Letter from the Chairman

There is no question that we exist in a world of change, especially in realm of health care. However, current changes in health care seem less about the science of medicine than about the economics of health care delivery. Amidst the cacophony surrounding the future of health care, it is easy to become bewildered, apathetic, or even discouraged. Does anyone understand the meaning of acronyms such as PCMH, PQRI, VBP, CCO, P4P, CAQH, HIE, EMR, and ASO? The myriad of new acronyms and phrases strewn throughout health care discussions make the ideas seem familiar to some, but foreign to those who actually deliver care.

Like most that are in the frontline of medicine, I am often confused about these issues, but I am not discouraged. Despite the storm of change, I witness those who continue to be successful. What I observe in these individuals is always the same; they have never abandoned the core reasons for this chosen profession. Nothing has fundamentally changed about the physician-patient relationship as defined by the Hippocratic oath as it was spoken two and a half millennia ago.

I see medical students, residents, and young faculty continue to make their way into the orthopaedic world. They discover the wonders of what this profession offers; discoveries, innovations, and daily opportunities to make a meaningful difference in our patient’s lives. They keep me engaged and invigorated. One of the greatest gifts that I have received in my life is being surrounded by young and dedicated physicians who will continue to serve and honor our profession.