

CollegeNews

Annual Meeting Deadlines Approaching

Planning to attend the 2012 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting - March 27-31, 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina? Please note these upcoming deadlines:

- Abstract Submission Deadline:
Friday, December 9, 2011
- Early Bird Discount Registration Deadline:
Wednesday, December 14, 2011
- Hotel Reservation Deadline:
Monday, February 6, 2012
- Advance Registration Discount Deadline:
Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Session, speaker, schedule and exhibitor updates are available at www.acmgmeeting.net - be sure to visit the Annual Meeting website often for the most up-to-date ACMG Annual Meeting information.

Tax Rules Allow You to Be More Generous

If you, like most charitably inclined people, wish you could afford to give more, the good news is that you probably can, simply by taking advantage of the tax code's provisions that effectively make Uncle Sam your partner in giving. Give appreciated assets.

Many donors sit down with their checkbooks toward the end of the year to aid worthy charities, like the ACMG Foundation, then deduct their charitable gifts at tax time. The amount of tax savings depends on the donor's marginal bracket. For taxpayers in the top bracket, 35 percent, a \$10,000 gift would reduce taxes by \$3,500, while those in the 25 percent bracket would save \$2,500 in taxes.

One way to increase the tax savings—and consequently what you can afford to give—is to give appreciated assets to the ACMG Foundation instead of cash. Say your

2012 | ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting

MARCH 27-31 | EXHIBIT DATES: MARCH 28-30
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



Medical Genetics: Translating Genes Into Health®

American College of Medical Genetics

Plan NOW! to Attend the 2012 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting in the Southern City of Charlotte, North Carolina

The ACMG meeting is the educational and networking event for medical and clinical geneticists, genetic counselors, pediatric and obstetric practitioners who are providing comprehensive diagnostic, management and counseling services for patients with, or at risk for, genetically-influenced health problems; laboratory directors and technicians conducting genetic testing; researchers involved in the discovery of genetic disorders and treatments; and all healthcare and public health professionals with an interest in the rapidly evolving field of medical genetics and genomics and their integration into healthcare.

Cutting-edge science, practical medical and clinical applications, and the latest research combined with unparalleled networking opportunities with peers and worldwide leaders put the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting on the list of scientific meetings you cannot afford to miss!



Sponsored and accredited by the
American College of Medical Genetics
Medical Genetics: Translating Genes Into Health®

in conjunction with the 43rd Annual March of Dimes Clinical Genetics Conference: Genetics of Aging—From Progeroid Syndromes to Centenarians

march of dimes

portfolio includes stocks with sizable long-term gains. You could donate shares that you paid \$3,000 for years ago but are worth \$10,000 on the day of the gift.

The direct tax savings are the same as with the cash gift, but you also escape capital gains tax, a saving of \$1,050 (the 15 percent capital gains tax that would have been owed by a taxpayer in the 25, 28, 33 or 35 percent bracket on the \$7,000 gain had you sold the shares).

One concern that many people have is the uncertain future of tax rates.

Lisa Philp, vice president for strategic philanthropy at the Foundation Center, recommends to “do it sooner rather than later,” simply to be able to act under today’s known rules.

Giving appreciated assets to the ACMG Foundation is easy, you just need to give your stock broker the Foundation’s brokerage account number. Contact J. David Cotter, ACMG Foundation Director of Development at 301-718-2014 or at dcotter@acmgfoundation.org.

2012 Renewal Deadline: January 31, 2012

The Board of Directors and the Membership committee have elected to change the annual membership renewal deadline from March 31 to January 31, beginning with the 2012 renewal cycle. 2012 membership email renewal notifications began in August. Monthly email reminders will go out through the deadline. Please ensure that we have **your current contact information** by logging onto the Members Only section of the ACMG Website and editing your member profile as necessary.

Don’t forget to renew your 2012 ACMG membership by January 31, 2012, to ensure there is no interruption of membership services and benefits. Payment must be current in order to register at the Member rate for the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, access the ACMG Members Only section of the website, and to continue uninterrupted delivery of the journal *Genetics in Medicine*.

ACMG Announces New Web-based Education Program

The interpretation of results from cytogenomic arrays is typically straightforward to those trained in the cytogenetics and medical genetics. However, a proportion of cases will have copy number variants that are only rarely or that have not been seen previously. These cases require the use of databases of previously identified cases. While many have used the genome browsers and databases for research, this program explains how they can be adapted for use with clinical databases.

This education program offers tutorials on:

- Array basics
- Evolution of arrays
- Interpretation of array results
- Follow-up of array results

There are also additional lessons on the use of genetic databases such as the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) genome browser and how to align it with clinical databases including:

- DECIPHER (Database of Chromosomal Imbalance and Phenotype in Humans Using Ensemble Resources)
- Database of Genomic Variants
- International Standards for Cytogenomic Arrays (ISCA) Consortium

The tutorials focus on using microarrays for patients with developmental-related disorders. It does not address their use in determining cancer prognosis or in predicting other disease risks.

This program is sponsored, in part, by the ACMG Foundation and its corporate partners. There are downloadable PDF files that can be used as a reference tool when viewing the case videos or when exploring the databases.

To subscribe to this education program, click on the education tab at www.acmg.net.