



Willarda V. Edwards, M.D., MBA

President

Willarda V. Edwards, M.D., MBA, a managing partner and internist in Baltimore, Maryland, is the 110th president of the National Medical Association (NMA).

With nearly 20 years of service in the National Medical Association, Dr. Edwards has served on the NMA Board of Trustees in numerous capacities, including Chair of the Board and Treasurer. As President-elect, she chaired the Board's Health Policy Committee which oversees the development and implementation of the Association's health policy agenda.

Dr. Edwards holds national offices in both the National Medical Association and American Medical Association (AMA) and in 1995 became the first physician to serve concurrently as president of both local medical societies. Currently an AMA Delegate from the state of Maryland, she has also served as Chair of the AMA Women Physicians Congress, and was recently elected to the AMA Council on Constitution and Bylaws. She previously served as national director of the NAACP Health Advocacy Division, and President and Chief Operating Officer of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. Currently, Dr. Edwards chairs the Advocacy and Policy Committee of the Commission to End Healthcare Disparities, an organization of more than 65 medical and health profession organizations whose aim is to unify efforts to achieve quality care for racial and ethnic minorities.

An Internist in private practice in the State of Maryland since 1984, she has been recognized for her work in medicine and in the community. In 1997, she received the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority "*Woman of the Year in Medicine Award*," and Maryland's

Top One Hundred Women Award in 2003. In 2007, she was a recipient of the Congressional Black Caucus Award for Literature for a book that she co-authored, *The Black Woman's Guide to Black Men's Health*. Earlier this month, Dr. Edwards was honored by her alma mater, the University of Texas at El Paso, as a recipient of its 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award.

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