2010 Sidney R. Garfield, MD
EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD
SIDNEY R. GARFIELD, MD, was the physician founder of Kaiser Permanente and one of the great innovators of 20th century American health care delivery.

Dr. Garfield was a surgeon and visionary. He first applied the novel principles of prepayment, prevention, and group medical practice in the 1930s, while he was providing medical and hospital services for construction workers building the Colorado River Aqueduct in the Mojave Desert.

Then, during World War II, he developed a medical care program for hundreds of thousands of workers and family members at Kaiser shipyards in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Vancouver/Portland area, and at the Kaiser Steel Mill in Southern California. His health care system focused as much on the prevention of illness as on caring for the sick.

Dr. Garfield looked for innovations in health care throughout his career. In the 1950s, his revolutionary hospital designs drew international praise. In 1960, he was in the vanguard of physicians who embraced the computer as a tool that could radically improve the delivery of medical care.

Historians writing about events of the 1990s see the work of Dr. Garfield in co-founding Kaiser Permanente as one of the major social contributions of the century.

The Exceptional Contribution Award was established by the TPMG Board of Directors in 2000 to recognize physicians who are instrumental in the development and dissemination of ideas and programs that have a significant impact on patients, colleagues and the broader community.

“Keep your arms on each other’s shoulders and keep your eyes on the stars for innovation and change for the future.”

- Sidney R. Garfield, MD
Dr. Sweet’s Integrator is widely credited as the reason radiologists are routinely meeting 24-hour turnaround times for reports, and in many instances, generating them in less than 15 minutes. Every Radiology Department in the region uses the software to some extent, and some rely on it for all imaging reporting. Real-time reports are provided in KP HealthConnect (KPHC), to provide timely information to physicians and their patients. Dr. Sweet is now developing the next generation of the software to interface with Radiant, the new Radiology Information System that will be launched in KPHC.

"There must be a better way," thought Dr. Sweet when he saw the difficulties many radiologists had accessing information to compose their reports. Moving from thought to action, he used his skills in computer programming and medical informatics to develop the Radiology Information Integrator. The Integrator fuses information from numerous systems. "My goal was to bring data to radiologists, rather than make them search for it," says Dr. Sweet.

The Integrator makes it easy to access demographic data on exams. The program also features voice recognition software and standardized report templates.
EXCELLENCE IN STROKE CARE

For nearly two decades, Dr. Schlegel has been a driving force behind TPMG’s success in improving the care experience and outcomes for patients with strokes. His efforts began in the early 1990s when he advocated for KP to provide a more consistent level of stroke care.

His passion made him the logical choice to lead TPMG’s first Stroke Clinical Practice Guideline project. The group’s first set of guidelines was issued in 1996 and addressed acute stroke treatment with intravenous thrombolytic tPA, as well as evidence-based practice in stroke care.

Dr. Schlegel continues to lead the effort to update the Stroke Clinical Practice Guidelines. He also has been a champion for establishing “acute stroke centers” at each medical center -- a goal that’s well on its way to being achieved. “I’m proud that we were able to bring an improved standard of care for stroke patients across the region,” notes Dr. Schlegel.

Under his leadership, the San Rafael Stroke Center earned certification from Joint Commission; received performance awards from the American Heart Association; and is on track to earn the Joint Commission’s Gold Award, for sustaining a score >85% on “core measures” for 24 months.

"It’s a good feeling to know that I’ve had an impact, not only with my individual stroke patients, but also with practice standards that affect patients around the region."
 KP HEALTHCONNECT INPATIENT IMPLEMENTATION

Dr. Hoberman’s vision, perseverance and exceptional leadership talents made the implementation of KP HealthConnect (KPHC) Inpatient a success. Starting in 2003, Dr. Hoberman began working with software vendor Epic to improve its inpatient, ED and OR products. He then led the team that developed the workflows, training, interfaces and clinical content in the system.

In 2006, with South Sacramento selected as the alpha site for inpatient implementation, Dr. Hoberman virtually moved in to the facility as he and his team did what’s been described as “inserting a new central nervous system into Kaiser Permanente’s hospital care delivery system.” During this critical phase, Dr. Hoberman, a San Francisco HBS physician, obtained South Sacramento privileges and saw patients there, to gain a deeper understanding of the end-user experience, while working constantly with Epic to improve the software.

He worked with the same dedication to complete implementation of KPHC at all KP hospitals in Northern California in 2010. Along the way, he developed a team to support users and provided continuing education.

Dr. Hoberman still works closely with Epic, his team, and KP stakeholders, to further refine the system to, in his words, “help people make better decisions and provide better care.”

What did I do the first decade of this new millennium? I raised my children and helped create the inpatient electronic medical record that we use at Kaiser Permanente. Both have been great sources of pride and happiness.
It’s not often that TPMG physicians use adjectives like cool, awesome, innovative and amazing, to refer to computer tools. But that’s just how doctors around the region are describing the KP HealthConnect (KPHC) Toolbar, created by Dr. Lee.

Impetus for the Toolbar grew out of Dr. Lee’s desire to save time by reducing the number of keystrokes needed to perform many common functions. Although he had no background in computer programming, Dr. Lee taught himself the complex skills needed to create the Toolbar, and launched it in South Sacramento in 2009 to widespread praise.

The current Toolbar executes at least 26 different tasks, most with just a few keystrokes. While it used to take six keystrokes to calculate the level of service and close an office visit encounter, it now takes just two. Only one keystroke is needed to change the pharmacy destination for a prescription, instead of five or more.

At last count, the Toolbar was on more than 6,500 computers throughout KP Northern California, helping to improve efficiency, increase satisfaction and enhance patient safety. “People have been looking for ways to make KP HealthConnect easier to use,” says Dr. Lee. “I’m thrilled this Toolbar helps.”

Edward Lee, MD
Internal Medicine, South Sacramento

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Seeing all the clinicians who have benefited from the KP HealthConnect Toolbar has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career.
SIDNEY R. GARFIELD, MD
2000 - 2003 Exceptional Contribution Award

2000
Wendy Huber, MD
Dermatology, South Sacramento
Latex Allergy Prevention Program

Tom Kidwell, MD
Ophtalmology, North Valley
Re-engineering Vision Services

Keith Matsuoka, MD
Head and Neck Surgery
Greater Southern Alameda Area Hearing Aid Centers

Barry J. Miller, MD
Orthopedics, San Jose
Medical Spine Unit

Michael Wilkes, MD
Internal Medicine
South San Francisco Congestive Heart Failure Program

2001
Ernie Bodai, MD
Surgery, North Valley
Breast Cancer Stamp

Richard Boise, MD and Maria Borquez, MD
Pediatrics, Diablo Service Area
Pregnancy Teen Counseling Program

Susan Kutchner, MD
Surgery, San Jose
Breast Cancer Care Delivery

Brigid McCaw, MD
Internal Medicine, East Bay Area
Family Violence Prevention Program

2002
Louis Fehrenbacher, MD
Oncology, Napa Solano Area
Oncology Clinical Trials Program

Doug Grey, MD
Surgery, San Francisco
Operation Access

Walter Kinney, MD
Ob/Gyn, North Valley
Cervical Cancer Screening

Ron Mellies, MD
Ophtalmology, Redwood City
TrackER and Notewriter

Michael Wong, MD
Allergy, Central Valley Area
Neighbors in Health

2003
Charles Wibbelsman, MD
Adolescent Medicine, San Francisco
Adolescent Health Services

Steve Bornstein, MD
Ob/Gyn, South San Francisco
Clinical Information Presentation System

Ronald Bachman, MD and Edgar Schoen, MD
Genetics, East Bay Area
Regional Genetics Service

Eleanor Levin, MD
Cardiology, Santa Clara
Cholesterol Management, Cardiac Rehabilitation & Heart Failure Programs

Hernando Garzon, MD
Emergency, North Valley
Urban Search and Rescue Team

2004
John Chuck, MD
Medicine and Family Practice
North Valley
New Physician Orientation and Mentoring Programs

Scott Gee, MD
Pediatrics, Diablo Service Area
CIPS Preventive Health Prompt

Pat Hybarger, MD
HNS/Mohs, San Rafael
Mohs Surgery Reconstruction Program

2005
Towie Fong, MD
Internal Medicine, San Francisco
Chinese Bilingual Bicultural Module

Preston Maring, MD
Ob/Gyn, East Bay Area
Friday Fresh Farmers’ Markets

Mary Pat Pauly, MD
Gastroenterology, North Valley
Care of Patients With Hepatitis C

Charito Sico, MD
Pediatrics, Fresno
Community Health Fair

David Sobel, MD
Internal Medicine, San Jose
Health Education and Health Promotion

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Latex Allergy Prevention Program

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David Sobel, MD
Internal Medicine, San Jose
Health Education and Health Promotion
2006
David Baer, MD
Oncology, East Bay Area
Case Management for Medical Oncology

Sobha Kollipara, MD
Endocrinology, North Valley
Programs for Children and Adolescents with Diabetes

John Rego, MD
Radiology, San Francisco
Virtual Radiology and Digital Imaging

KM Tan, MD
Radiology, San Rafael
Allied School of Health Sciences

2007
Rob Burger, MD
Occupational Medicine, North Valley
Prevention and Emergency Management of Youth Sports Injuries

Richard Fleming, MD
Internal Medicine, Napa Solano Area
Volunteers in Public Service

Joseph Phaneuf, MD
Dermatology
Greater Southern Alameda Area
Ashland Free Medical Clinic

Alan Whippy, MD
Emergency Medicine, East Bay Area
Population Disease Management

2008
Tom Barber, MD
Orthopedic Surgery
East Bay Area
CyberKaiser

Evan Bloom, MD
Pediatrics, South Sacramento
Physician Wellness

Paul Preston, MD
Anesthesiology, San Francisco
Patient Safety

Gail Wagner, MD
Hematology/Oncology
Greater Southern Alameda Area
Matibabu Foundation

Alan Wong, MD
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
Santa Clara
JW House

2009
Richard Dlott, MD
Endocrinology, Diablo Service Area
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program

Marc Jaffe, MD
Endocrinology, South San Francisco
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program

Warren Taylor, MD
Hospital Medicine, Napa Solano Area
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program

Joe Young, MD
Internal Medicine, East Bay Area
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction Program

2009
Gary Heit, MD, PhD
Neurosurgery, Redwood City
Americare Neurosurgery International

Susan Lindheim, MD
Pediatrics, East Bay Area
Allen Fischer Local Employees Assistance Fund

Nilima Sabharwal, MD
Pathology, San Jose
Home of Hope