

THE  
BULLETIN

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE...**

*SCOPE OF PRACTICE...*

*PRIOR AUTHORIZATION/STEP THERAPY...*

*REIMBURSEMENT ...*

*PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY..*

***AND MUCH MORE....***

***PHYSICIAN &  
NON PHYSICIANS:  
What are the  
differences?***



**FEBRUARY 2024**

**VOLUME 101-NUMBER 2**

**GCMSA ALLIANCE UPDATE**

**State Mandated requirement  
for upcoming Opioid Meeting**

**PAIN MANAGEMENT:**

**TREATMENT OPTIONS & LEGAL**

**RESPONSIBILITIES**



**MAY 22, 2024**

**ADVOCACY**

**DAY - 3/20/2024**



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The Genesee County Medical Society*

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**FEBRUARY 2024 VOLUME 101, NUMBER 2**

# **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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Buy subscription \$60 per year. Member subscription included with Society dues. Contributions to **THE BULLETIN** are always welcome. Forward news extracts or material of interest to the staff before the 1st 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 .

# Experience the **RMI** difference!

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- Breast Ultrasound
- 4D Diagnostic Breast MRI
- Breast Biopsy
- Contrast Enhanced Spectral Mammography (CESM)
- Breast Cancer (BRCA) Gene Testing



### Services

- Bone Densitometry DEXA
- Computed Tomography (CT)
- CT Lung Cancer Screening
- Coronary CT Angiography
- Drainage and Injections
- Fluoroscopy
- Interventional Pain Management
- MRI
- Nuclear Medicine
- PET/CT
- Ultrasound
- Vascular Access and Intervention
- X-Ray

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**Practice Managers**

March 14th 2024 , 2024  
9:00 A.M.

**Board of Directors**

March 26th, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

**Medical Society Foundation Board Meeting**

April 17th, 2024  
6:00 .P.M.

**Legislative Meeting**

May 6th , 2024  
8:00 A.M.

**Town Hall Meeting**

May 22, 2024

*Registration information in March*

*\*All meetings are via Zoom unless otherwise noted*

## *Announcement*

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

For details, contact:

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# Cash for Pregnant Moms and Babies



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[Rx Kids News | Stay up-to-date with all the happening of Rx Kids](#) [\(flintrxkids.com\)](#)

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- Neikesha, Pregnant Flint Mom

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PEDIATRIC PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE

Made possible with generous support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, State of Michigan, and a growing family of funders and supporters. See all the love at [FlintRxKids.com](https://flintrxkids.com).

# Message from the President

On May 22, [2024](#) The GCMS will be offering a 3 hour CME on Pain Management which is free to our members. We are honored to have Dr. Danic, Dr. Hopper and Dr. [Gundamraj](#) as the presenters for this program. This fulfills the LARA 3-hour requirement for pain management. Information is included in this newsletter. Special thanks to our executive Director, David Hoff, for making this happen.

Earlier this month [RxKids](#) held its inaugural bash in downtown Flint. This innovative program is the first-ever citywide cash prescription program for pregnant moms and babies. It is a much-needed initiative to help facilitate health outcomes in the city of Flint. The inaugural event at the Capital theatre featured many performers highlighting the great talent which has come from Flint and foreseeing the potential our city has to offer.

The Genesee County Medical Society is dedicated to advocating for the profession of medicine and on behalf of physicians in our community. The medical profession is facing many challenges from many different directions. Historically, Physicians have been the guardians of our own profession. It is by our involvement in our professional societies that we will be able to continue to ensure high quality of care for our patients. This will involve removing barriers which encumber physicians and creating pathways ensuring physicians are overseeing and regulating the delivery of medical care.



***DR. MACKSOOD AFTAB, D.O.***

# Message from the Executive Director

## Through The Eyes of the Executive Director

Frequently I am asked questions about the responsibilities associated with the GCMS Executive Director position. The response is consistent "It is a position with no boundaries". The Executive Director position has taken me to functions and events throughout Genesee County. The most enjoyment I receive from the from the position, is attending functions and networking.

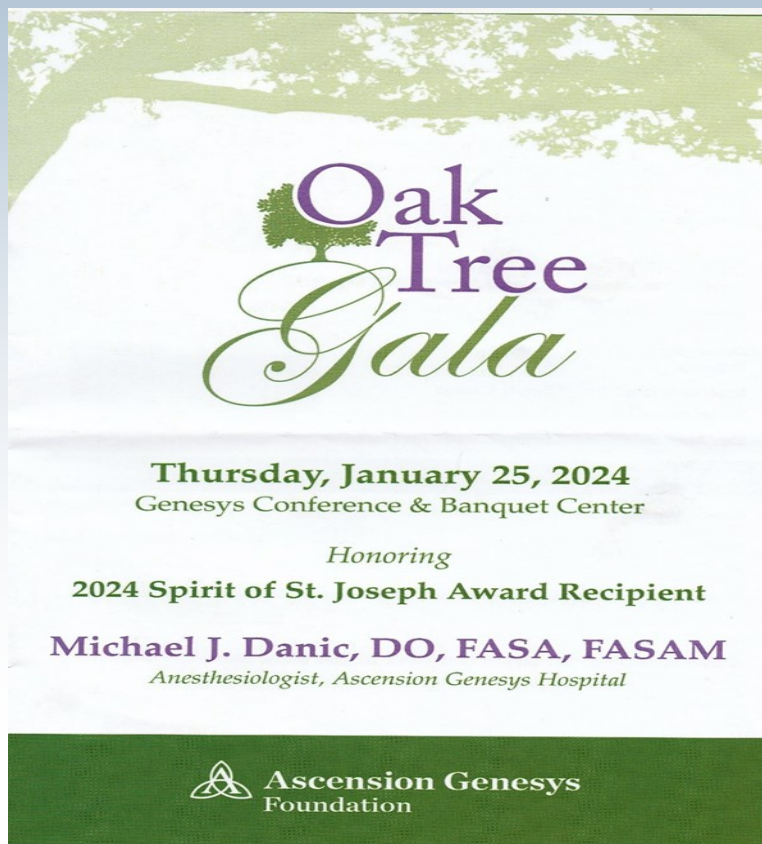
The month of January began on the eleventh with the Martin Luther King Tribute memorial dinner at the Genesys banquet facility. The tribute dinner is organized and presented by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. planning committee. The keynote speaker was Judge Tabitha Marsh of the 67<sup>th</sup> Flint District Court, the presentation was electric and motivating.

The MLK event was well attended and dinner was great! Socializing with Prosecuting Attorney David Leyton and Sheriff Christopher Swanson were a few additional highlights of the evening.





On January 25, 2024 I had the pleasure of attending the Genesys Oak Tree Gala in Grand Blanc, Michigan. This was also a very well attended event with professionals from all over the county to support Dr. Michael Danic.



It was an honor to be present for the presentation of the 2024 Genesys Spirit of St. Joseph award. Michael Danic, DO FASA, FASAM, Chairman of the Anesthesia Dept. was the 2024 award recipient. The evening began with GCMS past president and current board member Dr. Bobby Mukkamala delivering the evening toast.



Dr. Danic is well known in the community for his work during COVID-19, and also in pioneering the Ascension Genesys Hospital’s medication assisted treatment for inpatient opioid use disorder program.





February 2, 2024, I attended the Flint Institute of Music Seeing Stars event benefit with Dr. Rama Rao. This is the Flint School of Performing Arts fund raiser. The proceeds benefit FSPA tuition assistance for students.



The night began with a glass of wine and a strolling dinner. Food stations were offered from over a dozen Genesee County restaurants. There was a good selection of foods from sushi to pizza to choose from. It was difficult not to over eat with so many great choices.

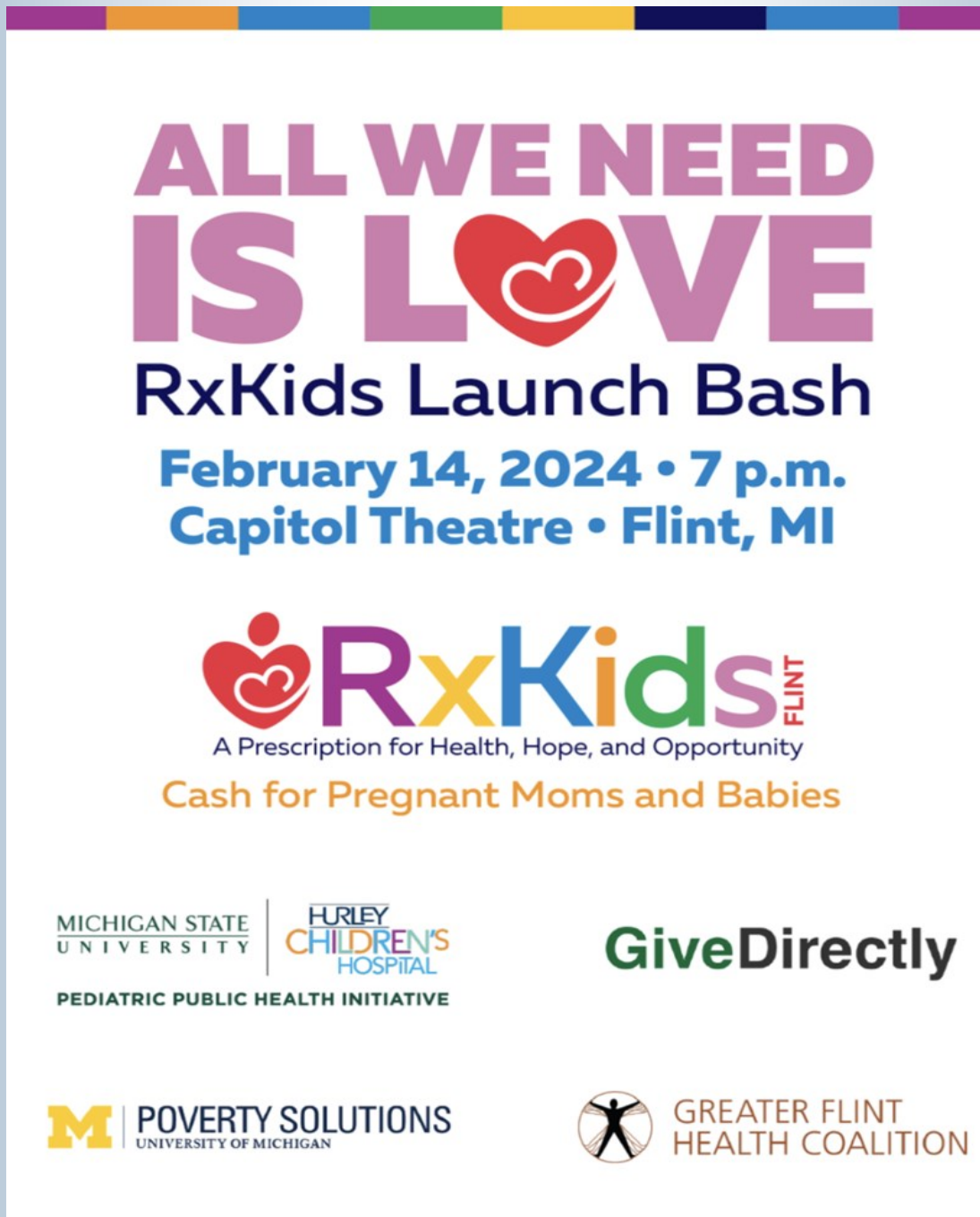
After dinner there was a performance with the students of the Flint School of Performing Arts. The performance was very good and all attendees seemed to enjoy.

The evening ended with a vast array of strolling desserts. The cookies and cakes were provided by establishments in Genesee County were excellent. GCMS Members Dr. Rama Rao, Dr. Bobby Mukkamala, and Dr. Cyrus Farrehi were also in attendance.








February 14, 2024, I attended the Flint RX kids launch. A brand-new cutting-edge program for pregnant women in Flint. GCMS would like to commend Dr. Mona Hanna – Attisha for pioneering this ground breaking program.




The poster features a decorative header with a horizontal bar of colored segments (purple, orange, blue, green, yellow, dark blue, light blue, purple). The main text is centered and reads: "ALL WE NEED IS LOVE" in large purple letters, with the 'O' in "LOVE" replaced by a red heart containing a white baby icon. Below this is "RxKids Launch Bash" in dark blue, followed by "February 14, 2024 • 7 p.m. Capitol Theatre • Flint, MI" in blue. The RxKids logo is centered, consisting of a red heart with a white baby icon and the text "RxKids FLINT" in multi-colored letters. Below the logo is the tagline "A Prescription for Health, Hope, and Opportunity" and the phrase "Cash for Pregnant Moms and Babies" in orange. At the bottom, there are four logos: Michigan State University Pediatric Public Health Initiative, Furley Children's Hospital, GiveDirectly, and Poverty Solutions University of Michigan, along with the Greater Flint Health Coalition logo.


**ALL WE NEED  
IS LOVE**  
**RxKids Launch Bash**  
**February 14, 2024 • 7 p.m.**  
**Capitol Theatre • Flint, MI**

**RxKids** FLINT  
A Prescription for Health, Hope, and Opportunity  
**Cash for Pregnant Moms and Babies**

 **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
 **FURLEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**  
**PEDIATRIC PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE**

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 **GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION**

[Stay Connected | Rx Kids \(flintrxkids.com\)](https://flintrxkids.com)

[Rx Kids News | Stay up-to-date with all the happening of Rx Kids @ \(flintrxkids.com\)](https://flintrxkids.com)



February 15, 2024, I attended the fourth annual Muhammad Iqbal symposium and banquet with current GCMS president Dr. Macksood Aftab and Board Member Dr. Edward Christy along with Executive Assistant Melissa Keller. This was my second opportunity to attend this annual event. The key note speaker for the 2024 symposium was Dr. Anne Rasmussen. Dr. Rasmussen is faculty of William & Mary college since 1993. The camaraderie was excellent as was the dinner! Great information on middle eastern culture was obtained.

**4TH ANNUAL  
ALLAMA MUHAMMAD IQBAL  
SYMPOSIUM AND BANQUET DINNER**

**SOUNDS OF ISLAM:  
EXPLORING ISLAMIC  
VOCAL ART FORMS**

**5:30 - 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024  
Northbank Center,  
432 Saginaw St, Flint, MI 48502**

**KEYNOTE PRESENTED BY  
DR. ANNE RASMUSSEN:**

**Bickers Professor of Middle  
Eastern Studies at College of  
William & Mary. Author of  
Women, the Recited Qur'an, and  
Islamic Music in Indonesia**

**WITH PRESENTATIONS BY  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND  
DISCUSSIONS BY LOCAL SCHOLARS**

**M  
FLINT**



Wednesday February 28, 2024, I am planning on attending the Islamic Medical Association meeting.

There will be presenters discussing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. A local vascular surgeon and GCMS member Dr. Bara Zuhaili will be speaking.

**ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
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 **SPECIAL COMMUNITY EVENT ON THE  
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**ISLAMIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
of Mid-Michigan**



**DR. BARA ZUHAILI, MD**

**ON HIS RECENT  
EXPERIENCE IN GAZA  
PROVIDING  
HUMANITARIAN RELIEF**



**ABDULLAH H. HAMMOUD**

**MAYOR OF DEARBORN**

**JOIN US AS WE CONTINUE IN  
OUR OBLIGATIONS POLITICALLY  
AND AS A COMMUNITY.**

**THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE  
COMMUNITY AND NON-IMA MEMBERS**

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This is a snapshot of the best portion of the Executive Director position for the Genesee County Medical Society. The networking is enjoyable and the contacts obtained are priceless.

Genesee County Medical Society is very pleased and excited to announce the next Town Hall meeting on May 22, 2024 6:00 -9:00pm. The Town Hall will be a webinar-based meeting. A multi-county webinar which has never been done before. GCMS is leading the pioneering and organization of this meeting with a vision from the Executive Director. Registration information will be provided in the near future.

The Town Hall will be a mandated opioid CME required for State of Michigan re-licensure. The meeting will be a benefit to the GCMS membership no charge. All non-members will be charged \$100 with the fee waived if they join GCMS.

Please consider a membership with the Genesee County Medical society today! GCMS is one of the most robust medical societies in the state.

for comments or questions please contact: [executivedirector@gcms.org](mailto:executivedirector@gcms.org)

*Thank  
You*



**DAVID HOFF, MA,**



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- Minimally Invasive/Robotic Surgery



**Adam Howell, DO**

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- Adult & Pediatric Trauma & Surgical Critical Care
- Acute Care Surgery/Burn Surgery
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- Hernia Surgery/Hiatal & Giant/Complex Reconstruction
- Minimally Invasive/Robotic Surgery



**Gul Sachwani-Daswani DO, FACOS**

- Trauma Medical Director
- Adult & Pediatric Trauma & Surgical Critical Care
- Acute Care Surgery/Burn Surgery
- Bariatric Surgery
- General Surgery
- Hernia Surgery/Hiatal & Giant/Complex Reconstruction
- Minimally Invasive/Robotic Surgery



**Kristoffer Wong DO, FACOS**

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- Director of Surgical Robotics
- Adult & Pediatric Trauma & Surgical Critical Care
- Acute Care Surgery/Burn Surgery
- Bariatric Surgery
- General Surgery
- Hernia Surgery/Hiatal & Giant/Complex Reconstruction
- Minimally Invasive/Robotic Surgery





## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

In the upcoming election year of 2024, the entire Michigan State House faces re-election. However, prior to reaching this stage, special elections are required to fill two open House seats left vacant by Representatives who were elected Mayors of their respective cities. Adding a layer of complexity, the House districts affected by a recent court decision deeming them unconstitutional must undergo redrawing before any elections can proceed.

Presently, the Michigan House maintains a delicate 54-54 split between Democrats and Republicans. Despite this even distribution, Democrats still hold control, and Speaker Tate still holds the office of Speaker of the House. However, the 54-54 split means that neither party has the votes to pass legislation without a member of the opposite side joining them to form the needed 55 votes for passage of a bill. This intricacy adds a dynamic dimension to the political landscape, which will shape the trajectory of legislative proceedings until special elections are held and the open seats are filled.

All that being said, the following is an extensive but not completely exhaustive list of current priorities that we will be monitoring for the next year.

click to continue reading 

[Legislative Update January 2024 - MSMS News Center](#)



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the  
DATE

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DATE



## Pain Management: Treatment Options & Legal Responsibilities

May 22, 2024

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Zoom Webinar

**GCMS Members: No Charge**

**Non-Members: \$100**

Registration Information will be Provided in March

Join us for our inaugural multi-county webinar featuring experts on pain management and addiction from across the state.

Completion of this webinar fulfills LARA's 3-hour requirement in the area of pain management and symptom management, including the new 1-hour minimum of controlled substance prescribing training, as well as 3 hours towards the 8-hour MATE training requirement.

Upon Completion of the webinar, physicians should be able to:

- Describe the use of opioids and other controlled substances.
- Identify integration treatments.
- Describe the stigma of addiction.
- Describe alternative treatments for pain management.
- Identify ways to counsel patients on the effects and risks associated with using opioids and other controlled substances.
- Describe how to utilize the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS).
- Identify state and federal laws regarding prescribing and dispensing controlled substances.
- Describe security features and proper disposal for prescriptions.



Michael Danic, DO

- Use of opioids and other controlled substances.
- Integration of treatments.
- The stigma of addiction.



John Hopper, MD

- Alternative treatments for pain management.
- Counseling patients on the effects and risks associated with using opioids and other controlled substances.



Narasimha Gundamaraj, MD

- Utilizing the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS).
- State and federal laws regarding prescribing and dispensing controlled substances.
- Security features and proper disposal requirements for prescriptions.

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For questions please contact: [executivedirector@gcms.org](mailto:executivedirector@gcms.org)



*Congratulations*



*DR. MICHAEL J. DANIC....*



**Congratulations Dr. Michael Danic!**

**The 2024 Ascension Genesys Hospital  
Spirit of St. Joseph Award Recipient!**



## 2024 Oak Tree Gala to Honor **Michael J. Danic, DO, FASA, FASAM**

Ascension Genesys Foundation proudly celebrates the 2024 Spirit of St. Joseph Award honoree **Michael J. Danic, DO, FASA, FASAM**. The award is presented annually to a physician in recognition of their dedication and commitment to excellent medical care and their service at Ascension Genesys Hospital.

With 17 years of experience as a board-certified anesthesiologist, Dr. Danic serves as chairman of the department of anesthesiology at Ascension Genesys Hospital and medical director for the Surgery Center at Health Park. He also serves on the Ascension National Anesthesia Affinity Group, is Chair of the Genesee Health System Substance Use Disorder Advisory Board, is a Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Central Michigan University College of Medicine Educator Faculty, and an associate professor at ATSU and MSU.



During the height of the pandemic, he implemented a COVID-19 unit that engaged numerous hospital departments. Dr. Danic also co-founded Ascension Genesys Hospital's Medication Assisted Treatment for Inpatient Opioid Use Disorder program (Buprenorphine team) with medical students, pharmacists and a community care navigator. He serves in advisory roles on several Ascension committees. His specialties in anesthesia and addiction medicine make him an invaluable resource to the community and the next generation of medical professionals.

Dr. Danic is the recipient of the MyCity Wellness Award (2022), Ascension Genesys Investigator of the Year Award (2021), Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan Opioid Partnership Grant, PhRMA Alliance and State Advocacy Grant, and the Cardinal E3 Health Foundation Grant for Patient Safety. Dr Danic is active in many professional organizations, including the American Society of Addiction Medicine, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association of Addiction Medicine, the American College of Academic Addiction Medicine, the American Society of Anesthesiologist, Midwest Pain Society, American College of Academic Addiction Medicine, Michigan Society of Anesthesiologist, Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologist, American Osteopathic Association, Michigan State Medical Society, Genesee County Medical Society, National Patient Safety Foundation Member, past Board of Trustees Powers Catholic High School, United Community Addiction Network Board, and previously served on the National Council of Foreign Medical Education.



## Osteopathic Physician (DO) Licensure Requirements

Each osteopathic physician is required to accumulate 150 hours of continuing education in activities approved by the board during the 3 years immediately preceding the application for renewal of which a minimum of 60 hours of the required 150 hours must be earned through Category 1 programs. Following are other license requirements for:

### Controlled Substance Licenses:

#### Opioids and Other Controlled Substances Awareness Training Standards for Prescribers and Dispensers of Controlled Substances

This is a one-time training that is separate from continuing education for an individual seeking a controlled substance license or who is licensed to prescribe or dispense controlled substances.

Licenses that prescribe or dispense controlled substances who renewed in 2019 must complete training by January 2023; renewals for 2020 by 2024, renewals for 2021 by 2025. Beginning in September 2019, completion of the training is a requirement for initial licensure.

Training content must cover all of the following topics:

- ◆ Use of opioids and other controlled substances.
- ◆ Integration of treatments.
- ◆ Alternative treatments for pain management.
- ◆ Counseling patients on the effects and risks associated with using opioids and other controlled substances.
- ◆ The stigma of addiction.
- ◆ Utilizing the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS).
- ◆ State and federal laws regarding prescribing and dispensing controlled substances.
- ◆ Security features and proper disposal requirements for prescriptions.

### For Medical Licenses:

#### Training Standards for Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking

This is a one-time training that is separate from continuing education. Licensees renewing for 2017 must complete training by renewal in 2020; renewals for 2018 by 2021, and renewals for 2019 by 2022. Beginning in 2021, completion of the training is a requirement for initial licensure.

Training content shall cover all of the following:

- ◆ Understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in this state or the United States.
- ◆ Identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings.
- ◆ Identifying the warning signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors.
- ◆ Resources for reporting the suspected victims of human trafficking.

#### Education on Pain and Symptom Management

A minimum of 3 hours of continuing education every 3-year relicensure cycle. At least 1 of the 3 hours must include controlled substances prescribing.

Continuing education hours may include, but are not limited to, any of the following areas:

- ◆ Public health burden of pain.
- ◆ Ethics and health policy related to pain.
- ◆ Michigan pain and controlled substance laws.
- ◆ Pain definitions.
- ◆ Basic sciences related to pain including pharmacology.
- ◆ Clinical sciences related to pain.
- ◆ Specific pain conditions.
- ◆ Clinical physician communication related to pain.
- ◆ Management of pain, including evaluation and treatment and nonpharmacological and pharmacological management.
- ◆ Ensuring quality pain care and controlled substances prescribing.
- ◆ Michigan programs and resources relevant to pain.

### Medical Ethics

A minimum of one-hour of continuing education every 3-year relicensure cycle.

#### Implicit Bias

A minimum of 3 hours every 3-year relicensure cycle. New licensees need 2 hours within the 5 years immediately preceding.

Renewals from June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023, need 1 hour; renewals from June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024, need 2 hours; renewals from June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025, need 3 hours. Then after, every 3-year renewal cycle will need to report 3 hours. (Any hours after June 2021 can be used.)

Training must include strategies to reduce disparities in access to and delivery of health care services and the administration of pre- and post-test implicit bias assessments.

Acceptable modalities of training include asynchronous teleconference or webinars, in addition to live activities and live webinars.

Training content must include, but is not limited to, 1 or more of the following topics:

- ◆ Information on implicit bias, equitable access to health care, serving a diverse population, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and cultural sensitivity.
- ◆ Strategies to remedy the negative impact of implicit bias by recognizing and understanding how it impacts perception, judgment, and actions that may result in inequitable decision making, failure to effectively communicate, and result in barriers and disparities in the access to and delivery of health care services.
- ◆ The historical basis and present consequences of implicit biases based on an individual's characteristics.
- ◆ Discussion of current research on implicit bias in the access to and delivery of health care services.

## Medical Doctor (MD) Licensure Requirements

Each medical doctor is required to complete 150 hours of continuing education in courses or programs approved by the board of which a minimum 75 hours of the required 150 hours must be earned in courses or programs designated as Category 1 programs. Other license requirements are listed here:

### Controlled Substance Licenses

#### Opioids and Other Controlled Substances Awareness Training Standards for Prescribers and Dispensers of Controlled Substances

This is a one-time training that is separate from continuing education for an individual seeking a controlled substance license or who is licensed to prescribe or dispense controlled substances.

Licensees that prescribe or dispense controlled substances who renewed in 2019 must complete training by January 2023; renewals for 2020 by 2024, renewals for 2021 by 2025. Beginning in September 2019, completion of the training is a requirement for initial licensure.

Training content must cover all of the following topics:

- ◆ Use of opioids and other controlled substances.
- ◆ Integration of treatments.
- ◆ Alternative treatments for pain management.
- ◆ Counseling patients on the effects and risks associated with using opioids and other controlled substances.
- ◆ The stigma of addiction.
- ◆ Utilizing the Michigan Automated Prescription System (MAPS).
- ◆ State and federal laws regarding prescribing and dispensing controlled substances.
- ◆ Security features and proper disposal requirements for prescriptions.

### Medical Licenses

#### Training Standards for Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking

A one-time training, separate from continuing education. Licensees renewing for 2017 must complete training by renewal in 2020; renewals for 2018 by 2021, and renewals for 2019 by 2022. Beginning in 2021, completion of the training is a requirement for initial licensure. Training content shall cover all of the following:

- ◆ Understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in this state or the United States.
- ◆ Identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings.
- ◆ Identifying the warning signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors.
- ◆ Resources for reporting the suspected victims of human trafficking.

#### Education on Pain and Symptom Management

A minimum of 3 hours of continuing education every 3-year relicensure cycle. At least 1 of the 3 hours must include controlled substances prescribing. Continuing education hours may include, but are not limited to, any of the following areas:

- ◆ Public health burden of pain.
- ◆ Ethics and health policy related to pain.
- ◆ Michigan pain and controlled substance laws.
- ◆ Pain definitions.
- ◆ Basic sciences related to pain including pharmacology.
- ◆ Clinical sciences related to pain.
- ◆ Specific pain conditions.
- ◆ Clinical physician communication related to pain.
- ◆ Management of pain, including evaluation and treatment and nonpharmacological and pharmacological management.
- ◆ Ensuring quality pain care and controlled substances prescribing.
- ◆ Michigan programs and resources relevant to pain.

### Medical Ethics

A minimum of one-hour of continuing education every 3-year relicensure cycle.

#### Implicit Bias

A minimum of 3 hours every 3-year relicensure cycle. New licensees need 2 hours within the 5 years immediately preceding.

Renewals from June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023, need 1 hour; renewals from June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024, need 2 hours; renewals from June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025, need 3 hours. Then after, every 3-year renewal cycle will need to report 3 hours. (Any hours after June 2021 can be used.)

Training must include strategies to reduce disparities in access to and delivery of health care services and the administration of pre- and post-test implicit bias assessments.

Acceptable modalities of training include asynchronous teleconference or webinars, in addition to live activities and live webinars.

Training content must include, but is not limited to, 1 or more of the following topics:

- ◆ Information on implicit bias, equitable access to health care, serving a diverse population, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and cultural sensitivity.
- ◆ Strategies to remedy the negative impact of implicit bias by recognizing and understanding how it impacts perception, judgment, and actions that may result in inequitable decision making, failure to effectively communicate, and result in barriers and disparities in the access to and delivery of health care services.
- ◆ The historical basis and present consequences of implicit biases based on an individual's characteristics.
- ◆ Discussion of current research on implicit bias in the access to and delivery of health care services.



A black rectangular sign with a red border and a red circular seal in the background. The seal has a white outline and contains several small red stars. The word "ATTENTION" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the sign.

**ATTENTION**

A bright yellow starburst graphic with multiple points, resembling a sun or a star.

**9:00 A.M.**

**Via Zoom**

**ATTENTION: PRACTICE MANAGERS  
AND OFFICE STAFF!**

**Genesee County Medical Society addresses issues of concern  
for medical professionals!**

Please join GCMS and SOVITA in monthly meetings for  
practice managers and office staff of *all member physicians*.

*Please email [executivedirector@gcms.org](mailto:executivedirector@gcms.org) to RSVP,*

***YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZOOM INVITE***

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**March 14th, 2024— 9:00 A.M.**

***You do not want your Practice Manager to miss out  
on these valuable meetings!***





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**WHAT CLINICIANS NEED TO KNOW**

**L**egislation was signed in April 2022 through the support of the MSMS-initiated and led Health Can't Wait, a coalition with more than 50 healthcare, clinician, and patient advocacy organizations. This legislation puts more control back in the hands of clinicians and patients.

Public Act 60 of 2022 provides prior authorization (PA) reform with the goal of a quicker, more effective, and more transparent process. It does not repeal PA.

All provisions will be fully in effect as of **June 1, 2023**, including major components such as electronic submission and faster timelines.

These reforms apply to health care insurers (and their contracted third-party vendors) and healthcare professionals whose beneficiaries/patients have commercial insurance policies regulated by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services. **They do not impact Medicaid, Medicare, Medicare Advantage, or self-funded plans.**

Check insurers' provider news, updates, portals, etc. to learn of any new processes related to online submission, appeals, eligibility, and PA requirements related to the law's implementation.

**Please review the key provisions below for additional details and requirements.**

**Electronic Submissions**

**Beginning June 1, 2023:**

- Insurers **must provide** an online method through which practitioners can electronically submit PA requests for any benefits requiring PA, including prescription drugs. Facsimiles do not count as an acceptable method.
- Physicians and other health care professionals **must submit** PA requests electronically. The only exception is for a temporary technological or electrical failure.

**Timeliness of Decisions**

	Urgent		Non-Urgent	
	Timeframe	Considered Granted	Timeframe	Considered Granted
<b>Beginning June 1, 2023</b>	Acted upon within 72 hours	Insurer fails to act after 72 hours	Within nine (9) calendar days	Insurer fails to act after nine (9) calendar days
<b>After May 1, 2024</b>	Acted upon within 72 hours	Insurer fails to act after 72 hours	Within seven (7) calendar days	Insurer fails to act after seven (7) calendar days
<b>Valid for</b>	A minimum of 60 days or the length of time that's clinically appropriate, whichever is longer			

NOTE: If you are requested to provide additional information, it is important to do so as quickly as possible as the turnaround time noted above will reset and the insurer will be required to make a determination following the receipt of the additional information within the prescribed timelines for urgent or non-urgent requests.

## Review by Peers

Puts conditions on health care practitioners reviewing appeals (e.g., no financial stake in decision, not involved in prior denial, etc.). Any adverse determinations regarding a PA request for a non-pharmacy benefit must be made by a licensed physician and by a physician or pharmacist for a pharmacy benefit. If a denial is appealed, the denial cannot be affirmed unless it has been reviewed by a licensed physician who is board-certified or eligible in the same specialty as the service provided. An exception is allowed if finding such an individual would delay a decision within the required timeframe. In this instance, a physician in a similar general specialty could be utilized.

## Clinical Validity

PA requirements must be based on peer-reviewed clinical review criteria. The criteria must:

- Take into account the needs of atypical patient populations and diagnoses.
- Reflect community standards of care.
- Ensure quality of care and access to needed health care services.
- Be evidence-based criteria.
- Be publicly available free of charge.
- Be sufficiently flexible to allow deviations from norms when justified on a case-by-case basis.
- Be evaluated and updated, if necessary, at least annually.

## Transparency

PA requirements, including amendments, must be publicly and conspicuously posted online within a specified timeline. Insurers are also required to submit an annual report to the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) which must include aggregated trend data related to the insurer's PA practices and experience for the prior plan year. DIFS shall post an annual report with aggregated data by October 1 of each year.

In cases of PA denials, the health care professional must be notified of the reasons for the denial and related evidence-based criteria, their right to appeal, instructions on how to file the appeal, and any other documentation necessary to support the appeal.

## Gold Carding

Insurers are required to adopt a program that promotes the modification of certain PA requirements based on health care professionals' adherence to nationally recognized evidence-based medical guidelines and other quality guidelines.

**Health Can't Wait** is a coalition of patients, physicians, and health care providers dedicated to putting Michigan patients first and ending delays in patients' access to health care:

Allergy and Asthma Network  
Alliance for Patient Access  
AARP Michigan  
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association  
American Cancer Society  
Cancer Action Network  
American College of Cardiology, Michigan Chapter  
American College of Physicians, Michigan Chapter  
American Diabetes Association  
American Lung Association in MI  
American Medical Association  
APTA Michigan

The Arc Michigan  
Berrien County Medical Society  
Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition  
Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan  
Genesee County Medical Society  
Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan  
Henry Ford Medical Group  
Huron Valley Physicians Association  
Ingham County Medical Society  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Jackson County Medical Society  
Kent County Medical Society  
Macomb County Medical Society  
MI Academy of Family Physicians

MI Bioscience  
MI Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics  
MI Coalition for Affordable Prescriptions  
MI Council For Maternal & Child Health  
MI Dermatological Society  
MI Podiatric Medical Association  
MI Psychiatric Society  
MI Radiological Society  
MI Rheumatism Society  
MI Society of Anesthesiologists  
MI Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons  
MI Society of Hematology & Oncology  
MI Society of Interventional Pain Physicians  
MI Society of Pathologists  
MI State Medical Society

Muskegon County Medical Society  
National Marrow Donor Program  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter  
New Day Foundation for Families  
Oakland County Medical Society  
Saginaw County Medical Society  
Sickle Cell Disease Association of America - Michigan Chapter  
St. Clair County Medical Society  
Susan G. Komen  
UNIFIED - HIV Health and Beyond  
Washtenaw County Medical Society  
Wayne County Medical Society of Southeast Michigan

[www.healthcantwait.org](http://www.healthcantwait.org)



From the **AMA** 



Flu activity dipped across U.S. in early January, but experts warn flu season is far from over. Get your flu shot today!





**DAVID HOFF**  
CEO

(810) 407-4921  
hoffshealthybooks@gmail.com

hoffshealthybooks.com

Certified QuickBooks  
Online ProAdvisor

- Provide bookkeeping and general ledger entry input for QuickBooks Online.
- Generate income reports as needed.
- Perform budgeting and fixed cost analysis.
- Offer payroll services.
- Provide QuickBooks Online set up and consulting.

## ***Your Membership at Work***

- ◆ GCMS hosts monthly Practice Manager's meeting discussing complicated insurance issues in round table discussions with various insurance companies. If you find on-going insurance issues, please reach out to GCMS staff at [executivedirector@gcms.org](mailto:executivedirector@gcms.org) and we can connect that insurance company representative with our hard working Practice Managers.
- ◆ GCMS staff helped Genesee County residents with contacts, resources and explanations.
- ◆ GCMS Membership Committee has collaborated and has a plan in place to reach out to and meet with various practices in Genesee County. If you have colleagues that are not yet GCMS members, please connect with them!  
\*\*\*\* A flyer of GCMS benefits can be provided to you.

# GCMS ALLIANCE FOCUS GROUP

Happy New Year 2024 everyone!! Best wishes for a peaceful and prosperous year. I hope you had a warm, enjoyable holiday season with family and loved ones.

Our year 2023 began with the wonderful International Luncheon on September 26. Speakers Stacy Doyle from Genesee County Free Medical Clinic and Jay Kommareddi, recipient of the Donald Riegler Community Service Award thanked the Alliance members for their valuable contributions and spoke about the various ongoing projects for community betterment.

In October we had a zoom meeting with Josiah Kissling, MSMS Senior Director Government and Communications. He spoke of legislative challenges for doctors. GCMSA made donations to Grand Blanc Academy School to purchase books for children, our Reach Out and Read program chair Dr. Elizabeth Jordan coordinated this. We were happy to participate and sponsor Prizes for the Essay Competition Winners at the Meaningful Peace and Unity Day Event where Middle school and High school students wrote about maintaining and creating peace from within flowing out.

In November the GCMS President's Ball was held at the Sloan Museum of Discovery where the GCMS past president, Dr. Paul Kocheril was honored and Dr. Macksood Aftab was installed as the new president. Congratulations to Dr Kocheril for doing a wonderful job and we wish Dr. Macksood Aftab the best for the coming year. It was a fun filled evening with delicious food and nice arrangements. I encourage all members and their spouses to join next year.

The Friendship Group Holiday Luncheon was held at the Warwick Hills Golf Country Club in December. We collected Towels, bedsheets, household and personal hygiene items for the YWCA Women's shelter.

Starting this new year, we will have a cooking class at our neighborhood coffee day. The details are on GCMSA Facebook page. Please join if you haven't already. I hope the weather is good and many of you can participate. Please RSVP ahead of time.

I'm elated that many of you renewed the membership. Thank you. Again I wish everyone a healthy, prosperous New Year and I look forward to working together to do great things for our community.



Vijay Lakshmi Sayal



# GCMS ALLIANCE FOCUS GROUP



## FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



[vjaysayal@gmail.com](mailto:vjaysayal@gmail.com)





# AMA NEWS



## PHYSICIANS AND NON PHYSICIANS....

Why it is important to  
know who is caring for you.



[Physicians and nonphysicians: What are the differences? | American Medical Association \(ama-assn.org\)](https://www.ama-assn.org)

*If you missed the opportunity to sponsor last  
years*

*PRESIDENT'S BALL.... Please  
consider sponsoring THIS years!!*

*Location will once again be the*

*Sloan Museum of*

*Discovery.*

*Just click the link at the bottom of the page!*

*Thank you!*

**PRESIDENTS BALL, NOVEMBER 2, 2024!!!**



**To sponsor**



# MSMS Resource Guide



For information on the topics listed here, dial 517/336-plus the four digit extension (unless full number is provided).  
For information on a topic not listed here, call MSMS at 517/337-1351 or 800/352-1351.

**JOIN MSMS**  
Membership  
517-336-5716  
membership@msms.org

**EDUCATION**  
**Rebecca Blake**  
517-336-5729  
rblake@msms.org

**HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**Jodi Schafer, SPHR, SHRM-SCP**  
517-336-5716  
msms.org/HR

**INSURANCE/  
MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION**  
**Diane Wheelock**  
517-336-7591  
dwheelock@msms.org

**INSURANCE/LIABILITY**  
**Julie Ozburn**  
517-899-1457  
jozburn@msms.org

**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY**  
**Josiah Kissling**  
517-336-5737  
jkissling@msms.org

**MEDICAL/  
REGULATORY POLICY**  
**Stacey Hettiger**  
517-336-5766  
shettiger@msms.org

**PHYSICIAN LICENSING**  
**Brenda Marenich**  
517-336-5780  
bmarenich@msms.org

**REIMBURSEMENT ADVOCACY**  
**Stacie Saylor**  
517-336-5722  
ssaylor@msms.org

Alliance.....	313/408-1359
AMA Delegation.....	5766 or 5788
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**MSMS SUBSIDIARIES & AFFILIATES**  
MSMS Physicians Insurance Agency.. 877/742-2758  
Physician Review Organization..... 517/336-1400  
Prof. Credential Verification Service.. 517/336-1400

**ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT NUMBERS**  
American Medical Association..... 800/262-3211  
American Osteopathic Association... 312/202-8000  
Drug Enforcement Agency..... 202/307-1000  
Medicaid Provider Inquiry,  
Medicare Customer Service..... 800/292-2550  
MI Board of Medicine..... 517/335-0918  
MI Board of Osteopathic Medicine  
and Surgery..... 517/335-0918  
MI Department of Health and Human Services  
• Local..... 517/373-3740  
• Toll free..... 800/292-2550  
MI Health Prof. Recovery Corp..... 800/453-3784

**Michigan State Medical Society**  
PO Box 950 East Lansing, MI 48826 | Membership Fax Line: 517-336-5716

*Please email or call if you have any member benefit questions!*



*The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) is excited to invite you to participate in our 2024 Advocacy Day, taking place on Wednesday, March 20, in Lansing. This event presents a unique opportunity for you to become an active advocate for healthcare policies that impact our profession and, most importantly, the well-being of your patients.*

[READ MORE](#)





# COMMIT TO FIT!

## Virtual Fitness Guide

### Arthritis Foundation



Click [HERE](#) for arthritis exercises!



GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION

### YMCA - 360



Visit [ymca360.org](http://ymca360.org) for fitness classes of all ages!

### Ascension Genesys Athletic Club



Click [HERE](#) for intense & moderate workout videos!

### Commit to Fit!



Visit [commit2fit.com](http://commit2fit.com) to track all of your physical activity and keep track of your fitness goal!

### University of Michigan - Flint



Click [HERE](#) for daily workouts!

### Crim Fitness Foundation



Visit [crim.org](http://crim.org) for a variety of yoga and mindfulness practices!



COMMIT TO FIT!

COMMIT2FIT.COM

# ACTIVE SCHOOLS CHALLENGE



## MARCH 4 - MARCH 22, 2024

A challenge that focuses on promoting physical activity both in and out of local schools by giving Pre-K through 12th grade students the chance to participate in "healthy" competition. **All schools in Genesee County are eligible to participate!**

### GET STARTED:

- 1 Identify who will be the "Wellness Champion" (main point of contact) for your school.
- 2 The Wellness Champion will register the desired school by scanning the QR Code or with the link. *Only one individual is required to register per school. **Registration opens February 1, 2024.***
- 3 Once registered, Commit to Fit staff will provide the Wellness Champion with the necessary materials needed to implement a successful challenge.



Register by link or QR code  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ASCReg24>

### CHALLENGE GOAL

Log 30 minutes a day of physical activity (570 minutes total) during the month of March. Every minute, whether in school or at home, counts!



### CHALLENGE PRIZES



The school whose students log the HIGHEST average minutes of physical activity will be awarded a monetary donation to be used toward health and wellness within that school. This year we will be announcing 1st-3rd place prizes, with over \$4,000 to be awarded to schools!

Students from all schools that reach the challenge goal will be eligible to win great prizes including: sports equipment, gift cards and more! Teachers and staff will also be eligible for prizes! The winning school will also be awarded the Active Schools Challenge traveling trophy.

### SPONSORED BY:



GET CONNECTED

WWW.COMMIT2FIT.COM






 **CLICK HERE**

**For Daily Genesee County Covid-19 Numbers**

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Data Dashboard for Genesee County](#)

 **CLICK HERE**

**For Reporting**



**EMPLOYERS + SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS:**

Do you need to report a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 case?

Click the button to email the Communicable Disease team at [GCHD-CD@gchd.us](mailto:GCHD-CD@gchd.us) or call (810) 257-1017

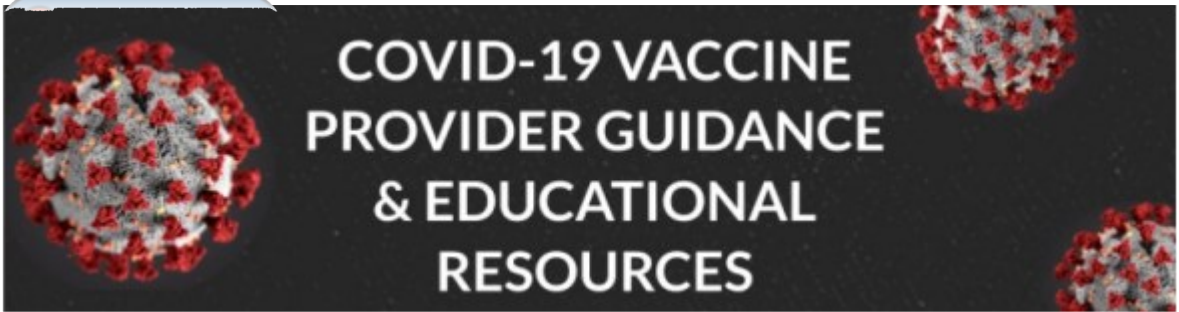
 **CLICK HERE**

**For State of Michigan Covid-19 Information**





 [CLICK HERE](#)

A dark grey banner with a white border. It features three 3D models of a COVID-19 virus particle, one on the left and two on the right. The text "COVID-19 VACCINE PROVIDER GUIDANCE & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES" is centered in white, bold, uppercase letters.

## COVID-19 VACCINE

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates how diseases without vaccines can devastate economic and public health. Vaccines have reduced and, in some cases, eliminated many diseases. In the U.S., there is currently no approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19. MDHHS is working with the CDC and Michigan stakeholders to prepare and plan for when the vaccine is available. The initial draft of our state's plan is now available and will be updated often in the coming months. Visit regularly for the most recent information on the COVID-19 vaccine and Michigan's preparations.

[COVID-19 VACCINE PLAN](#)

 [CLICK HERE](#)

[COVID-19 VACCINE RESOURCES](#)

[IMMUNIZATIONS DURING COVID-19](#)

[CDC FAQs](#)

[PROVIDER GUIDANCE & EDUCATION](#)



NEW BENEFIT  
FOR  
MEMBERS!

*GCMS can help YOUR PRACTICE  
meet the ADA requirements  
and provide impeccable services to your patients  
at a DISCOUNTED price!*

GCMS is very pleased to announce a relationship with Luna Language Services. Luna offers a number of different virtual options to assist physician offices with language interpretation services. As an added benefit to your GCMS Membership, a discount is now offered to all GCMS members utilizing

**Luna Virtual Language Services.**

Please contact **David Hoff** Executive Director to register your office for discounted services.

*Genesee County Medical Society Members  
receive a discount for language services!*



**Interpreting  
Services**

- On-site Interpreting
- Virtual Interpreting
- Phone Interpreting
- Video Remote Interpreting (VRI)
- Conference & Event Interpreting

**LUNA**  
Language  
Services

To become a GCMS member,  
or to receive details about  
this discounted service

Please contact :

[ExecutiveDirector@GCMS.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@GCMS.org)

# Hope and health

in the community



*Supporting recovery,  
prevention, health,  
and wellness of the  
body, the mind, and  
the community.*

#### Customer Services

Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

**(810) 257-3705**

Toll Free: 866-211-5455

TTY: (810) 257-1346

[www.genhs.org](http://www.genhs.org)

#### Call us to begin services:

420 W. 5th Avenue • Flint, MI 48503

Monday - Friday 8am-5pm

**(810) 257-3740**

Toll Free: 877-346-3648 • TTY: (810) 232-6310

#### 24 HOUR CRISIS LINE

7 days a week - 24 hours a day

**(810) 257-3740**

Toll Free: 877-346-3648 • TTY: (810) 232-6310

#### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH URGENT CARE

422 W. 4th Avenue • Flint, MI 48503

**(810) 496-5500**

Toll Free: 877-346-3648 • TTY: (810) 232-6310

**Walk-In Services:** 7 days a week - extended hours

**Video Chat Services:** 7 days a week - 24 hours a day

**Children & Young Adult**

**Mobile Crisis Services:** 7 days a week - 8am - 7pm



# GHS Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services for Children and Young Adults



The GHS Children's Intensive Crisis Stabilization Team (ICSS) provides mobile crisis stabilization services, 7 days a week between 8:00am and 7:00pm to all children, youth, and young adults (ages 0-21) who reside in Genesee County. Calls during other hours are helped by our Crisis Line mental health professionals.

## Reasons to call GHS:

- If you feel your child/youth is in a crisis
- The child/youth may hurt themselves or others
- The child is experiencing overwhelming confusion, anger, or emotional unresponsiveness

If you aren't sure if ICSS is needed, give us a call and we can help to explore options.

## What happens when the GHS Intensive Crisis Team is called?

The team will provide an on-site intervention with the identified child or youth, and their support system. The team's main focus will be to help assess the crisis, utilize de-escalation techniques, help the child/youth and their family or support system to help with what is needed and to help determine next steps and long-term care.

## Other services include:

- Crisis and Safety Planning
- Referrals to needed services
- Education on resources, diagnosis and services
- Collaboration and problem solving

\* Psychiatric consults, as needed (does not include medication review for prescription)

\*\* Intensive Crisis Stabilization services cannot be provided to individuals who are currently residing in inpatient settings: Jail/detention centers or residential settings (i.e. child caring institutions, crisis residential, etc.).

## GHS Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services for Children

**810.257.3740 877.364.3648**

**420 W. Fifth Avenue, Flint 48503 • [www.genhs.org](http://www.genhs.org)**

Supported by funds from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



# Easy Ways to Donate to the Medical Society Foundation:

The Medical Society Foundation is engaged in a Capitol Campaign. The purpose of the Campaign is to grow the corpus to support the charitable activities of the Genesee County Medical Society. Those activities include public and community health, support for the underserved, and wellness initiatives.

To continue its good work, the Medical Society Foundation is asking you to consider leaving a legacy gift to the Foundation. If all, or even a significant portion of our membership left just a small part of our estates to the Foundation, the Foundation could continue helping this community in so many ways, by supporting the Medical Society.

To make a gift, simply use these words:

In your Trust, "Grantor directs Trustee to distribute \_\_\_% of all assets then held in Trust or later added to this Trust to the Medical Society Foundation, to be held in an endowed fund and used in the discretion of its then existing board of directors in furtherance of the purposes of the Foundation."

In your Will, "I give, devise and bequeath \_\_\_% of my Estate to the Medical Society Foundation, to be held in an endowed fund and used in the discretion of its then existing Board of Directors in furtherance of the purposes of the Foundation."

While this is not a subject that is comfortable to broach, it is an opportunity to support the Foundation which supports the Medical Society's charitable activities on behalf of the membership. Please give. You can give via a trust or will. You can give from your IRA. You can give appreciated stock, and you can give cash. Please support the organization which does so much on behalf of the medical community and the patients we serve.



**Don't Forget!**  
Donations are tax deductible!

**Please contact GCMS at 733-9923 or email [executivedirector@gcms.org](mailto:executivedirector@gcms.org)**



## Do you have an advertising NEED?

- Are you a Physician **and** you are a member of GCMS and you have a new practice in Michigan?
- Do you have a medical practice **and** you are a member of GCMS and your office has relocated?
- Do you have a business that serves Michigan and business slow?

Let Genesee County Medical Society help!

## Genesee County Medical Society Bulletin

(ONLINE MAGAZINE)

**Your ad will be featured in the Genesee County Medical Society monthly bulletin that is provided to 1,500+ viewers. The Bulletin can also be found on the GCMS website, and is also published through Calameo virtual magazine. ([HTTPS://En.Calameo.com/](https://en.calameo.com/))**

1/2-page ad \$195/month

3/4-page ad \$290/month

Full page ad \$350/month

A link to the business website or email can be added for **NO** additional fee.

[Click here](#)

to connect with GCMS, we can provide your advertising needs!



\*\*all ads placed by Physicians or Medical Practices must have a GCMS membership.



**safe haven™**  
CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT

## SAFEHAVEN™ PHYSICIAN AND PROVIDER WELL BEING PROGRAM

Rediscover meaning, joy, and purpose in medicine.

SafeHaven™ ensures that physicians and health care providers can seek confidential assistance and support for burnout, career fatigue, and mental health reasons.



In-the-moment telephonic support by a licensed counselor, 24/7



Legal and financial consultations and resources, available 24/7



**Peer Coaching**—talk with someone who has walked in your shoes that can help you grow both personally and professionally

- Six sessions per incident
- Physician or provider chooses coach from a panel of coaches



**Counseling**, available in either face-to-face or virtual sessions; addressing stress, relationships, eldercare, grief, and more

- Six sessions per incident
- Available to all extended family members



**WorkLife Concierge**, a virtual assistant to help with every day and special occasion tasks, 24/7



**VITAL WorkLife App**—Mobile access to resources, well being assessments, insights, and more

### RESOURCES FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS

SafeHaven™ includes Well Being Resources from VITAL WorkLife—confidential and discreet resources designed to reduce stress and burnout, promote work/life integration and support well being for you and your family.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT  
[www.MSMS.org/SafeHaven](http://www.MSMS.org/SafeHaven)

To support the needs of physicians and health care providers struggling with stress, burnout, and the effects of COVID-19, the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) and VITAL WorkLife have partnered to offer a comprehensive set of well being resources and confidential counseling services for their use, SafeHaven™.





The following statement was agreed upon unanimously by the  
Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors on January 23, 2024.

### **Healthcare crisis in Gaza**

Whereas, there is an unfolding catastrophic humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip. Recognizing its vast consequences for the civilian population, and in light of the gravity of the current escalating situation, and the magnitude of the intense damage on the public health sector, that has, to this date, killed and injured thousands of civilians, the majority of them children, women and elderly, including humanitarian and health workers, in addition to thousands of victims who remain under the rubble;<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, according to UNICEF 90 per cent of children under two are now subject to 'severe food poverty'. Gaza's 335,000 children under five years of age are "especially vulnerable." UNICEF notes in the next few weeks, child wasting, the most life-threatening form of malnutrition in children, could affect up to 10,000 children.<sup>2</sup>

Whereas, the deteriorating situation is raising concerns about acute malnutrition and mortality breaching famine thresholds. UNICEF is particularly worried about the nutrition of over 155,000 pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, as well as more than 135,000 children under two, given their specific nutrition needs and vulnerability.<sup>2</sup>

Whereas, the conflict has damaged or destroyed essential water, sanitation and health systems in the Gaza Strip, and has limited the ability to treat severe malnutrition. Meanwhile, the very few functioning hospitals are so focused on responding to the high number of patients injured in the conflict that they are unable to adequately treat disease outbreaks.<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, attacks on medical and health personnel result in long-lasting impacts, including the loss of life and human suffering, weaken the ability of health systems to deliver essential life-saving services and produce setbacks for health development.<sup>1</sup>

Whereas, large-scale destruction of health facilities including hospitals and ambulances, and catastrophic humanitarian conditions have been inflicted on the public health system in the Gaza Strip.<sup>1</sup>

Resolved that there should be allowance for the immediate, sustained and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief, including the access of medical personnel, the entry of humanitarian equipment, transport and supplies to Gaza. All civilians, including health and humanitarian aid workers, must be protected, in accordance with international humanitarian law.<sup>1</sup>

#### References:

1 - WHO: Consensus Resolution for Humanitarian Access in the Palestinian Territories.

[https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EBSS7/EBSS7\\_R1-en.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EBSS7/EBSS7_R1-en.pdf)

2- UNICEF: Intensifying malnutrition and disease in Gaza threatens over 1.1 million children.

<https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/intensifying-conflict-malnutrition-and-disease-gaza-strip-creates-deadly-cycle>



## Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment Act/Medication Access and Training Expansion Act and Corresponding State Modifications

June 21, 2023

To all controlled substance licensees:

Most practitioners are now aware that Congress has passed the Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act that removed the federal "DATA 2000" or "DATA-Waiver Program," and the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act that established a one-time training on substance use disorder for practitioners who prescribe controlled substances when they obtain or renew their Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration. In light of these changes, which are intended to educate practitioners and reduce barriers to obtaining medications for opioid use disorder (OUD) by eliminating burdens on providers who currently prescribe medications and new providers who wish to treat patients with OUD, the Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) would like to convey the following corresponding changes at the state level:

- The new DEA one-time 8-hour training requirement is effective June 27, 2023. Effective on this date, or the date on which the DEA requires the 8-hour training in the event the effective date is delayed, and until further notice, a practitioner required to attend a one-time opioid and controlled substances awareness training by the state's Controlled Substances Rules, may use the 8 hours of training that is accepted by the DEA for their controlled substances registration to also meet the state's required one-time training on opioids and other controlled substances awareness.
- In addition, R 338.3163 that limits prescribing, dispensing and administering a controlled substance to an individual with a substance use disorder will not be enforced by BPL until the rule is either modified or rescinded. This rule limited the circumstances under which a practitioner could treat an individual with substance use disorder, as well as the number of individuals that could be treated. All other laws and rules, both federal and state, must still be followed.

For more information about the elimination of the DATA-Waiver Program, and DEA's 8-hour substance disorder training, please refer to the following websites:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/medications-substance-use-disorders/removal-data-waiver-requirement>

[https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/docs/MATE\\_training.html](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubs/docs/MATE_training.html)

[MATE Training Letter Final.pdf \(usdoj.gov\)](#)

Questions may be sent to [BPLHelp@michigan.gov](mailto:BPLHelp@michigan.gov).

Thank you,

Bureau of Professional Licensing  
Licensing Division



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[Wix | LinkedIn](#)



[WWW.GCMS.ORG](#)



Application Code:

# State and County Medical Society MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join MSMS and your County Medical Society online at [www.joinmsms.org](http://www.joinmsms.org)



- I am in my first year of practice post-residency.
- I am in my second year of practice post-residency.
- I am in my third year of practice post-residency.
- I have moved into Michigan; this is my first year practicing in the state.
- I work 20 hours or less per week.
- I am currently in active military duty.
- I am in full, active practice.
- I am a resident/fellow.

Male  Female

First (legal) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  MD  DO

Nickname or Preferred Form of Legal Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

W Phone \_\_\_\_\_ W Fax \_\_\_\_\_ H Phone \_\_\_\_\_ H Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address  Preferred Mail  Preferred Bill  Preferred Mail and Bill

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address  Preferred Mail  Preferred Bill  Preferred Mail and Bill

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please base my county medical society membership on the county of my (if addresses are in different counties):  Office Address  Home Address

\*Birth Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Birth Country \_\_\_\_\_ MI Medical License #: \_\_\_\_\_ ME #: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_ ECFMG # (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Residency Program \_\_\_\_\_ Program Completion Year \_\_\_\_\_

Fellowship Program \_\_\_\_\_ Program Completion Year \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

• Primary Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Board Certified:  Yes  No

• Secondary Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Board Certified:  Yes  No

Marital Status:  Single  Married  Divorced Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your spouse a physician?:  Yes  No If yes, are they a member of MSMS?:  Yes  No

Within the last five years, have you been convicted of a felony crime?:  Yes  No If "yes," please provide full information: \_\_\_\_\_

Within the last five years, have you been the subject of any disciplinary action by any medical society or hospital staff?:  Yes  No

If "yes," please provide full information: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to support the County Medical Society Constitution and Bylaws, the Michigan State Medical Society Constitution and Bylaws, and the Principles of Ethics of the American Medical Association as applied by the AMA and the MSMS Judicial Commission.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County Medical Society Use Only  
Reviewed and Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_