- **Population-based care** prioritized above individual care
- Moving to **ambulatory** and home care instead of inpatient hospital care
- Self-employed physicians searching for **stable employment situations**
- **Non-physician practitioners** given more duties wherever possible

# Longnecker's Rovenstine 1996

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*“...form alliances with surgeons and surgical organizations...  
...emphasize perioperative medicine skills ... on rotations where partnerships  
have been formed with surgical colleagues for the overall care of surgical  
patients... where the CA-3 resident would be “involved in the [entire] continuum  
of preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative care of surgical patients...”*

# Miller's Predictions

## Ron Miller — TF Future Paradigms, 2005

- ▶ Demographics, innovations, & economics

Increased **critical care**, IT with **databases and quality/quantity**, robotics and voice activation, technical work by **care extenders**, credentialing based on demonstrated competence rather than training or boards, turf wars, **scope of practice**, **medical procedures** instead of surgery, **genetic molecular medicine**, imaging, drugs based upon pharmacogenomics

How qualified to be intra-op practitioner, supervise how many ? technicians, role of anesthesiologist

Emphasis on **throughput and outcomes**, systems analysis

Opportunities — preop eval, prepare patients, critical care, pain management



*When you come to a fork in the road, take it.*

# *Kapur's Analysis*

## Patricia Kapur — CSA Bulletin 2008

Technology propels changes:

- ▶ non-invasive CV tests, genetic profiling, feedback controlled infusion pumps, remote viewing of OR, telemedicine
- ▶ Immediate pre-, intra-, and post-op less technologically demanding and **subsumed within broader context of surgical care and long term outcomes**

Anesthesia can lead in surgical outcomes:

- ▶ Reduce SSI: temp, O2, BS, timely antibiotics, transfusion
- ▶ Reduce ischemic events: monitor CV, avoid swings, Hct, shiver
- ▶ Reduce pulmonary comp: aspiration, atelectasis, pain, residual block
- ▶ Reduce tumor recur: blood, pain immune

# *Kapur's Advice*

Quotes Miller about the rancor re nurse anesthetists:

*“The time may well be coming when the profession of anesthesiology needs to face that routine, noncomplex levels of care are not going to be the appropriate setting for solo care by highly trained physician anesthesiologists.”*

Advises:

Oversight of straightforward and mid-complex anesthetics, personal care of most complex, subspecialty, critical care, pain, pre-op, manage OR and support services

# Point, Click and You're a Doctor

## RADFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING



...*imagine your future in nursing*



### RU Gains SCHEV Approval to Offer Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree

RADFORD –The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) on Tuesday unanimously approved the university's proposal for a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, marking the third time in a one-year period RU has received SCHEV approval for a graduate-level program.

The first admitted students to the DNP program, which will be offered in an **online distance-learning format**, are scheduled to begin classes in the fall of 2010. It is anticipated that the program will enroll 25 students in its first year and employ two faculty members and one administrative professional that specializes in computer distance learning.

# They Don't Share Our Views...

**NURSE ANESTHESIA • SAFE ANESTHESIA**



Which ones are the anesthesiologists and which are the nurse anesthetists?

**CAN'T  
TELL?**

It's *just as hard* to tell the difference between their anesthesia education, the way they administer anesthesia, and their safety records.



AANA Newspaper Advertisement



# ***Miller's Rovenstine #1***

Defining the path:  
trade union v. profession

# Trade versus Profession

*“Considerable conceptual evidence suggests that medical professions, including anesthesiology, are in danger of becoming trade unions. If so, what is the difference between a profession and a trade union? A trade union is often defined as a collection of skilled workers who deliver a service or product. A profession is a group of individuals who not only deliver a product, but also develop the product (i.e., research) and make decisions regarding how the product is to be delivered.”*

*— Ron D. Miller, M.D.*

# ***Miller's Rovenstine #2***

- Professional autonomy invaded by government, economics, corporations, politics
- Need long-term vision and pursuit of excellence
- Anesthesiologists as perioperative directors

# ***Miller's Rovenstine #2***

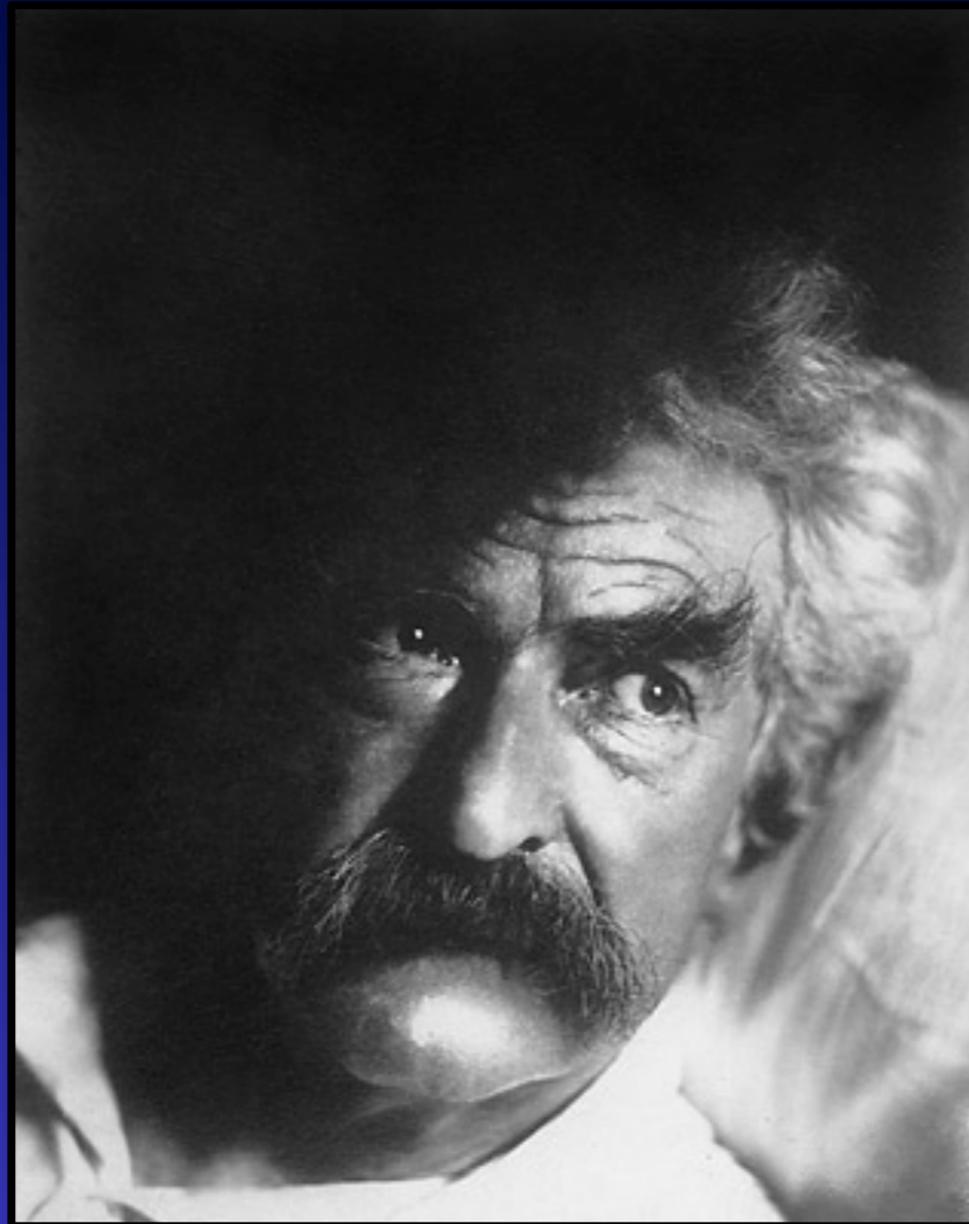


# *Miller's Rovenstine #2*

- Potential what ifs:
  - ▶ Dr. McSleepy
  - ▶ Sublingual PCA
  - ▶ Dedicated procedure center
  - ▶ Surgical resident work hours

# *Miller's Rovenstine #3*

- Research — embrace the problems to be solved:
  - ▶ Renal, POCD, SIRS
- Task Forces
  - ▶ Anesthesia & Peri-op Medicine
  - ▶ Technology & Pharmacology
  - ▶ International think task re questions which need answers
- Think Big & Pursue Excellence



*Truth is mighty and will prevail.  
There is nothing the matter with this, except that it ain't so.*



# *Kapur's Rovenstine #1*

- Changes (worldwide)
  - ▶ Society, resource availability, technology, pharmacology, genomics, and molecular biology
- Transformation
  - ▶ New system of care, payment models, skill sets
- “Disruptive” or “Discontinuous” changes
  - ▶ Care to be population-based, full-risk, bundled payments, ACOs, outcomes-based

# *Kapur's Rovenstine #2*

- Healthcare delivery re-design is coming to all of medicine — surgeons, radiologists, pediatricians
- Leveraging costly knowledge and skills to greatest extent
- Practicing at “the top of their license”
- Rethink what we’ve always done, a **new mental map**, open our minds to coming changes

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*“... we can stay in the operating rooms and lose new opportunities, or alternatively we can embrace a greater commitment to new forms of practice, education, and research.”*

# *Kapur's Rovenstine #3*

## Opportunities for Leadership

- Expanded role of Pain Management for Public Health
- Future of Safety, Quality, and Cost-effective Care
- Using new technology
- — telemedicine (OR & ICU)
- Matching professional resource expenditure to patient co-morbidities, surgical complexity, staff training and experience
- Global/bundled payments — benchmarks, throughput, organization
- **Maintain general medical skills**
- Perceive and create opportunity in the Future

What's in a name?



*“What's the use you learning to do right, when it's troublesome to do right and ain't no trouble to do wrong, and the wages is just the same?”*

# *Kapur's Rovenstine #4*

## Global/bundled payments

1. We must determine quality benchmarks and equal or exceed them.
2. We must oversee and solve perioperative, periprocedural, intensive care, and pain issues throughout the health system, utilizing a cost-effective mix of providers appropriate for the severity of the cases.
3. We must facilitate procedural through-put at all levels, including critical care.
4. Organizationally we must become integral to the management of all areas where acute care and pain services are being delivered.
5. We need to become the acute care go-to people, the acute care solution, for each of our clinical sites.

# Quotations

*“...we have excellent anesthesiologists who markedly restrict their full potential to provide a positive impact on public ... safety by delivering one-on-one care to [low-risk] patients who do not warrant such physician-intensive, inefficient, and cost-ineffective care....”*

*How should we best use our physician skills? ...As proven in a number of diverse practice models and in critical care units daily, physician oversight or supervision of well-trained sedation and critical care nurses, nurse anesthetists, and anesthesiologist assistants is a remarkably safe, efficient, and cost-effective model ... while there is still a need for one-on-one or even more intensive care provision to those [specific] patients who need physician skills.*

*“... will we ... lead the development of practice models [intensive care model and others] that ensure all patients have the benefit of anesthesiologists involved in their care? ... everything...except for our core values of providing, overseeing, and improving the care of critically ill patients and those with acute procedural or chronic pain, can ... and must change as our environment changes. ...”*

*— Mark A. Warner, M.D., 2005 Rovenstine*



- John B. Neeld, Jr., M.D.  
ASA President, 1998-1999

Rovenstine 2013 “Winning the War”

<http://education.asahq.org/2013Rovenstine>

# ***Neeld's Rovenstine #1***

- Aggressive legislative & regulatory efforts by AANA with goal of dismantling MD-led ACT
- Need to prove our role in preventing mortality & major morbidity as leaders of the ACT
- Definitively prove our role by showing value added in patient outcomes
- Concern for welfare of patients should AANA achieve its long sought after goal of independent practice

## ***Neeld's Rovenstine #2***

- 10% of Medicare population accounts for 70% of spending
- Only 10% of spending for this high cost group is for ER or hospital admissions, for visits that are preventable

# Neeld's Rovenstine #3

- Estimated MD shortage by 2020:
  - 46,100 PMD
  - 45,400 Specialists
  - 4479 anesthesiologists
- ▶ **BUT surplus of 7970 nurse anesthetists**
- AANA claims that nurse anesthetists are the solution to access and cost issues under ACA if they are relieved of supervision requirements
- AANA supported by AHA, AARP, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, & the Feds

# ***Neeld's Rovenstine #4***

Additional federal perversions:

ACA section 2706 — the “non-discrimination” issue

Federal Trade Commission

- Pain management in Alabama — ABME chilled
- Dental whitening in North Carolina

# Neeld's Rovenstine #5

What outcome studies are available?

- Cromwell. *Health Affairs* 2010.
  - ▶ “No harm found” with opt-out before and after
  - ▶ “Outcomes did not vary greatly,” but trend in their own data
  - ▶ “Training essentially equivalent” — 2 1/2 versus 8 years after B.A.
  - ▶ “Nurse anesthesia is more cost effective.”
- Beecher & Todd 1954 = 1:1560 anesthetic deaths
- Eichhorn 1970 = 1:200,000 (ASA 1&2 reported to Carrier)
- LaGasse 2002 = 1:13,000

# Neeld's Rovenstine #6

- Bechtoldt 1981
  - NA = 1:20,723
  - MD = 1:24,500
  - ACT = 1:28,166
- Silber 2000
  - ▶ Death rate
  - ▶ In hospital complication rate
  - ▶ Failure to rescue (FTR) which is the rate of death after complications
    - = 2.5 excess deaths/1000 patients
    - = 6.9 excess FTR/1000 patients

# References for outcome studies

Dulisse B, Cromwell J: No harm Found When Nurse Anesthetists Work Without Supervision by Physicians. *Health Affairs* 2010; 29(8, August):1469-1475

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# ***Neeld's Rovenstine — the Big Ask***

**WE DO NOT HAVE HAVE CURRENT OUTCOME STUDIES.**

We need 30 day outcomes in comparable patient populations.

Neeld asks for ASA to spend \$1,000,000 to fund such studies and that FAER manage the distribution of the grant monies.

# ***The Charge to the STA***



# ***Society for Technology in Anesthesia***

- The Society's mission is to improve the quality of patient care by innovation in the use technology and its application.
- The Society promotes education and research, collaborates with local, national, and international organizations, sponsors meetings and exhibitions, awards grants, and recognizes achievement.

# *STA's charge*

## Define, Demystify, and Promote:

**Define** the broad parameters of how STA and its members can serve a la Neeld's Rovenstine

**Demystify** — by using technology — the moving parts of hidden costs, efficiency, and performance measurement

**Promote** anesthesiologists as the leaders of innovation in clinical care

# *STA's charge*

What to measure technologically (at the point of care) to compare practitioners:

Morbidity, mortality, patient satisfaction, complication ratio, necessity to rescue, failure to rescue, degree of difficulty 1.2 or 2.6 or 3.9, decision theory, efficiency meter

# ***STA's charge***

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***It's not the gadgets we use,  
it's the logic of how we choose to do what***

# STA Annual Meeting 2014 Program Objectives

1. Examine and identify problems and potential solutions in the anesthesia work space with a special emphasis on exploring new developments in drug delivery, airway management, information management and patient monitoring.
2. Identify and explore key factors required for effective translational medical research, including conflict of interest management and implementation of successful strategies to develop technologies.
3. Examine and identify barriers and potential solutions in order to bring new and safe technologies to the clinical practice with a special emphasis on federal regulations, patient monitoring, information management, and patient safety.
4. Explore opportunities to advance and enhance environmentally responsible practices within anesthesia care.
5. Explore opportunities to advance safe, interoperable, automated anesthesia systems in order to improve patient safety and outcomes.

# STA's charge

## Beyond

Drug delivery, airway management, information management and patient monitoring

New and safe technologies to the clinical practice with a special emphasis on federal regulations, patient monitoring, information management, and patient safety.

Advancing safe, interoperable, automated anesthesia systems in order to improve patient safety and outcomes

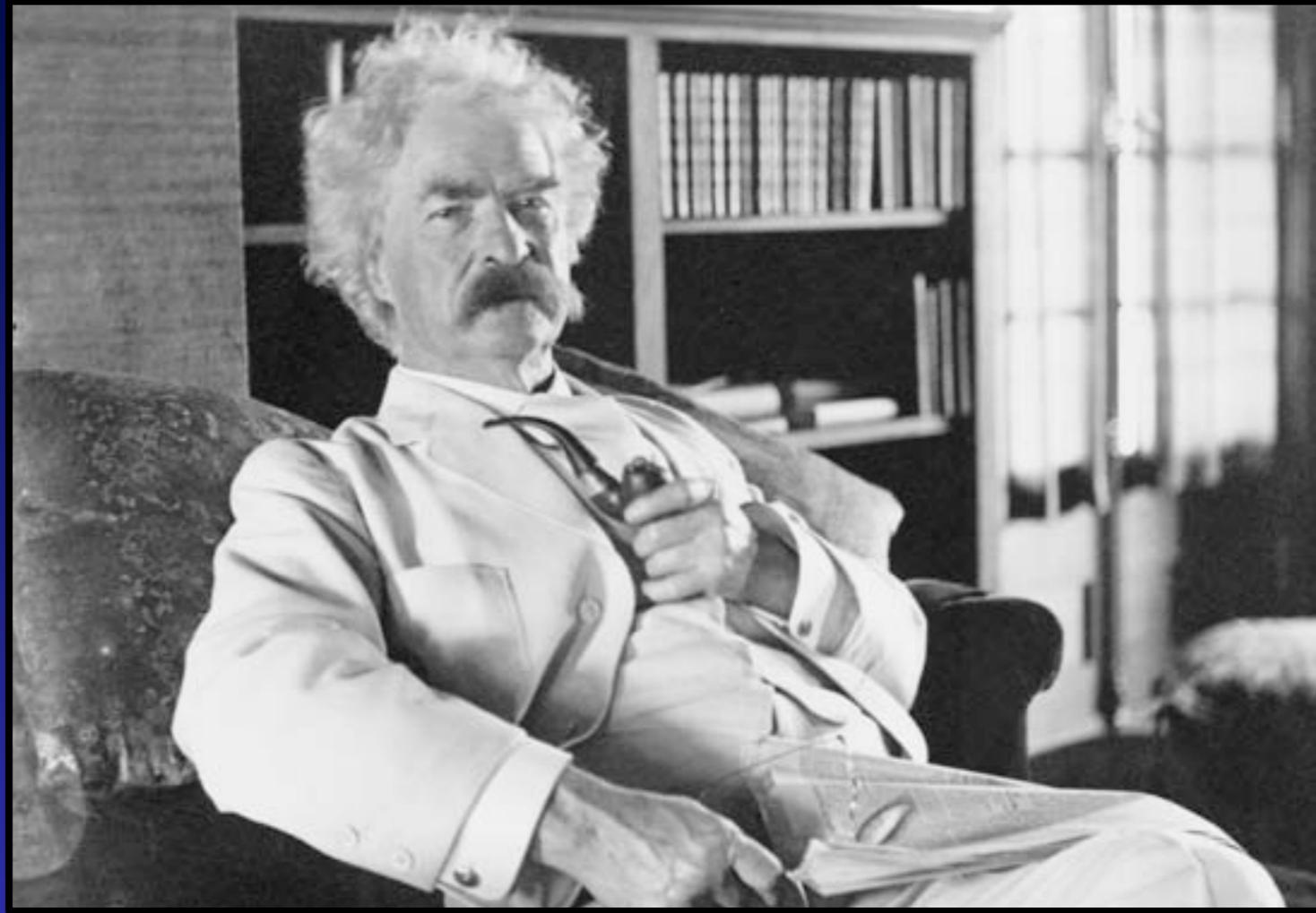
- **New tools** to demonstrate clinical value (Value = Outcome/Cost)
- **New paradigms** for safety and efficiency
- **Technologic assimilators of clinical data into measures of performance**
- **Automation of research at the point of care**
- Rather than asking how to make care more efficient, **new paradigms for asking whether we should do it at all**
- Innovate our way out
- IT integration and interoperability
- Integrated prompts for emergency or unusual circumstances

# ***Because you “made” me, now you must rescue me***

- ***Your ongoing innovations bring great clinical benefits to patients***
- ***Technology can be a voracious consumer of resources***
- ***There are serious unintended consequences of “technology gone wild”***
- ***Some significant part of your energies must now be directed toward responsible restraint, and maybe even constraints***
- ***Part of your professionalism now is to rescue Medicine from being dumbed down***

# ***The Takeaway***

- ***Remember why you are here***
- ***Appreciate the possibilities***
- ***Listen***
- ***Look under the hood***
- ***Pursue Excellence***
- ***Be open to new paradigms***
- ***Everything is possible***
- ***Trust, but verify...***



*"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run  
by smart people who are putting us on  
or by imbeciles who really mean it."*



