

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Board of Supervisors *Cross*

BOARD AGENDA # \*A-3

Urgent  Routine

AGENDA DATE April 21, 2015

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Commend Amarjit Dhaliwal, M.D. as the Recipient of the 2015 John Darroch Memorial Award from the Stanislaus Medical Society

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Commend Amarjit Dhaliwal, M.D. as the recipient of the 2015 John Darroch Memorial Award from the Stanislaus Medical Society.

Contact person: Christine Ferraro Tallman, Clerk of the Board

Telephone: 525-4494

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2015-151

On motion of Supervisor Chiesa, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Monteith, De Martini, and Chairman Withrow

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2)        Denied

3)        Approved as amended

4)        Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:

*Elizabeth A. King*  
ELIZABETH A. KING, Assistant Clerk

File No.



# Stanislaus Medical Society

Established  
1910

SILVIA DIEGO, M.D.  
PRESIDENT

JOANNE CHIPPONERI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROGER LEWIS, M.D.  
PRESIDENT-ELECT

CHRISTOPHER NEVILLE, M.D.  
SECRETARY

JOSEPH PROVENZANO, D.O.  
TREASURER

April 1, 2015

Terry Withrow  
County Supervisor & Chairman District 3  
1012 Tenth Street #6500  
Modesto CA 95354

Dear County Supervisor Withrow:

The Stanislaus Medical Society is proud to announce this year's recipient of the *John Darroch Memorial Award* (outstanding physician award) – **Amarjit Dhaliwal, MD**. Dr. Dhaliwal's specialties are in Medical Oncology and Hematology. He has practiced in Modesto for 24 years and is currently President and CEO of Valley Cancer Medical Center. Through the years, he demonstrated an exceptional work ethic with multiple achievements that benefited his patients, his colleagues and the community.

We would like to request a resolution or letter of recognition for Dr. Amarjit Dhaliwal to be presented to him at our upcoming Annual Membership meeting scheduled for Thursday May 7, 2015 at the Del Rio Country Club in Modesto. The event will begin at 6:00 PM. Please let us know if you or your representative will be able to attend and be available to make the presentation for Dr. Dhaliwal. If you or your representative is not able to attend, our current President, Silvia Diego, MD will be honored to read and present any special recognition.

Attached is a copy of Dr. Dhaliwal's Curriculum Vitae and recent Medical Society and Modesto Bee news articles announcing his selection as this year's Outstanding Physician. Please accept our gratitude for your help. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Joanne Chipponeri  
Executive Director

JAC/mj  
Enc.

2015 APR - 1 P 1:17  
GUARD OF SUPERVISORS



# The Stanislaus Medical Society

*Wishes Its Members a*

## Happy Doctors' Day

*John Darroch*

*Memorial Award*

*2015*

**Amarjit Dhaliwal, M.D**



The Board of Directors of the Stanislaus Medical Society takes immeasurable pleasure in announcing AMARJIT DHALI WAL, M.D. as the 2015 recipient of the *John Darroch Memorial Award* for the Physician of the Year. As an oncologist, Dr. Dhaliwal has treated patients in the Central Valley for 24 years, providing compassionate care to local residents.

Dr. Dhaliwal was raised in India. While on a 7<sup>th</sup> grade trip to a state medical school he was so impressed by the lab coats worn by doctors and students that he decided he would become a doctor. He earned his medical degree at Government Medical College in Punjab Province, his fellowship in cancer treatment at Medical College of Wisconsin and his internal medicine training in Chicago at Cook County Hospital.

In 1992 Dr. Dhaliwal helped form the Valley Cancer Medical Group in Modesto with Dr. Robert Levy. Dr. Dhaliwal came to the Central Valley 24 years ago with the specific purpose to provide compassionate care while utilizing state-of-the-art cancer care technology. In October 2011, Dr. Dhaliwal along with Dr. Levy agreed to provide oncology services to MIA patients, providing an essential service to the county. Today, he is President and CEO of the 32,000-square foot Valley Cancer Center in Manteca. Here, along with Dr. Robert Levy and Dr. Darwin Yip, patients are provided with both radiation and medical oncology treatment. Dr. Dhaliwal credits his wife Rupinder as being instrumental in the building process of the Cancer Center.

Dr. Dhaliwal has served as president to the Society in 2012-2013, and currently serves as a director on the Physician Services Board. In 2004, Dr. Dhaliwal was a member of the Electoral College. Dr. Dhaliwal is politically active and engaging, specifically regarding issues that affect the medical field. His voice brings both breadth and depth of knowledge to every conversation with colleagues and government leaders.

Dr. Dhaliwal has two daughters pursuing careers in medicine. Jasmeet attended the same medical school as her father and plans to do her residency in the central valley. Harleen, a graduate from UC Irvine will also attend medical school. Treet, Dr. Dhaliwal's oldest son is a graduate from UC Berkley having studied economics, and his youngest son attends Central Catholic High School.

Congratulations Dr. Dhaliwal, your colleagues have recognized your hard work and your professional life has been an example of successful and meaningful service to others.

*March 30, 2015*

# news

## The Modesto Bee



**D**r. Amarjit Dhaliwal provides compassionate care for cancer patients, readily expresses his political opinions and once hosted a former U.S. president at his home.

The oncologist soon will receive another honor. The Stanislaus Medical Society has named him Physician of the Year for 2015. The annual John Darroch Memorial Award is given to a physician who exemplifies professionalism, dedication to patient care and community involvement.

Dhaliwal has practiced in the Central Valley for 24 years and treats patients at Valley Cancer Medical Group in Modesto. The group also opened Valley Cancer Medical Center in Manteca in July 2013 to provide chemotherapy, radiation treatment and imaging services to patients in southern San Joaquin County.

The outpatient center in the Spreckels business area treats more than 20 people per day for lung cancer, breast cancer, lymphoma, prostate cancer and other diseases.

Dhaliwal said his industrious wife, Rupinder, was essentially the contractor for the building project, coordinating the work of subcontractors to construct the facilities. He said patients needing treatment spend about two hours at the outpatient center, while the treatment experience at a hospital is far more time-consuming.

He said an analysis showed the annual treatment cost per patient is \$6,500 less at an outpatient cancer center.

Other physicians in the group are Robert Levy, who specializes in medical oncology and hematology, and Darwin Yip, specializing in radiation oncology.

Dhaliwal is active in the Democratic Party and hosted former President Bill Clinton at a fundraiser held at his Del Rio home on March 30, 2008. Clinton was raising campaign money for his wife's run for the

White House. Dhaliwal had met the former president in Stockton just before the February 2008 California primary.

Clinton spoke to supporters for about 10 minutes in the backyard of the Dhaliwals' home. "He is a very intelligent man," the doctor said. "In my opinion, he was one of our best presidents."

The Modesto physician has cheered the health reforms in the Affordable Care Act. Although no set of laws is perfect, he said, people with pre-existing health conditions now can be covered by health insurance, and parents can keep their children on their health plans until age 26. Before the federal law, some of his patients would lose their insurance in the middle of their fight against cancer, he said.

Dhaliwal has long been a business partner of Levy's. His partner's daughter, Chandra Levy, was a federal Bureau of Prisons intern who went missing in May 2001. Her remains later were discovered in a wooded park in Washington, D.C.

Dhaliwal said he covered Levy's practice while the family suffered through the search and homicide investigation. "He is more than a friend," Dhaliwal said. "I feel like he is my brother. He is a very compassionate physician."

This year's Physician of the Year decided to become a doctor when he was in seventh grade in his native India. He visited a state medical school and was impressed with the doctors and students clad in their white coats.

He graduated from the Government Medical College in Punjab Province and completed a fellowship in cancer treatment at Medical College of Wisconsin. He received his internal medicine training at Cook County Hospital in Chicago.

Dhaliwal's two daughters are studying for careers in medicine. Jasmeet graduated from Central Catholic High School and went straight to the six-year medical school in India that her father attended. She has taken her first board exam in the U.S. and plans to begin a residency in the Central Valley.

Harleen attended University of California, Irvine, and will attend medical school. Dhaliwal's oldest son, Treet, holds an economics degree from UC Berkeley and has worked for Morgan Stanley. His son Amrit attends Central Catholic.

"I am very fortunate to practice medicine in this community," Dhaliwal said. "I have wonderful colleagues."

*Bee staff writer Ken Carlson can be reached at [kcarlson@modbee.com](mailto:kcarlson@modbee.com) or (209) 578-2321.*