

JOANNE G. SCHWARTZBERG, MD

Director, Aging and Community Health
American Medical Association
515 N. State St.
Chicago, IL 60610
312-464-5355
Joanne.Schwartzberg@ama-assn.org

Dr. Schwartzberg is Director of Aging and Community Health at the American Medical Association.. She received her B.A. from Harvard and M.D. from Northwestern and is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine. Dr. Schwartzberg is a past-president of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago, the Illinois Geriatrics Society, and the American Academy of Home Care Physicians.

In 1988 she received the Physician of the Year Award from the National Association for Home Care. In 1992 she received the Physician of the Year Award from the American Academy of Home Care Physicians. In 1995 she served as co-chair of the Illinois Delegation to the White House Conference on Aging, Caucus on Health and Social Services. She served on the Advisory Committee of the 2005 White House Conference on Aging. She is a member of the Safe Medication Use Expert Committee for the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). She currently directs AMA projects on Older Driver Safety, Medical Management of the Home Care Patient, Health Literacy and Safe Communication.

She has been working in the field of health literacy and clinician/patient clear communication since 1997. She organized the AMA ad hoc committee of experts that developed the Council on Scientific Affairs Report on Health Literacy, organized the physician awareness campaigns based on the Health Literacy Introductory Kit and later developed the Health Literacy: Help Your Patients Understand self-study educational program. She has led the AMA Foundation's Training of Trainers program for the last 4 years, helped develop the 3 module curriculum, train teams of physicians from 29 state and medical specialty societies. The teams have presented over 300 educational programs reaching over 30,000 physicians and other health professionals.

She is the 2001 recipient of the Henry P. Russe, MD "Citation for Exemplary Compassion in Healthcare" awarded by the Institute of Medicine of Chicago and the Rush-Presbyterian-St Luke's Medical Center.