

JULY 2026

Cyclosporiasis Outbreak.
MICHIGAN with highest
reported cases as of 7/13/26

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES IN
HEALTHCARE IN GENESEE COUNTY!!!
GUEST ARTICLE YOU MUST READ!

WHATS NEW.....
GCMS STUDENT
MEMBERSHIP!!
LEARN MORE.



CONTRAST
THERAPY, YES
IT'S A THING!!

THE
BULLETIN

Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

*THE BULLETIN is published monthly by:
The Genesee County Medical Society*

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JULY 2026 VOLUME 107 NUMBER 7

THE BULLETIN

FEATURE ARTICLES

READ BY 96% OF GCMS MEMBERS

Guest Article	18
GCMSA	30
COVID-19 Resources	41

REGULARS

GCMS Meetings	3
President Message	4
Executive Director	5

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.



GCMS Meetings

MSF Board Meeting

August 5th 2026

7:00 P.M.

Practice Manager's Meeting

September 10th , 2026

9:00 A.M.

Board of Director's – Live Meeting

Sagano's 2065 S. Linden Flint, MI

September 22nd , 2026

6:00 P.M.

GCMS/GCMSA President's Ball

Sloan Museum Exhibit Room

October 24TH , 2026

5:00 P.M.

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

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A WORD FROM OUR GCMS PRESIDENT

The Genesee County Medical Society has proudly partnered with the Michigan State Medical Society for more than 165 years. Recent changes adopted by the MSMS House of Delegates will now allow physicians to join GCMS, MSMS, or both organizations independently. As part of this transition, GCMS will become responsible for directly managing its membership dues, billing, and collections.

To help build this new infrastructure, GCMS recently applied for a \$7,000 MSMS Foundation grant. If awarded, the funding will support the development of independent membership billing and accounting systems, including updated membership records, legal and accounting review, and direct communication with our members. GCMS will contribute an additional \$1,500 toward the project.

This is an important investment in the long-term stability of our organization. While our administrative structure is changing, our mission remains the same: to represent local physicians, strengthen professional relationships, advocate for our patients, and improve health throughout Genesee County.

We remain grateful for our longstanding relationship with MSMS and look forward to continuing that collaboration while creating a sustainable and increasingly independent future for GCMS.

Michael Danic, DO, FASA, FASAM

President, Genesee County Medical Society



DR. MICHAEL DANIC, D.O.

GCMS PRESIDENT

A WORD FROM OUR GCMS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A New Partnership with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

June 25, 2026 the Genesee County Medical Society hosted it's first CME Town Hall meeting, partnering with Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. The event was held in the Flint Cultural Center, Sloan Museum of Discovery with over 100 attendees. Attendees were comprised of physicians, medical professionals, and individuals from the community.

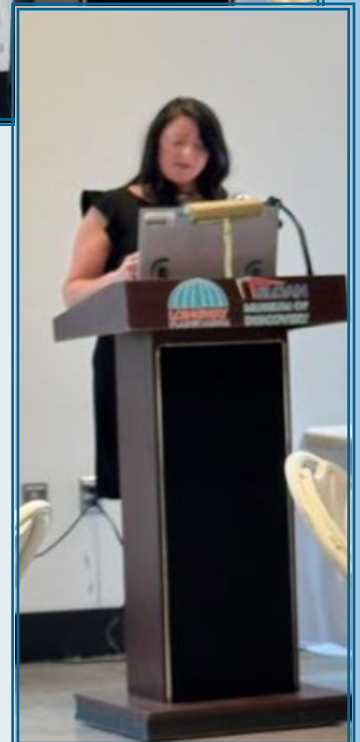
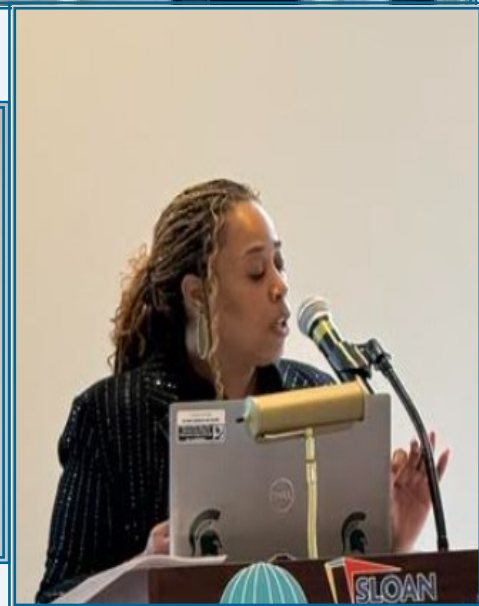
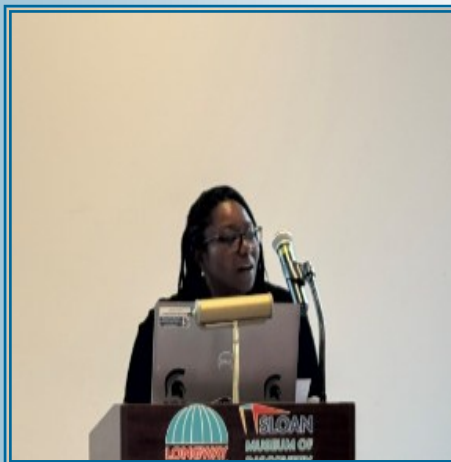
The Genesee County Medical Society Executive Director David Hoff opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. It was announced Michigan State University applied for CME and was awarded 1.5 CME for attendees. The evening began with a buffet dinner including desserts of logo cookies and homemade baklava.

Genesee County Medical Society President, Dr. Michael Danic introduced the guest key speaker, immediate past president of the AMA Dr. Bobby Mukkamala. Dr. Mukkamala gave a heartwarming presentation reflecting on his experience as president of the AMA. Dr. Mukkamala did a beautiful job of tying everything together with growing up and practicing medicine in Genesee County.

Dr. Jennifer Edwards-Johnson Lead the second half of the Town Hall. Michigan State University organized a panel for discussion of cancer rates in Genesee County. The panel spoke of different types of cancers presenting information showing cancer rates higher in Genesee County than national averages. The MSU panel suggested performing a more in-depth study to try and determine how to reduce cancer rates in the community.

The Genesee County Medical Society is excited to be partnering with the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. This event was one of the largest attended Town Hall meetings for GCMS. If you attended this historic I meeting and are in need of a CME certificate for 1.5 CME, please contact GCMS Executive Director David Hoff.

GCMS is excited to partner with MSU for future Town Hall meetings. There may also be a partnered pickleball tournament in the near future!





Exciting News on GCMS Membership for 2027

The Genesee County Medical Society has a reduced the annual membership fee to \$150 (a savings of \$265 over last year). GCMS has made membership affordable for all physicians in Genesee County, please consider a GCMS membership.

New for 2027, all invoices for membership dues and collection of dues will be processed directly through the Genesee County Medical Society. Invoicing and payments will no longer go through Michigan State Medical Society. It is no longer required for GCMS members to be members of Michigan State Medical Society and pay the \$495 MSMS membership fee.

Genesee County Medical Society will begin invoicing for 2027 membership dues on August 1, 2026. There will be many convenient payment options from the invoice, including credit card and Apple pay.

Physicians can join the Genesee County Medical Society by contacting David Hoff.

For questions, comments, or a membership please contact:

executivedirector@gcms.org



DAVID HOFF, MA, CCP
GCMS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



GENESEE COUNTY
**MEDICAL
SOCIETY**
Established 1841

Genesee County Medical Society

Presents:

GCMS/GCMSA

2026 President's Ball

Honoring GCMS President

Dr. Michael Danic

October 24, 2026@ 5:00 P.M.

Sloan Museum of Discovery

1221 E Kearsley St. Flint , Mi

48503

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Premiere

\$10,000 Level Sponsor

Includes two tables of 8 (16 seats).

One Full-Page Ad in the January 2027

**GCMS Bulletin, special mention in
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President's Ball, acknowledgement in the
event program and at the podium
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President's Ball, acknowledgement
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Society/*

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Medical Society
Alliance*

2026 President's Ball

October 24, 2026 @ 5:00 P.M.

*Sloan Museum of
Discovery*

1221 E. Kearsley Street

Flint, MI 48503

Honoring GCMS President

Dr. Michael Danic

\$100.00 Per Ticket

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By October 10th, 2026



(Black Tie Optional)

*(You will receive an
Invoice for the amount of
tickets purchased)*



If you have patients who have benefited from Genesee Health Plan (GHP) or if you have partnered with GHP, we would love to hear from you. We are collecting testimonials from patients, physicians, and community partners to help tell our story and share the impact we have made over the last 25 years.

Click to share your story: [Genesee Health Plan Member Testimonial Submission – Fill out form](#)



What is the Health Care Services Millage?

- The millage provides funding to **Genesee Health Plan (GHP)** for basic, affordable health care coverage for Genesee County residents age 19 and older
- Through the millage, the coverage GHP provides includes **doctor visits, mental health counseling, prescription drugs, labs, mammograms, and cancer screenings** and **treatment**, as well as **dental care** for seniors, veterans and adults
- Over the past 25 years, **one in four** Genesee County residents has received coverage through GHP



Millage Details

- **This is a Renewal** of the existing millage-not a new tax
- Genesee County voters have approved the Health Care Services Millage three times: 2006, 2012, and 2018
- Property tax rate: .80 mills
- Duration: 5 years

For more information contact GHP at 844-232-7740 or visit geneseehealthplan.org

GREAT THINGS ARE
HAPPENING AT
GCMS.. STAY TUNED!!!

American Red Cross declares national blood supply crisis!



The [Washington Post](#) (7/28, Wu) reports, “The American Red Cross declared a national blood supply crisis for only the second time in its history as blood donations fell to a four-year summer low, it said Monday.” The organization “has less than a one-day national supply of O-positive blood, the most commonly transfused blood type, and has begun limiting distributions of the blood to hospitals, it said.” The Post adds, “Extreme heat, poor air quality and the spread of foodborne illnesses all contributed to a lower donor turnout this summer, according to” the Red Cross.



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Lettuce or salad greens may be the source of cyclosporiasis outbreak

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Callahan) reports Michigan health officials in a news release on Monday said “current results point to lettuce or salad greens as a potential source for” the cyclosporiasis outbreak, which has sickened thousands in the state since mid-June. As of Monday, the Times says, “health officials in Michigan had reported 2,640 cases and 44 hospitalizations – a 69% increase in cases from those reported on Friday, and the highest number of cases ever reported in Michigan in a single year. The state typically records only 40 to 50 cases per year.”





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Addressing Healthcare Challenges in Genesee County, Michigan: The Evolving Role of Primary Care Physicians

By Edward Christy MD, CMD, FACP, FAAHPM, MBA

Abstract

Genesee County, Michigan, has demonstrated remarkable resilience in the face of decades of public health challenges. While the Flint water crisis brought national attention to environmental health disparities, today's healthcare landscape is defined by broader issues including chronic disease, behavioral health needs, healthcare access, workforce shortages, maternal and child health disparities, and persistent socioeconomic barriers. Primary care physicians remain at the forefront of addressing these interconnected challenges. Through preventive care, chronic disease management, behavioral health integration, and collaboration with community organizations, primary care practices can significantly improve health outcomes across the county.

Introduction

Healthcare in Genesee County reflects many of the challenges facing urban communities throughout the Midwest. Despite nationally recognized medical centers, a dedicated public health department, and strong community partnerships, residents continue to experience higher rates of chronic disease, premature mortality, behavioral health disorders, and socioeconomic hardship than many other regions of Michigan. The 2025 Community Health Needs Assessment identified persistent disparities in cardiovascular disease, diabetes, kidney disease, behavioral health, and access to healthy food and safe environments.

For primary care physicians, these realities require an expanded approach to patient care that extends beyond diagnosis and treatment to prevention, care coordination, and community engagement.

Chronic Disease Remains the Leading Health Burden

Heart disease continues to be the leading cause of death in Genesee County. County residents experience higher rates of hypertension, diabetes mellitus, chronic kidney disease, obesity, and tobacco use than statewide averages. These conditions frequently coexist and are compounded by poverty, food insecurity, and limited opportunities for physical activity.

Primary care physicians are uniquely positioned to identify high-risk individuals through routine screening and aggressive management of modifiable risk factors. Evidence-based interventions—including appropriate hypertension control, diabetes management,

lipid-lowering therapy, smoking cessation, and obesity treatment—remain among the most effective strategies for reducing morbidity and mortality.

Lifestyle counseling remains essential but must acknowledge the social realities faced by many Genesee County residents. Recommendations regarding diet and exercise should consider neighborhood food access, transportation limitations, and financial constraints.

Behavioral Health and Substance Use

Behavioral health has emerged as one of the county's highest healthcare priorities. Depression, anxiety, serious mental illness, and substance use disorders continue to place enormous strain on patients, families, emergency departments, and primary care practices.

Recognizing this need, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has increased investments in behavioral health services, including expanded crisis services, community-based treatment, opioid response initiatives, and support for children and families.

Primary care physicians increasingly serve as the first point of contact for behavioral health concerns. Integrating depression screening, medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, suicide risk assessment, and collaborative behavioral healthcare into routine practice can improve access while reducing stigma.

Healthcare Access Beyond Insurance

Although insurance coverage has improved through Medicaid expansion and community health programs, access to care remains uneven. Transportation challenges, provider shortages, appointment availability, language barriers, and financial insecurity continue to delay preventive care and specialty referrals.

Programs such as the Genesee Health Plan and the Greater Flint Health Coalition help bridge these gaps by connecting uninsured and underinsured residents with preventive services, specialty referrals, prescription assistance, and care coordination.

Primary care offices can strengthen these efforts by incorporating patient navigators, community health workers, and social needs screening into routine clinical workflows.

Maternal and Child Health

Maternal and infant health disparities remain significant concerns. Socioeconomic stressors, inadequate prenatal care, and housing instability contribute to adverse birth outcomes.

Innovative community programs, including Flint's Rx Kids initiative, have demonstrated that addressing economic insecurity during pregnancy can positively influence family health and child well-being. Early findings suggest improvements in outcomes that extend beyond traditional medical interventions.

Primary care physicians caring for women of childbearing age should continue emphasizing preconception counseling, early prenatal referral, behavioral health screening, vaccination, and postpartum follow-up.

Workforce Challenges

Like many communities nationwide, Genesee County faces shortages of primary care physicians, behavioral health professionals, nurses, and support staff. Increasing administrative burdens, clinician burnout, and an aging workforce threaten healthcare access.

These shortages disproportionately affect medically underserved populations who often depend upon safety-net clinics and federally qualified health centers.

Retention of healthcare professionals will require continued investment in competitive compensation, team-based care, loan repayment programs, residency training, and workplace wellness initiatives.

Social Determinants of Health

Clinical care accounts for only a portion of health outcomes. Housing insecurity, unemployment, transportation barriers, education, environmental conditions, and food insecurity significantly influence disease burden throughout Genesee County.

Routine screening for social determinants of health has become an important component of comprehensive primary care. Identifying unmet social needs allows physicians to connect patients with community organizations that provide food assistance, housing support, transportation, and financial counseling.

Healthcare systems increasingly recognize that addressing these upstream determinants improves medication adherence, reduces hospitalizations, and lowers healthcare costs.

Environmental Health

Although substantial progress has been made since the Flint water crisis, environmental health remains an important consideration. Community trust in healthcare institutions and public health agencies continues to evolve.

Primary care physicians should remain vigilant regarding environmental exposures while reassuring patients using current evidence-based recommendations. Continued monitoring of children's developmental health, blood lead surveillance when appropriate, and preventive education remain important components of pediatric and family medicine.

Environmental health also includes air quality, neighborhood safety, access to recreational spaces, and healthy food availability—all factors influencing chronic disease risk.

Opportunities for Primary Care Leadership

Primary care physicians can help transform healthcare in Genesee County through several practical strategies:

- Expand preventive screening for hypertension, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, depression, and cancer.
- Incorporate behavioral health into routine primary care.
- Screen for food insecurity, housing instability, transportation barriers, and financial hardship.
- Utilize multidisciplinary teams including pharmacists, behavioral health specialists, dietitians, and community health workers.
- Promote vaccination and preventive services.
- Strengthen partnerships with local hospitals, public health agencies, and community organizations.
- Advocate for policies that improve healthcare access and physician workforce development.

Conclusion

Genesee County continues to face complex healthcare challenges rooted in chronic disease, behavioral health, socioeconomic disparities, and healthcare access. Yet the county also possesses remarkable strengths, including collaborative healthcare organizations, engaged community partners, innovative public health programs, and committed primary care physicians.

As healthcare continues to evolve, primary care remains the cornerstone of improving population health. By integrating evidence-based medicine with community partnerships and addressing the broader determinants of health, physicians can help reduce disparities and improve outcomes for the residents of Genesee County.

References

1. Greater Flint Health Coalition. *2025 Community Health Needs Assessment*.
2. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. *Behavioral Health Investment Initiatives in Genesee County*.
3. Genesee County Community Health Needs Assessment.
4. Genesee Health Plan. Community health access programs.



Dr. Edward Christy M.D, CMD, FACP, FAAHPM, MBA

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4. GCMS convenes monthly meetings with Practice Managers in an effort to head off problems for physician practices and to find solutions to those that are identified.
5. GCMS is a national leader by providing leadership at the state and federal level through volunteer physicians, staff, and Alliance member involvement leadership positions.
6. GCMS is disproportionality influential on behalf of its member physicians and their patients.
7. GCMS holds quarterly meetings with federal and state legislators and communicates with them at other times on as as-needed basis.

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Exciting News on GCMS Membership



GCMS is pleased to announce a reduced annual membership fee of \$150.

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David Hoff - Executive Director



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4 things to know about cold plunges and contrast therapy

Images of people jumping from icy plunge baths after a period in saunas or hot tubs are heating up social media. Participants claim that this method—"contrast therapy"—improves their mental health and helps their muscles recover more efficiently.

Some fitness and wellness experts are also singing its praises, saying it is "invigorating ... really wakes you up" and that it helps boost recovery and cut soreness from intense workouts. So is contrast therapy a method that people should turn to for heart health or as part of their wellness routine? [Read more.](#)

But they say it's
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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.

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.

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.

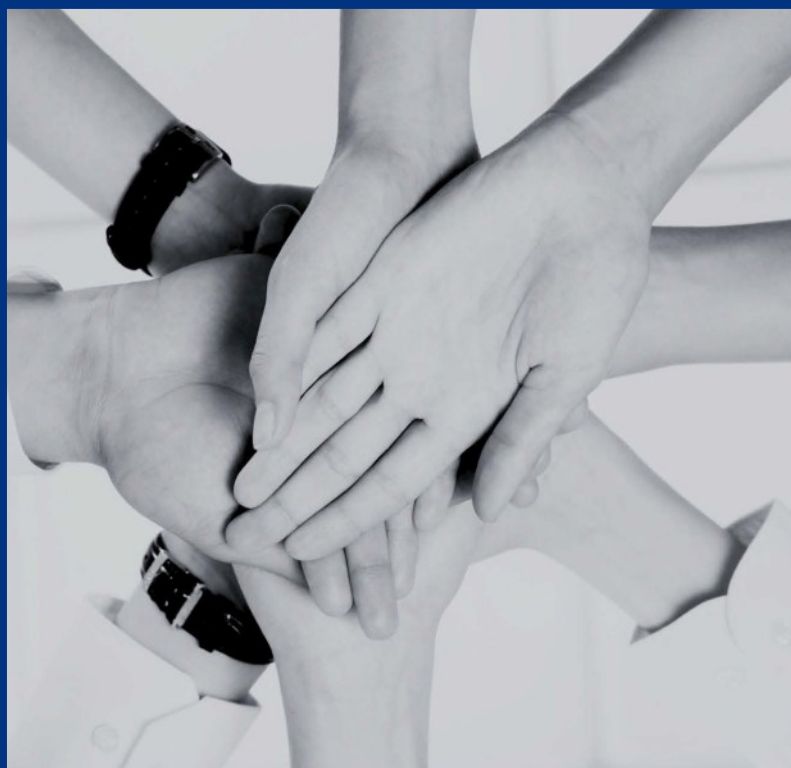
Renewals from June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023, need 1 hour; renewals from June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024, need 2 hours; renewals from June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025, need 3 hours. Then after, every 3-year renewal cycle will need to report 3 hours. (Any hours after June 2021 can be used.)

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.



Join GCMMSA

Genesee County Medical
Society Alliance

MISSION STATEMENT

To make a positive difference in the lives of Genesee County residents by promoting healthy lifestyles and education through partnerships with GCMS and local community organizations, as well as providing a supportive network to medical families.



Dues

\$30 per year

Who We Are?

Physician's spouses who strive to make our county a better place for ourselves, our families, and our community.

Since 1938 GCMS Alliance's programs and services have offered something for every physician's spouse. As a member, you have a voice in one of the most highly organized and involved health organizations in the community, the state of Michigan, and in the nation.

What We Do?

- Involved in the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic & Healing Hands 5K Run/Walk.
- Helps the GCMS in its legislative efforts for quality health care.
- Provides supplies to the YWCA women's shelter
- Raises funds for Peace Day & scholarships
- Organize social events such as international luncheons, book clubs, friendship gatherings, and more!

 **Get in Touch**

 810-516-6016

 rulaali@aol.com

 <http://www.gcmsalliance.org>

 [the_Alliance_GCMSA](#)

GCMS is focused on improving the future of medicine. Our resource's and meetings are a great way to learn about medical advancements and potential treatments. Click the link below for more information.



WWW.GCMS.ORG

GCMS/GCMSA HOPES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HAD A
SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Laboratory System Partner,

Starting April 14, 2026, the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories is offering measles IgM testing on serum samples. Please request prior approval through the MDHHS Bureau of Infectious Disease Prevention at 517-335-8165. To order measles testing, refer to test requisition form [MDHHS-6084](#).

Ship specimens either cold (2-8°C) or frozen (<-20°C), packed in a Styrofoam container with frozen cold packs. If sample processing is delayed >48 hours, specimens must be frozen and shipped on dry ice to remain frozen during transport.

Shipping supplies for specimens sent to the BOL for testing may be ordered through the [Laboratory Kit Order Tracking System \(LKOTS\)](#). Select Kit 8A for serum shipping supplies and Kit 45 for Viral PCR testing. Serum samples may be packaged along with NP/OP swabs in VTM for PCR testing. Individual items (e.g. Styrofoam coolers, cold packs, collection tubes, etc.) may be ordered as needed by contacting mdhhsrab@michigan.gov.

For serum submission instructions refer to [DCH-0812](#).

For NP/OP swabs in VTM submission instructions refer to [DCH-0772](#).

For additional questions, please contact the Virology Section Manager, Dr. Katie Margulieux at margulieuxk@michigan.gov or 517-335-8099

Help is Here

GHS

Genesee HEALTH SYSTEM



Begin Services Today

CUSTOMER SERVICES

1040 W. Bristol Road
Flint, MI 48507

Monday – Friday, 8 A.M. – 5 P.M.

(810) 257-3705

TTY: (810) 257-1346

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH URGENT CARE

Call Us

Crisis Line
810-257-3740



Walk-in Care &
Mobile Crisis Teams
810-496-5500
TTY 810-232-6310

Text Us

Text GHS to
WEGOTU (934688)

Visit Us

1040 W. Bristol Road
Flint, MI 48507
MTA Bus Route 11

www.genhs.org





**ATTENTION: PRACTICE MANAGERS IT'S ESSENTIAL
NOW MORE THAN EVER THAT YOU JOIN US..
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 to RSVP,

YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZOOM INVITE

NEXT MEETING DATE:

SEPTEMBER 10TH , 2026— 9:00 A.M.

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







3/4/2025

Important Update: MMR Vaccination Guidelines

We are deeply saddened by the recent death of a child in Texas due to measles, a disease that can be prevented through vaccination. This loss reminds us how important it is to protect our communities.

Texas is currently facing a measles outbreak with 146 confirmed cases as of February 28th. This situation is a stark reminder that measles is still a serious threat, even though it was thought to be eliminated in the U.S. in 2000.

Vaccines are our best defense against measles. The MMR vaccine, when given in two doses at the appropriate time, stops over 97% of measles infections. Our community is vulnerable, with an [81% MMR vaccination](#) rate which is significantly lower than recommended rate for community immunity. This makes it one of our most powerful tools to keep people healthy.

To help our healthcare teams respond to this situation, we are sharing an important update on vaccination guidelines. This information will help us better serve and protect our community during this challenging time.

MMR Vaccination Guidelines

Presumed Immunity and Vaccination Recommendations:

- Adults born before 1957 are generally presumed to have immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella.
- Healthcare workers should receive 2 doses of MMR vaccine.
- Certain medical conditions may require 2 doses of MMR as per CDC guidelines.
- The minimum spacing is 28 days.

Special Considerations:

- Adults vaccinated in the 1960s with an inactivated or unknown type of measles vaccine should receive at least one dose of MMR.

Current Childhood Immunization Schedule:

- One dose of the MMR vaccine is 93% protective against measles.
- There is currently no need to deviate from the current recommended childhood immunization schedule.
- Children can wait until age 4 for the second dose, especially given no evidence of transmission in our community.
- One dose will also help protect against severe disease if infected.

Early Vaccination for Infants:

- There is no need to start vaccination earlier than age 1 given the current state of the outbreak. We will notify you immediately if this recommendation changes.



- CDC recommends that infants >6 months and <12 years who are **traveling internationally** should receive a dose of MMR vaccine prior to travel.
- Given the current outbreak, we recommend this dose for infants **traveling** with their parents to **West Texas**.
- Any dose given before 12 months does **NOT** count toward the MMR series (0 dose).
- Children will still need two doses following the normal childhood immunizations schedule.

Contraindications:

MMR and other live vaccines should NOT be given to individuals with:

- Pregnancy
- HIV infection with CD4 count <15% or <200m
- Severe immunodeficiency (consult with healthcare provider)
- Certain immunosuppressant medications, including:
 - High-dose steroids (≥2 weeks of daily 20 mg or 2 mg/kg body weight of prednisone or equivalent)
 - Specific biologics (e.g., Humira)
 - Chemotherapy
- Recent receipt of antibody-containing blood products (within past 11 months)

Additional Resources:

- [Measles, Mumps, and Rubella \(MMR\) Vaccination | CDC](#)
- [Measles Preparedness Toolkit](#)

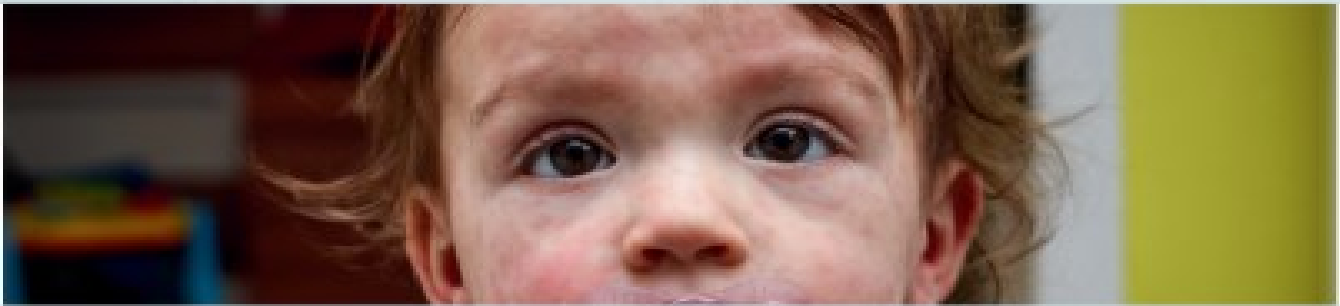
We will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide updates as necessary. For comprehensive information on contraindications and precautions, please consult our [immunizations team](#) or refer to official [CDC guidelines](#).

Sincerely,

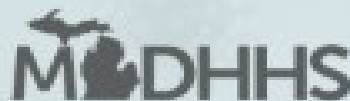
Michela Corsi, MD, MPH, MA
Medical Director, Genesee County Health Department

[Click here for full guide](#)

Measles Preparedness Toolkit



Health Care Providers Guide to In-Office
Testing and Prevention



GENESEE COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DISCONTINUATION-Measles-IgM Testing



Laboratory System Partner,

Effective immediately, the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories (BOL) will no longer offer measles IgM testing due to a manufacturer kit recall. Specimens submitted for measles IgM testing will be forwarded to partner laboratories for testing.

Measles RT-PCR and measles IgG testing are not impacted and remain available at the BOL.

For questions regarding this change, please contact:

Virology Section Manager, Dr. Katie Margulieux, MargulieuxK@michigan.gov 517-335-8099, or

Viral Serology Unit Manager, Kristine Smith, SmithK8@michigan.gov 517-335-8100.





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 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.

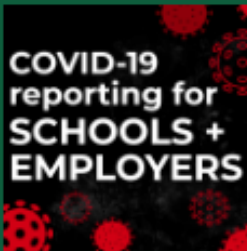


For Daily Genesee County Covid-19 Numbers

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



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 or call (810) 257-1017



For State of Michigan Covid-19 Information

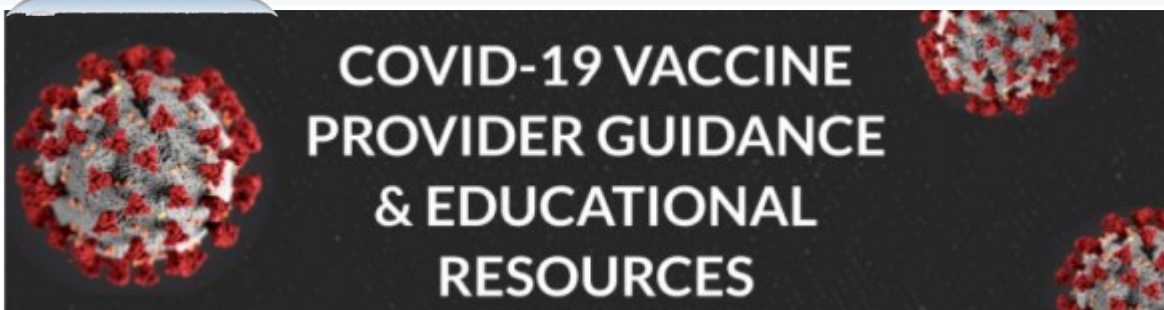




**COVID-19 VACCINE
BREAKTHROUGH**



CLICK HERE



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

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



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.**

MEDICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION



Did you know that all donations made to the **Medical Society Foundation** are 100% Tax-deductible? If you are interested in donating, or if you have any further questions, please contact executivedirector@gcms.org Thank you!



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

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

Questions may be sent to : BPLHelp@michigan.gov.

Thank you,

Bureau of Professional Licensing
Licensing Division



CONNECT WITH US..

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