

An RBMA Minute with David Gorman, RBMA Eastern Director

BY DAPHNE BROWN

David Gorman

David Gorman may be reached at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 633 3rd Avenue, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10017; 646.227.2397; 212.557.0455 Fax; gormand@mskcc.org



► Where do you currently work?

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

► What is your title and duties?

I am the business manager of the radiology department. I am responsible for all of the ancillary services within radiology, including billing, coding, transcription, and scheduling. I am also responsible for the financial health of the faculty practice, consisting of almost 70 radiologists and nuclear medicine physicians. In addition, I provide oversight to radiology's exponentially growing clinical research program.

► How long have you held the position?

I have served two tenures at Memorial Sloan Kettering, totaling 20 years in all. Almost seven of those years have been exclusively in the radiology department.

► Why did you pick this field?

Ever since my first job in healthcare as a pharmacy technician more than 27 years ago, I have realized just how unique the field of radiology is and I knew it was the field I wanted to be in. I believe that any job in healthcare requires a level of knowledge, compassion, initiative, and hard work like no other. It is very satisfying to work with other people in the field who share these attributes.

► What do you like best about your current position?

Working for Memorial—specifically the radiology department—you always receive full support from staff, physicians, and hospital administration to enhance patient care through viable initiatives and projects. Plus, you have the ability to be pro-active, and in a business like radiology that is essential.

► If you have a difficult time working through a problem at your job who do you turn to for advice?

Between the Chairman, Hedvig Hricak, MD, and the Administrator, Pat Soto, their combined knowledge and experience in this field is unsurpassed. They provide insight and direction in the most difficult times. I am truly a better manager because of their guidance.

► Where did you grow up?

I was born in the Bronx, but moved to Queens when I was nine. The product of a single parent home, I didn't do too badly. I thank my mother for struggling through the tough times.

► Do you have any academic degrees? If you do, from what colleges?

It took me longer than most, but I have my bachelor's degree from Queens College, with a major in biology and secondary education. I also have an MBA from Dowling College.

► Who or what were your major influences?

My college professor, Dr. Milton Nathanson, was a major influence in my life when I wanted to shift my career into high gear. After dropping out of pharmacy school when I was a 'kid,' Dr. Nathanson helped me with the transition back to school as an adult, while juggling my studies with marriage, kids, and work. A mentor, friend, and educator, his advice and assistance was a blessing.

► What rule would you say you live your life by?

Cross your T's, dot your I's, and gather all of the information you can. Then make your decisions. They will be sound ones.

► When and why did you choose to get involved with RBMA?

When I started in radiology, I had significant knowledge about healthcare, but little about radiology. After networking with other radiology managers, their overwhelming choice to learn about, and become involved with radiology, was RBMA. They were right! Not only has the information and education from RBMA been invaluable, but the people I have met have made my involvement with RBMA all the more rewarding.

► What is your vision for RBMA?

Education and networking has always been its strong points and will continue to be in the future. It is what worked for me.

► What do you do with your free time?

We have been boating for some 30 years and love all of the aspects of cruising, tubing, or just dock-n-dining.

► Tell us about your family.

My wonderful wife, Sharon, also works at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center as an auditor in the billing department. She and I recently celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary. We have two boys: Jason, 18, who is studying business at Fordham University, and Harrison, 16, in high school looking forward to a career as a film director!