

characterized by a dynamic and robust entrepreneurial spirit; a significant shortage of these individuals is an additional factor that promotes and fosters the aforementioned diversity of lifestyles.

Facing a nationwide hospitalist deficit that averages 15%, hospitals must turn to head-hunter organizations and the hospitalist enjoys a certain degree of bargaining power when it comes to their salary and schedule. This scenario is not likely to change in the near future as PCPs opt for an exclusively outpatient practice. In academic centers, where the ACGME is pursuing further restrictions on resident work hours, the demand for clinical hospitalists is especially high and expected to remain so. Finally, increased scrutiny by CMS and private insurance companies will expand the demand for hospitalists, a group that can most effectively deal with the problems related to length of stay, hospital-acquired conditions and readmission rates.

In summary, hospitalists represent the vanguard when it comes to diversified and novel staffing options for hospitals as they face the demands of an ever-changing healthcare system.



## **HOSPITALIST LUNCH CONFERENCE**

**MISSOURI ACP MEETING**

**LAKE OF THE OZARKS**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**SPEAKERS FROM MU, UMKC AND**

**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**