



NEWS RELEASE

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William Smucker, MD, CMD, Receives AMDA's 2011 William Dodd Award for Distinguished Service

Columbia, Md. – William D. Smucker, MD, CMD, is the 2011 recipient of the William Dodd Founder's Award for Distinguished Service from AMDA – Dedicated to Long Term Care Medicine. The Dodd Award, named after the association's founder, recognizes significant contributions to building the organizational strength, image, and mission of AMDA.

Dr. Smucker is a board certified family physician with a Certificate of Added Qualification in Geriatrics. In addition to serving as Professor of Family Medicine at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, he is a full-time faculty member for Summa Health System's family resident program and manages care in long term settings. He also teaches medical students, residents, and fellows at the Altenheim Nursing Home in Strongsville, Ohio, where he is a medical director.

Active in AMDA for several years, Dr. Smucker has served as a member of the Clinical Practice, Education, and Multidisciplinary Medication Management Committees. He also worked on AMDA's Palliative Care Workgroup and participated in the *Multidisciplinary Medication Management* Tool kit project. He chaired the writing group for the AMDA clinical practice guideline, *Stroke Management and Prevention in the Long Term Care Setting*, and was the principal author for the AMDA LTC Information Series Tool kits, *Antithrombotic Therapy in the Long Term Care Setting* and *Palliative Care in the Long Term Care Setting*.

In presenting the award to Dr. Smucker, 2010-2011 AMDA President Paul Katz, MD, CMD, noted, "He is always available to help, answer questions, and offer advice and comfort. He represents the best that is a long term care physician – trained in clinical topics, up-to-date on the literature, a strong patient advocate, and helpful to staff." Dr. Katz added, "He is always teaching, explaining, and moving caregivers to resolution. He is kind and funny – the epitome of caring."

Expressing gratitude to those who went before him, Dr. Smucker commented, "I am inspired by all of the past winners because they made – and continue to make – remarkable contributions to AMDA and to the advancement of excellence in long term care medicine. I am humbled by their example and by the knowledge that dozens of current AMDA members are equally deserving of this award based on the countless valuable hours they give to AMDA year after year."

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AMDA – Dedicated to Long Term Care (formerly the American Medical Directors Association) is the national professional association of medical directors, attending physicians, and other professionals practicing long term care medicine committed to the continuous improvement of patient care. AMDA provides education, advocacy, information, and professional development enable its members to deliver quality long term care.