

THE Bulletin

A photograph of a squirrel lying on its side on a tree trunk. The squirrel has brown and grey fur and a long, bushy tail. The tree bark is dark and textured. The squirrel is looking towards the right of the frame.

September 2018 Volume 95, Number 9

Opioid Checklist for LARA Investigations
Register for 9/6 Health Systems Update!
Practice Managers Working Together

GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

DON'T GET THE FACTS TWISTED

40 is still the age to start having annual mammograms, according to the *American Cancer Society* recommendation. RMI stands by this recommendation by providing UltimateMamm[®], a comprehensive exam to better assess and monitor each women's risk. It includes her:

Breast Density Score  Gail Score (lifetime cancer risk assessment)



Based on this information, RMI also helps to determine whether a BRCA1 & BRCA2 (Breast Cancer) gene test and/or a breast MRI are recommended.

A recent study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found:

- Those with the BRCA1 mutation had, on average, a 72% risk of developing breast cancer by age 80
- The risk of developing ovarian cancer for those women was approximately 44%
- Women with the BRCA2 mutation had a 69% risk of breast cancer with a lifetime risk of ovarian cancer of 17%*



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RMI WAS THE 1st IN MICHIGAN

- To be approved by the Mammogram Medicare Screening Program
- To be named a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence as a private radiology facility
- To attest for Meaningful Use as a radiology facility



*There is a 4% margin of error. See more at <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2632503>

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THE Bulletin

Read by 96% of GCMS members.

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Our Vision

That the Genesee County Medical Society maintain its position as the premier medical society by advocating on behalf of its physician members and patients.

Our Mission

The mission of the Genesee County Medical Society is leadership, advocacy, education, and service on behalf of its members and their patients.

PLEASE NOTE

The GCMS Nominating Committee seeks input from members for nominations for the GCMS Presidential Citation for Lifetime Community Service. The Committee would like to be made aware of candidates for consideration.

THE BULLETIN

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THE BULLETIN are always welcome. Forward news extracts or material of interest to the staff before the 5th of the month. All statements or comments in THE BULLETIN are the statements or opinions of the writers and are not necessarily the opinion of the Genesee County Medical Society.

Toxic Déjà Vu – PBBs and Now PFAS

Do you remember Polybrominated Biphenyls (PBBs) sowing fear and disease into the lives of Michigan citizens approximately 43 years ago? Those PBB's entered the larger food chain through a single error made by a Gratiot County chemical company worker when a ton of Firemaster (a toxic fire retardant) was added to cattle feed. PBB's were ingested by cattle throughout this area and spread throughout Michigan and the Midwest, producing one of the largest chemical poisonings in the Western world. Another much larger and more dangerous toxic chemical exposure has been discovered. This family of toxins, through ignorance, and poor oversight has been introduced to Michigan's and U.S. citizens in multiple insidious ways. These chemicals are called Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (or PFAS and PFOS).

U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee said that "the seriousness of PFAS contamination cannot be overstated." Frankly, like the PBB issue in the 70s the PFAS poisoning ushers in another era of ecologic crisis. These perfluorinated compounds are linked to cancer, liver damage, birth defects, infertility, thyroid and autoimmune disease, neurologic disorders and hypercholesterolemia. According to Kildee at a recent GCMS Legislative Liaison Committee meeting, these compounds have been found in more than 30 sites throughout Michigan and are entering aquifers and the Great Lakes. Recently, large amounts have been measured in Lake St. Clair, near 1,000. Because of this, there is a fish consumption advisory and concern among the cities supplied by water from this lake. All of the Great Lakes will eventually be affected.

The State of Michigan was warned back in 2012 by Superfund section specialist Bob Delaney, a Department of Environmental Quality employee. Not until five years later did Gov. Rick Snyder's office set up a PFAS response team.

These chemicals have been used in military installations and businesses for a variety of purposes. Some of the most common are water repellent clothing, non-stick pans (Teflon), stain resistant fabrics including carpets, tanning products, cosmetics and fire-fighting foam. There are more than 3,000 of these man-made



*Gerald D. Natzke,
DO, FAAEM, DIBEM*

fluorinated organic chemicals. M-Live reported that it had been found in high concentrations in both Flint's Gilkey Creek and the Coldwater Road landfill. The EPA has set the concentration for a lifetime consumption limit for humans at 70 parts per trillion (ppt). Like with the Lead and Copper Rule used by the federal government, many feel these toxic exposure limits should be lower.

Should physicians desire further information regarding these chemicals for their patients, laboratory tests exist that will evaluate levels of these chemical families in the water and in the blood. Water testing can be done with Pace Analytical Lab, Watercheck and TapScore, to name a few. For testing blood

samples there are at least two labs available, NMS and Vista Analytical Laboratory.

The Precautionary Principle was not applied to the PFAS family of chemicals. This is a rule that is used in other countries and Europe but not often in the United States. It is also part of an accepted resolution by the AMA produced by the Genesee County Medical Society. It states that prior to the release of a new chemical into an environment the chemical must be studied and its potential for harm thoroughly understood. In the United States, traditionally many chemicals are released first with little safety evaluation and if significant harm comes, then they are removed. Unfortunately, the fines are much less in many cases than the profits gained.

PFAS contamination was a disaster just waiting to happen. It was not adequately studied for disease-causing potential in people, animals or fish. The sad thing is that people will be injured and die because the Precautionary Principle had not been applied.

In both environmental disasters, PBBs and now PFAS chemicals, serious mistakes were made with their testing, handling and use. It is clear that an in-depth study of chemical safety prior to release into the environment of all chemicals are required. Following this, strict regulation of all discovered toxins needs to be enforced. Perhaps by doing so the ecosystem our children and grandchildren inherit will be healthier than the one that we now share.

The Genesee County Medical Society cordially invites you to a Quarterly Dinner Business Meeting
and a **Medical Community Town Hall**
sponsored by the **United Way of Genesee County** and the **Sovita Credit Union**

September 6, 2018

“Health Systems Update”

Physicians and spouses of GCMS and GCMSA, Practice Managers and other interested professionals and guests are invited to hear the Presidents of our three health systems provide and update on current and future directions.

- **\$40.00 - GCMS Members, Spouses, Practice Managers, Staff, & Guests**
- **\$60.00 - All Non-Member Physicians, Practice Managers, & Staff**
- **\$25.00 - Residents & Students**

GCMS Physicians, spouses, GCMSA, family members, practice staff and other interested professionals are encouraged to attend!

Presentations by:



**Chris Palazzolo, President
Genesys Regional Medical Center**



**Chad M. Grant, President
McLaren Flint**



**Melany Gavulic (invited)
President of Hurley Medical Center**

Meeting Location

**Flint Golf Club
3100 Lakewood Drive
Flint, MI 48507**

Evening Schedule

**6 pm, Registration & Social Hour
6:30 pm, Dinner
7 pm, Meeting
7:15 pm, Presentations**

Space is limited!

Please register by August 29, 2018

Please mail your reservation payment to:

Genesee County Medical Society
4438 Oak Bridge Drive, Suite B
Flint, MI 48532

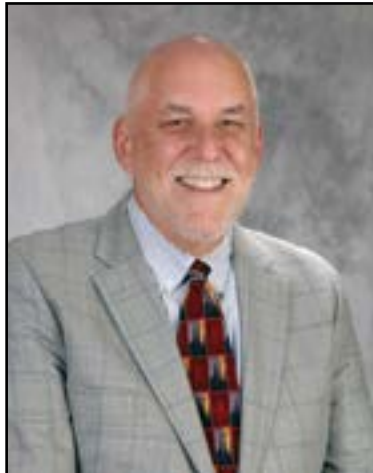
Email Sherry at ssmith@gcms.org
to register your attendance or call
810-733-9923 for more information.

Please invite your fellow physicians, practice managers, and health care professionals to this meeting!

Come to Hospital Town Hall! Time to Prepare for the Elections!

Come hear the hospital presidents' presentations at the GCMS Town Hall on Sept. 6. Every few years, we invite the leaders of our community's three hospital systems to come and speak to the membership on what is new and sometimes about what is wrong. It is a great opportunity to interact with this group of professionals who play such a central role in healthcare delivery in this community. Two of the three hospital presidents are brand new. Our landscape is shifting constantly. Please come. Spend time with your peers and participate in a very stimulating evening at a bargain price. Please invite other physicians to come, as well as their spouses and staffs. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Every two years we are faced with decisions about local, state and federal elections, candidates and referenda. It takes work to make an informed decision. GCMS will



Peter Levine, MPH

continue to send out notices of fund-raising and meet and greet opportunities which can put you in the same room with candidates. We sent those notices out when a member who is sponsoring or hosting an event asks us to do so for any candidate. We all need to get more involved in the political process, to speak on behalf of the medical profession, and patients. When MDPAC and AMPAC come out with endorsements we will get those out, to all of you, as soon as possible. This can be an invaluable tool in choosing candidates.

Finally, the GCMS Legislative Liaison Committee meets on the first Monday of most months. It provides a superb opportunity to get to know elected officials at all three levels of government, and to communicate the needs of the physician community. Please let us know if you would like to be added to the notification list.

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Congratulations

Mona Hanna-Attisha



Please join the Genesee County Medical Society
in Congratulating

Mona Hanna-Attisha, MD
and all the 2018 Michigan Women's
Hall of Fame inductees!

OPIATE CHECKLIST FOR LARA INVESTIGATIONS

BY: JOSÉ T. BROWN, ESQ., CLINE, CLINE & GRIFFIN

In the past three to five years there has been an increasing number of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs investigations pursuant to the opiate epidemic.

- I. Per the National Institute of Health, the prescription of opiates for pain management has resulted in abuse and frequently death. In fact, the NIH estimates that every day, more than 115 people in the United States die after overdosing on opiates.¹
- II. The misuse of, and addiction to opiates—including prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opiates such as Fentanyl—is a serious national crisis affecting the public's health as well as social and economic welfare. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the total economic burden of prescription opiate misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the cost of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment and criminal justice involvement. As opiate use disorders increase, prescriptions for treatment have not kept pace.²
- III. In April 2018, the NIH launched the HEAL (Helping to End Addiction Long-Term) initiative, an aggressive, trans-agency effort to speed scientific solutions to stem the national opioid public health crisis.

Responsible opiate prescribing has become a target of recent investigations by the State of Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). It directly impacts all Michigan clinicians who prescribe opiates. LARA investigations are much more thorough and frequent now than in the past. This is due to the national crisis and the resulting federal funding made available for this purpose. LARA's Opiate Epidemic Task Force generates significant monetary penalties to Michigan providers. It also results in a multitude of sanctions upon medical licensures including, probation, suspension, reprimand, revocation and reporting to the National Practitioner Data Bank.

The investigative tools utilized for responsible opiate prescribing follows the model guidelines in the short textbook authored by Scott M. Fishman, MD for Michigan clinicians. In fact, the opening introduction to the book is a message from the Michigan Board of Medicine and Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.³ It is the theme/mantra of this handbook that clinicians will better be able to help manage

patient's safety effectively.

In addition to the handbook other helpful websites include:

- Licensing and Regulatory Affairs requests that each clinician utilize the pain management website www.michigan.gov/pm.
- Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS), the state's electronic monitoring program to monitor their patient's controlled substance prescription use. MAPS can be accessed through www.michigan.gov/mimapsinfo.

Many LARA investigations are triggered by computer monitoring of those medical providers who prescribe opiates. When the investigator questions the provider, he uses information from the guidelines contained in Appendix A of the Responsible Opiate Prescribing, A Guide for Michigan Clinicians. The investigator utilizes computer-generated data to conduct the investigation as to the amount of opiates prescribed by the provider and the geographical distance of patients (some patients may come from in excess of 90 miles to seek opiates).

The State Board of Medicine indicates “physicians should not fear disciplinary action from the Board for ordering, prescribing, dispensing, or administering controlled substances, including opiate analgesics for legitimate medical purposes, and in the course of profession of practice, when current best clinical practices are met.”⁴

The Board of Medicine and the investigations frequently key on the following 10-point criteria from the handbook for use in evaluating a physician's management of patients with pain, including the physicians prescribing of opiate analgesics.

- Understanding pain.
- Patient evaluation and risk stratification.
- Development of a treatment plan and goals
- Informed consent and treatment agreement
- Initiating an opiate trial.
- Ongoing monitoring and adapting to treatment plan.
- Periodic drug testing.
- Consultation and referral.
- Discontinuing opiate therapy.
- Medical records.

Although the medical record criteria is last on the checklist, it is frequently where the investigation merit hinges based upon the documentation support in the patient's pain management in the medical record. The

medical record provision has a number of sub-criteria within it that includes: informed consent, medical history, results of physical examinations and laboratory tests, results of risk assessment, description of treatment provided, etc. Good medical records demonstrate that a service was provided to the patient and establish the necessity of the service provided.

Another significant investigative tool is the use of MAPS (Michigan Automated Prescription System). MAPS is used to track controlled substances, Schedule II – V drugs. It is a tool used by prescribers and dispensers to assess patient risk, and also to use to prevent drug abuse and diversion at the prescriber, pharmacy, and patient level.

Frequently, MAPS can be utilized to determine whether opiate abusers are utilizing the “Holy Trinity.” The “Holy Trinity” has been described as a drug regimen that includes at least an opiate, a benzodiazepine, and carisoprodol. The prescribing of Schedule II – V opiates alone has resulted in an opiate epidemic, but it’s even far more important to determine whether the patient is seeking a “cocktail” of opiates. The “Holy Trinity” combination of opiates, benzodiazepine, and carisoprodol (a muscle relaxant a/k/a Soma) creates a synergistic effect, a high that is shown to be extremely addictive. The use of MAPS can be highly effective in determining why a patient may be seeking Phenergan in the month of July or August for a cough along with a muscle relaxer. Frequently, patients will seek different providers for the individual ingredients of the “Holy Trinity” cocktail.

Most recently, the controlled substance laws and regulations have become rigid regarding opiate prescriptions. The new laws may result in many unintended consequences.⁵ Also, please see the Opioid Epidemic article by Attorney Megan Mulder in previous Genesee County Medical Society Bulletins.

Every medical provider must be diligent and overly cautious in this present atmosphere of the opiate epidemic. The diligent and the cautious should be aware of the 10-point checklist.

It was a pleasure to provide GCMS with an opioid update. If you have questions regarding healthcare law updates please contact Cline, Cline & Griffin at ccglawyers.com.

1 *Heal Initiative Research Plan, NIH, June 2018*

2 *IDA notes July 2018*

3 *Responsible Opioid Prescribing, A Guide for Michigan Clinicians, by Scott Fishman, M.D., 2nd Edition.*

4 *Responsible Opioid Prescribing, A Guide for Michigan Clinicians, by Scott Fishman, M.D., 2nd Edition.*

5 *Crain's Detroit Business by Jay Green, July 29, 2018.*

Do you recognize this **DOCTOR?**



Look for the Answer inside!

Announcement

**GCMS members now entitled
to a 15% discount on automobile
and homeowners insurance.**

For details, contact:

**POTTER & ROOSE
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members for 50 years.**

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Reprinted from *The Bulletin*, March 1958 issue

First Medical Practitioner in Genesee County

Cyrus Baldwin, MD

The first physician to locate and practice in Genesee County was Dr. Cyrus Baldwin, who came from Onondaga County, New York, and settled in Grand Blanc in 1833. In 1837, he moved to Atlas, being the first physician in that township, and remained there a number of years. In 1840, he became a member of the Genesee County Medical Society.

Dr. Baldwin was a much-loved man and well thought of in the community in which he lived. He was a deacon in the Presbyterian Church in Grand Blanc.

A story which may or may not be true was told about Dr. Baldwin. He used to make his own pills and had some drying in the sun on a board. A rooster found these pills and ate them. It was

reported that he crowed all night.

Dr. Baldwin's oldest daughter, Julia Anna, was married to Dr. Daniel Webster in 1826, at Baldwinsville, New York. Dr. Webster located in Grand Blanc and practice there for a few years.

Dr. Baldwin died in 1855. He was buried in the Horton Cemetery near Goodrich.



Reprinted from *The Bulletin*, July 1966 issue

The President's Message

J. E. Wentworth, MD, President

Second Look

There comes a time in the life of every man when he must take a head-on look at the facts of life and accept them, however unpalatable they may seem. If he is less than a coward, he must always assert and defend an intellectually honest position. If on the other hand, he is motivated by pride, greed or ignorance, he must then be taken by the hand and lead into the light. If this be the true situation I think it is time for us as physicians to face the facts concerning emergency room medicine.

Why do people flock

to the emergency rooms? People with hives go to an emergency room because they went there when they had poison ivy. Some go because their health insurance policy will pay the fee. As long as the door is always open, people will take all sorts of minor illness and injuries to a nearby emergency room and the physician who routinely directs his patients to an emergency room is not helping matters. Unintentionally or otherwise, he is upgrading the hospital at the expense of his own professional image.

Doctors have traditionally lost battles by default. They're always "too busy" practicing medicine to notice when someone is trying to slip a knife in their back and give it a twist. We admire an unselfish professional attitude, but it is sometimes a form of suicide. Furthermore, doctors --not hospitals-- should practice medicine.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Dr. R. Weber and the Emergency Room Affairs Committee for the exhaustive task they have completed.



I personally shall, as you are, take another look at the facts confronting us concerning emergency room coverage.

Please join us for an informational panel discussion about health issues in the November election

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

William S. White Building, Room 1205

University of Michigan – Flint

Information on the Genesee Health Plan millage proposal, sick leave policy, and health insurance issues will be presented.

Dr. Bobby Mukkamala will be a featured panelist with the discussion being moderated by **E. Yvonne Lewis**.

- **Voter registration will be available one-half hour before and after the event**
- **No registration is required for the event**

**This event is sponsored by
College of Health Sciences
University of Michigan-Flint and
the Genesee County Medical Society**



Grand Blanc Physician Elected MAFP President

Mary Marshall, MD, RN, a Family Physician practicing in Grand Blanc, was recently installed as president of Michigan Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP), the largest medical specialty organization in the state.

At the MAFP Annual Meeting, held July 14 at Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo, Dr. Marshall was elected by the membership to serve a one-year term as president of the Board of Directors.

A solo-practicing Family Physician affiliated with Genesys Regional Medical Center, Dr. Marshall provides primary and preventive healthcare to patients of all ages, from newborns to seniors. She earned her Medical Degree in 1997 from Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and completed residency at Genesys Regional Medical Center Family Medicine Residency in 2000.

Throughout her healthcare career spanning more than 40 years, Dr. Marshall has been active outside her practice. She is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Michigan State University College

of Human Medicine and a member of MAFP, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Medical Association, Michigan State Medical Society, and Genesee County Medical Society.



Mary Marshall, MD, RN

As MAFP President, Dr. Marshall will work with the Board of Directors to help set the agenda for the upcoming year. In addition, she will be one of the leading voices representing Michigan Family Physicians on local, state, and national issues.

“I am honored to continue the 70-year tradition of strong leaders representing Family Physicians in Michigan, and I am excited about the work of MAFP that is focused on further advancing the specialty of Family Medicine, supporting family doctors in their commitment to making Michigan healthy, and working to retain Family Medicine residents in our state to ensure a strong healthcare workforce in the future,” said Dr. Marshall.

2018 GCMS/GCMSA PRESIDENT'S

MASQUERADE BALL

NOVEMBER 10TH AT 6 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
GENESYS CONFERENCE & BANQUET CENTER

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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



Water Delivery

The Michigan State Medical Society staff contributed to a fund to buy water for Flint residents. They brought 150 cases and unloaded them at one of the distribution sites. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.



Issues of Serious Concern for Medical Practices!

Don't let your practice manager miss these important meetings!



Held 4th Thursday of each month from 8am to 10am.

The following topics are tentatively scheduled and subject to change

**September 27 2018
Presenter(s):**

“Compliance”

Lindsay Anderson, Chief Compliance Officer/Applications Administrator
Jessica Thomas, Billing Manager
Regional Medical Imaging

**October 25, 2018
Presenter(s):**

“Molina Follow-Up from May Session”

Julie Hurst, Director Provider Contracting Services
Molina Healthcare

**Genesee County Medical Society | Rapport Conference Room
4438 Oak Bridge Drive, Suite B | Flint, MI 48532**



A Masquerade Ball

2018 GCMS/GCMSA President's Ball
November 10th at 6:00 o'clock in the evening
Genesys Conference & Banquet Center

Premiere - \$10,000 Level Sponsor

Includes Two Tables of 8 (16 seats), *One Full-Page Ad** in the January 2019 GCMS Bulletin, a link to your website from your ad, special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, acknowledgement in the event program and at the podium, and a sponsorship of a Dinner Business Meeting.

Platinum - \$5,000 Level Sponsor

Includes seating at one table of 8, *One Full-Page Ad** in the January 2019 GCMS Bulletin, a link to your website from your ad, special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, and acknowledgment in the event program and at the podium.

Gold - \$2,500 Level Sponsor

Includes seating for 6, *One Half-Page Ad** in the January 2019 GCMS Bulletin, special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, and acknowledgment in the event program and at the podium.

Silver - \$1,500 Level Sponsor

Includes seating for 4, *One Quarter-Page Ad** in the January 2019 GCMS Bulletin, special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, and acknowledgment in the event program and at the podium.

Bronze - \$750 Level Sponsor

Includes seating for 2, *Business Card Size Ad** in the January 2019 GCMS Bulletin, special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, and acknowledgment in the event program and at the podium.

Red Rose - Generous Donation

Includes seating for 2 (over \$500), special mention in advertising and promotions relating to the Presidents' Ball, and acknowledgment in the event program and at the podium.

**GCMS will place ads at its discretion upgrading to premium placement if possible.*





GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION

ANNUAL MEETING

ADDRESSING THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF
HEALTH TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED COMMUNITY
HEALTH OUTCOMES

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2018
3:00-5:00 PM

GFHC Board of Directors please arrive by 2:45 PM

THE FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS • RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

This year's Annual Meeting will serve as a public forum to highlight the work of the Greater Flint Health Coalition to improve community health outcomes by addressing social determinants of health.



This event will also feature "upstreamist":

Rishi Manchanda, M.D., MPH
President & Founder of Health Begins

This event is free, however, seating is limited.

[Click here to register](#)

Registration is Now Open



Advance Care Planning (ACP) Project *Respecting Choices*® ACP Courses

ACP Facilitator Training Course – Register early to complete pre-requisites

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

This training course provides participants with a thorough understanding of Genesee County's ACP infrastructure, as well as the skill set and knowledge to assist others with facilitating an advance care planning conversation and completing the *Your Health Your Choice* advance directive. Attendance is recommended for those who work directly with patients or families and will be assisting them with advance care planning and the completion of an advance directive. Upon course completion, participants will be certified as a *First Steps*® ACP Facilitator.

Continuing education credits available for RNs and SWs.

The cost for the ACP Facilitator Training Course is \$175. Payment to the Greater Flint Health Coalition must be paid in full prior to attending the training.

Participants will have to complete several prerequisites prior to attending the training:

Complete online training modules (**approximately 4-5 hours**)

Complete the *Your Health Your Choice* advance directive

Engage in an advance care planning conversation with a friend or loved one

Register for an Upcoming ACP Facilitator Training Today!

Registration is quick and easy. To register for an ACP training course, simply fill-out the information below, include payment (checks may be made payable to the Greater Flint Health Coalition), and return to:

Greater Flint Health Coalition
519 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 306
Flint, MI 48502

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Training Date: _____

Training Payment (Check Box)

Check Included (payable to Greater Flint Health Coalition)

Please Invoice

**Questions? Contact Jenn Sesti at the Greater Flint Health Coalition
(810) 232-2228 or gfhc@flint.org.**



ADV-8D10 ACP.facilitator.training.091218.jenn

GCMS Practice Managers – An Esteemed Kinship

By Traci J. Kim, MA, CMPE

For many years now, I have regularly attended our monthly GCMS practice manager meetings, and I can't ever remember leaving one saying, "That was a waste of time!" Admittedly, I look forward to them for several reasons.

First, I enjoy seeing the other practice managers and realizing I'm not alone in the struggle to successfully wear the many hats required today. Second, these meetings provide access to the upper echelons of insurance companies all with the hope of improving the payment systems, fixing reimbursement errors, and strengthening provider-patient relationships. Finally, these meetings are also open discussion sessions where we can survey our peers, help support each other, gain perspective and increase our efficiency.

Then, there is Pete Levine. I can't say enough about him at the helm of GMCS. He is always an advocate for practice managers with a willingness to bring anyone to the table who can ultimately help us do our jobs. It takes thought, organization and time to respond to the



Traci J. Kim,

many needs of practice managers, but he is always available to us. Some of the important meetings he has orchestrated for us this year include sessions with HAP, Molina, BCBS, and Meridian. Practice managers and medical billers know that access to decision-makers within insurance companies is crucial to solving some of the complex payment problems we encounter.

So, to my fellow attendees, I look forward to seeing you again at our

next meeting! To those who have not yet

experienced one of our meetings, please come. You are more than welcome, and I guarantee you will leave knowing it was worth your valuable time!

(GCMS practice managers meetings are held monthly from 8-10 a.m. Thursday mornings at GCMS located at 4438 Oak Bridge Dr in Flint. Join our mailing list by sending your contact info to Sherry Smith at ssmith@gcms.org. There is no fee to attend these meetings, however the practice physician(s) must be a GCMS member.)



2018 GCMS/GCMSA
President's
MASQUERADE BALL
November 10th

Sponsorship
Opportunities Available



TRUST EXPERIENCE. COUNT ON COMMITMENT.

In the Fall of 1928, Howard D. Cline and Francis J. George, both recent graduates of law school, formed a partnership Cline & George and secured a small office on the 10th floor of the Mott Foundation Building. That partnership remained until the mid-fifties when Earl J. Cline, son of Howard D. Cline, joined the firm which became Cline & Cline. In the early sixties, Howard D. Cline, Jr. joined the law firm. Howard Cline, Sr. died in 1965. Walter P. Griffin joined in the mid-seventies and in the late seventies the present law firm of Cline, Cline & Griffin, P.C. was formed. That entity expanded with the acquisition of the entire 10th floor of the Mott Foundation Building. Since that time, Timothy H. Knecht, José T. Brown, and J. Brian MacDonald have become shareholders. Currently, Cline, Cline & Griffin, P.C. has twenty employees, including eight attorneys. We look forward to the next 90 years.



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Practice Managers Meetings are Very Effective!

Here are some of the recent issues raised by the GCMS practice managers, which have been worked on in this setting:

- One practice reported that a payer was holding \$250,000 because of floating, changing instructions given by various payer staff.
- Several specialist practices encountered a prior authorization requirement that would have severely endangered patients and greatly inconvenienced physicians and their staffs.
- All practices were and still are having major problems with a specific payer. Several meetings have been held with the leadership of the payer with progress on the problems being monitored carefully by the managers.
- If you would like your manager of biller to attend the GCMS practice managers meetings, please email Sherry at ssmith@gcms.org or call 810-733-9923.



2018 GCMS/GCMSA President's

MASQUERADE BALL

November 10th

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OBITUARIES



Rabbi Salimi, MD

Dr. Rabbi Salimi passed away on Aug. 10, 2018, at the age of 73. He was born in 1945 in Esfahan, Iran. Dr. Salimi first came to America in 1974 to start a medical internship at McLaren Hospital—having just graduated at the top of his medical school class in Iran. Because he didn't know anyone in Michigan, he lived inside the hospital for the first six months, and was reprimanded by his superior just once, for responding to every single code, even when he wasn't on call. He continued his career with a residency at Henry Ford Hospital.

Upon finishing his training, Dr. Salimi moved back to Flint to open his own practice. His first office was only 500 square feet, barely enough room to contain his patients. His dedication to his patients continued for decades, all the way up to the construction of the Crowne Point Surgery & Endoscopy Center. His mission was to buck the national trend of local hospitals being devoured by mega-corporations. The state-of-the-art facility was envisioned to be everything that American medicine is increasingly not: Kind, compassionate, and a place where anyone could feel welcome. Dr. Salimi is survived by his wife Betty.



2018 GCMS/GCMSA PRESIDENT'S MASQUERADE BALL

NOVEMBER 10TH
AT 6 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
GENESYS CONFERENCE & BANQUET CENTER

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2018-19 Michigan State Medical Society Committee Appointments

The following are the list of MSMS committees and the names of the Genesee County Medical Society members on each committee.

Planning Committee for MSMS Annual Scientific Meeting

Rima Jibaly, MD

Committee on Bioethics

No GCMS members

Committee on CME Accreditation

No GCMS members

Committee on CME Programming

Rima Jibaly, MD

Committee on Healthcare Quality Efficiency and Economics

James Forshee, MD MBA

John Waters, MD

Committee on Maternal and Perinatal Health

no GCMS members

Liaison Committee with Medical Licensure Board's

Laura Carravallah, MD

S Bobby Mukkamala, MD

Committee to Review MSMS Policy Manual

Pino Colone, MD

Liaison Committee with Michigan's Public Health

Gerald Natzke, DO

Rama Rao, MD

Mary Lou Mathias, RN

Rima Jibaly, MD

Amanda Winston, MD

Gary Johnson, MD MPH

Committee on State Legislation and Regulations

Jawad Shaw, MD

Raymond Rudoni, MD

Laura Stoyanoff

Cathy Blight, MD

Michael Kia, DO

Venkat Rao, MD

Mona Sahouri

Liaison Committee with Third-Party Payers

No GCMS members

Worker's Compensation Subcommittee

James Long - Consultant

Genesee County Medical Society
Board of Directors
May 22, 2018 - Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order in the Rapport Conference Room at 6:00 pm, by Gerald Natzke, DO, President
After the meeting started, it was noted that there is a quorum.

II. Review of Minutes

Motion: that the minutes of April 24, 2018, Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented. The motion carried. The motion carried.

III. Reports

A) Community & Environmental Health

Dr. Natzke noted that there is an effort being made by Bryanna McGarry of Senator Ananich's office to set up a meeting with MDHHS to determine their interest in supporting the FACT study. At this point no one from MDHHS has responded to Bryanna.

Dr. Natzke reported that the Genesee County Health Department has issued a reminder regarding the Flint water emergency declaration and recommendations. In that document, it referred to the Genesee County Medical Society guidelines.

Dr. Natzke also reported that Dr. Reynolds has been inducted into the Genesee Health Plan Hall of Fame. Dr Reynolds received an ovation.

B) Finance

Motion: that the budget to actual report for the period ending April 30, 2018, be approved as presented. The motion carried.

Directive: staff was also directed to determine the highest number of full paying members in the past 10 years.

C) Membership

1) Updates regarding NPD's of 2016-17 and 2018

Levine reviewed the updates on 2016 to 2017 non-paid former members. He noted that according to MSMS, seven former members have renewed from the 2016 to 2017 list as a result of phone calls.

Levine also reviewed the 2018 non-paid list. Since the last meeting, three have re-joined as a result of phone calls.

D) AMA Update

Dr. Bobby Mukkamala reported that the new version of JAMA is called JAMA Network Open. The AMA has supported President Trump's effort to reduce prices of drugs. Prescription opioid use is down by 20% since 2013. The AMA is working with Google on inter-operability of electronic health records.

E) MSMS Update

Dr. Cathy Blight reviewed the report on the recent MSMS House of Delegates. She noted that 10 of 12 GCMS Resolutions were approved. The other two were referred to the MSMS Board of Directors. Both Drs. Venkat Rao, and John Waters were elected as AMA alternate delegates. Dr. Mukkamala continues to serve as Chair of the MSMS Board of Directors, with Dr. Waters serving as MSMS Treasurer. It was noted that there were GCMS members on virtually all reference committees.

Dr. Mukkamala announced to the House that he will be running for President-Elect at the 2019 MSMS House of Delegates meeting.

F) Legislative Liaison

Dr. Cathy Blight reported on the Legislative Liaison Committee meeting of May 7, 2018. She described several issues that the Committee expressed opinions upon, and invited Board members to attend the next meeting, which will take place on June 4th.IV. Other Business

Genesee County Medical Society
Board of Directors
May 22, 2018 - Minutes

Pete Levine reported that the March 22nd practice managers meeting with Blue Cross was remarkable with two practices resolving substantial problems.

Health Alliance Plan (HAP) is the scheduled topic for the April practice managers meeting. HAP will be reporting back to the practice managers what changes they have made a result of the Focus Groups that were held here.

G) Greater Flint Health Coalition

The Board of Directors heard a review of the Board agenda from the Greater Flint Health Coalition. It was noted that a resolution was passed asking the governor not to sign Michigan Senate Bill 0897, the bill proposing Medicaid recipient work requirements. The GFHC Board took this action because of the deleterious health effects of implementation of this bill. There is interesting information available regarding social determinants of health related to patients of the SIM program. Depression is by far the most significant social determinant of health. Connectivity between the practices is real, and Genesys PHO is back in the program

H) Presidents' Report

Dr. Natzke reported that the General Membership Meeting held on May 3 was a success. The numbers were high, but it would have been nice to have more Board members present, as well as members at large.

The Board then engaged in a discussion of topics for future General Membership Meetings. The top three topics were Burn Out, Rekindling the Passion for Health Care, Adverse Childhood Events, GCMS presents "What are Medical Schools Looking For", and Candidates Debate, featuring Gubernatorial, Senate, Congress.

If it's not possible to obtain commitments from the candidates, the consensus was to invite hospital CEOs to give an update to the membership.

IV. New Business

Consensus: that staff request that hospital Chief Executive Officer's pay hospitalists dues which would allow their practice managers to come to the practice managers meetings.

Motion: that the August 28th GCMS Board of Directors meeting be canceled. The motion carried.

V. Adjournment

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Levine, MPH

Executive Director

September 2018 Fitness Calendar

FREE! Commit to Fit! Class Schedule

<p>17</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 am</p> <p>Senior Stretch YMCA Downtown 10:00</p> <p>Pound GAC 10:15am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Loose Senior Center 2:00-3:00pm</p> <p>Aqua Fitness U of M-Flint 5:30pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Let's Hike it Baby!* For-Mar Nature Preserve 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Grand Blanc Senior Center 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Splash Bash U of M-Flint Rec 11:00 am</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hamilton Health Clinic 12:00 pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Davison Area Senior Center 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Forest Township Senior Center 12:15-1:00pm</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hamilton Main Clinic 5:30 pm</p> <p>Zumba GAC 5:30 p.m</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Berston Field House 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Grand Blanc Senior Center 10-11:00am</p> <p>Basic Yoga Insight Health & Fitness center 6:45 p.m.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 a.m</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Burton Senior Center 9:00-10:00am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Swartz Creek Senior Center 11am-12pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Yoga Flow U of M-Flint Rec 11:00am</p> <p>Full Moon Hike* For-Mar 7:30-9:00pm</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 am</p> <p>Senior Stretch YMCA Downtown 10:00</p> <p>Pound GAC 10:15am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Loose Senior Center 2:00-3:00pm</p> <p>Aqua Fitness U of M-Flint 5:30pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Let's Hike it Baby!* For-Mar Nature Preserve 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Grand Blanc Senior Center 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Splash Bash U of M-Flint Rec 11:00 am</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hamilton Health Clinic 12:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Davison Area Senior Center 10:00-11:00am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Forest Township Senior Center 12:15-1:00pm</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hamilton Main Clinic 5:30 pm</p> <p>Zumba GAC 5:30 p.m</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Berston Field House 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Grand Blanc Senior Center 10-11:00am</p> <p>Basic Yoga Insight Health & Fitness center 6:45 p.m.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Enhance Fitness Hasselbring Senior Center 9:00 a.m</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Burton Senior Center 9:00-10:00am</p> <p>Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program Swartz Creek Senior Center 11am-12pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Yoga Flow U of M-Flint Rec 11:00am</p>

YOUR \$\$\$ AT WORK

- GCMS hosted an Annual Washington Update provided by Congressman Dan Kildee
- GCMS continued to work with payers on issues of concern to individual and group practices
- GCMS continued to work with MSMS on legislative solutions to prior authorization problems
- GCMS completed planning of the September Town Hall meeting featuring presentations by health system presidents or their designees

September 2018 Fitness Calendar

FREE! Commit to Fit! Class Schedule

Class Descriptions & Locations

Basic Yoga (1 hour)

This class is a balanced flow of postures designed to build stamina, strength, and flexibility while promoting weight loss and general stress relief.

Insight Health & Fitness Center (IHFC)

Formerly Hurley Health & Fitness Center
4500 S. Saginaw St
Flint, MI 48507
(810) 893-6489



Community Yoga (1 hour) – This is a yoga class for all levels. Please wear comfortable and loose-fitting clothing. Some yoga mats will be available to borrow as well

Mindfulness@crim.org
(810)-235-7461

Crim Fitness Foundation

452 Saginaw Street Downtown Flint



Senior Stretch (1 hour) - This class will help improve overall strength and flexibility. The class is led by a certified senior fitness instructor who will guide you through the exercises at your own pace. This class is perfect for all ability levels.

YMCA Downtown Flint

411 E. 3rd Street
Flint, MI 48503
(810) 232-9622



Zumba Gold (1 hour) - A less intense version of the classic Zumba. This class offers fun music to keep the excitement high while keeping the impact low.

POUND® transforms drumming into an incredibly effective way of working out. Instead of listening to music, you become the music in this exhilarating full-body workout that combines cardio, conditioning, and strength training.

Genesys Athletic Club (GAC)

801 Health Park Blvd
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
(810) 606-7300



Questions?
Email commit2fit@flint.org

Aquafitness/Splash Bash- An invigorating water workout. Ideal for all fitness levels. No swimming required

University of Michigan-Flint Rec Center

401 Mill Street, Flint, MI 48502
(810) 762-3441



Enhance Fitness (1 hour) – A fun, energizing class geared toward improving overall functioning and well-being. Improve your cardiovascular fitness, strength, flexibility and balance!

TIMES & LOCATIONS:

Hasselbring Senior Center

1002 Home Ave. Flint, MI
(810) 766-7128 Mon, Weds, & Fri 9-10 am

Flint Farmers' Market- Tuesdays &

Thursdays 10:00-11:00 am
300 E. First St Flint, MI
(810) 232-1399

Berston Field House

3300 Saginaw St.

Flint, MI 48505

Thursdays, 10:00am

Main Clinic

2900 N. Saginaw Street

Flint, MI 48505

Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Genesee County Parks and Rec

Visit the calendar at: <http://geneseecountyparks.org/> to learn more about fun family events in Genesee County Parks!

For more information please go to:

- geneseecountyparks.org or call 800-648-PARK
- Descriptions for classes such as Let's Hike It Baby, Yoga for Kids, Yoga for Families, and more can all be found at the online calendar on Commit2fit.com or geneseecountyparks.org

All programs are free unless noted with an asterisk () sign next to the title, when noted with a *, next to the title, programming ranges from \$2.00-\$5.00. Pre-Registration may be required.*



Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program (1 hour) A low-impact physical activity program proven to reduce pain and decrease stiffness. The routines include gentle range-of-motion exercises that are suitable for every fitness level!

Grand Blanc Senior Center:

Tuesday & Thursdays 10am – 11am

Swartz Creek Senior Center:

Fridays 11am – 12pm

Forest Township Senior Center:

Wednesdays 12:30pm–1:30pm



SAVE THE DATE

September 26, 2018



Michigan Hepatitis A Outbreak Update for Clinicians

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will host an hour-long webinar focusing on hepatitis A. The webinar will provide updates on the status of the hepatitis A outbreak in Michigan, focusing on: case data review, risk factors, and hospitalizations. An interactive discussion of ongoing screening, vaccinations, and response strategies will occur.

Presenters:

Jevon McFadden, MD, MPH

CDC Career Epidemiology Field Officer and Medical Epidemiologist

- and -

Eden Wells, MD, MPH, FACPM

MDHHS Chief Medical Executive

Date: **September 26, 2018**

Time: **12:00 pm - 1:00 pm EDT**

Additional information regarding continuing education credit will be provided once available.



GCMS MEETINGS

— September 2018 —

“Health Systems Update”

GCMS Town Hall, 9/6
6:00pm, Flint Golf Club

Legislative Liaison Committee

Recessed (until October 1st)

Community & Environmental Health Committee, TBD

12:30pm, GCMS Office

2018 Ball Committee, TBD

3:30pm, GCMS Office

Finance Committee

5:15pm, GCMS Office, 9/25

Board of Directors

6:00pm, GCMS Office, 9/25

Practice Managers

8:00pm, GCMS Office, 9/27

Did you recognize...
Senator Dave Robertson



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SEPTEMBER

Ahm Huq, MD	1	Michael Beer, MD	18
Brian Shapiro, MD	1	David Diskin, MD	18
Ramotsumi Makhene, MD	4	Andrea Pacheco Arias, MD	18
Douglas Congdon, DO	4	Pongchayut Surapipith, MD	20
Bonita Wang, DO	4	Donald Scholten, MD	22
Smit Singla, MD	4	Donald Robinson, MD	22
Damayanthi Pandrangi, MD	5	Saqib Ahmad, MD	22
Anish Bansal, MD	5	Benjamin Ramirez, MD	25
Sierra Cuthpert, DO	5	Terry Krznarich, MD	25
Alexander Chan, MD	6	Michael Gedwill, DO	25
Joyce Fahrner, MD	7	Burt Parliament, MD	26
Linda Lawrence, MD	7	Keith Heslinger, MD	27
Mohamed Satti, MD	7	Eugene Chardoul, MD	28
Joseph Kingsbury, DO	8	Rosario Villareal, MD	28
Robert Soderstrom, MD	9	Sergio Ponze, MD	28
Scott Garner, MD	11	Raad Al-Khouri, MD	28
Ishwar Dass, MD	13	Peter Moody, MD	29
Leroy Johnson, MD	13	Manoharan Eustace, MD	29
Norman Walter, MD	13	Nkechi Onwuzurike, MD	29
John Doyle, MD	16	Stephen Kalstein, MD	30
Albert Macksood, MD	18	Robert Molnar, MD	30
Theodore Fellenbaum, MD	18		

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