

THE Bulletin

July 2015 Volume 100, Number 17



**Meet your
GCMSA Co-Presidents!**

**Call Your Lawyer,
it's LARA on the Phone**

**Drs. Hugh Grover
and Jack Benkert
Have Passed Away**

GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY
Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

**CAN YOU SEE
THEIR LUNGS?**

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CAN**

**WE
SCAN**

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- **Have smoked at least 30 pack years**
(1 pack-year = smoking one pack (20 cigarettes) per day for 1 year)
- **No history or symptoms of lung cancer**

- **LDCT reduces lung cancer mortality rate 20% compared to chest x-ray**
- **RMI is ACR accredited for lung screening**
- **We manage patient follow-ups making your job easier**
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President Elect – Pino Colone, MD
Immed. Past Pres. – Shafi Ahmed, MD
Secretary – Qazi Azher, MD
Treasurer – Ed Christy, MD

MSMS OFFICERS 2014-15

Treasurer – Venkat Rao, MD
Speaker – Pino Colone, MD

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Qazi Azher, MD
Amitabha Banerjee, MD
Cathy Blight, MD
Laura Carravallah, MD
Edward Christy, MD
Pino Colone, MD
Deborah Duncan, MD
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F. Michael Jaggi, DO
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Farhan Khan, MD
Nita Kulkarni, MD
Sunil Kaushal, MD
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Executive Secretary – Sherry Smith

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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LOOK FOR NO BETTER FRIEND THAN OURSELVES

Summer is finally upon us – one of the four most beautiful seasons in Michigan – and the most blessedly warm! As my life and practice have gotten busier I find it harder to take real vacations, so this year I'm taking a couple of "stay-cations" at home, trying to spend more time with family, friends, gardening, and my pool. Sometimes I just take a 30 minute mini-vacation when I get home on a warm, sunny evening. Unfortunately, my brain and sense of purpose seem to be slipping into vacation mode, so I'm writing this at the very last minute before the "printing" deadline. Oops!



Deborah Duncan, MD

This week I've had the pleasure of re-reading Dr. Cyrus Farrehi's President's Messages for the GCMS Bulletin from 1999. They are remarkably insightful and beautifully

written. I am truly humbled by them. I might best serve our members by simply reprinting his messages. I sincerely hope he writes a memoir of his life and career. I'm sure it would be a remarkable read.

To quote Dr. Farrehi, "My fellow members, look for no better friend than ourselves. Look for no better support than that provided by our spouses in the Alliance; for it is through our own activities, not mere desires, that the future can be brighter."

This issue is dedicated to showcasing the work and accomplishments of our most illustrious Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. It is a strong, innovative,

and fiercely dedicated group of people. I encourage all to support their efforts as much as they support ours.

Happy Summer!



Meeting the health needs of Genesee County's children

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

- Medication Management
- Psychiatric Consultation
- Behavioral Health Counseling, Screening, Support Groups
- Prevention Activities

Child & Adolescent Health

- Pediatrics
- School-Based Clinics
- Audiology
- Nutrition Education
- Teen Wellness Center

Child & Adolescent Dentistry

- Dental Exams & Preventive Care
- Dental Treatment & Restorations
- School Screening and Sealant Program
- Infant & Toddler Oral Health Care

Services provided at no cost to low income families living in Genesee County

Mott Children's Health Center
 806 Tuuri Place
 Flint, Michigan 48503
(810) 767-5750
www.mottchc.org

MSMS ICD-10 Resources

- [ICD-10 & Other Coding Courses](#)

AMA Resources

- [AMA ICD-10 Fact Sheets](#)
- [Talk to your Payers about Reimbursement Changes for ICD-10](#)
- [Talk to Your Vendor about ICD-10 Updates](#)
- [Determine Your Training Needs for ICD-10](#)
- [Assess Your Documentation in Preparation for ICD-10](#)
- [Complete an Assessment of ICD-10 Impact on Your Practice](#)
- [Testing Your ICD-10 Readiness](#)
- [Prevent Cash Flow Interruptions with ICD-10](#)

CMS Resources

- [Provider Resources](#)
- [Road To ICD-10](#)
- [Intro Guide to ICD-10](#)
- [ICD-10 FAQ](#)
- [ICD-10 Transition](#)
- [ICD-10 Basics for Medical Practices](#)
- [Talking to your Vendors about ICD-10](#)
- [ICD-10 Basics for Small and Rural Practices](#)
- [CMS Timelines & Checklists](#)
- [CMS Implementation Guide](#)
- [CMS Classification Enhancements](#)

Other Resources

- [Medicaid Resources](#)
- [American Academy of Professional Coders \(AAPC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)



Upcoming Webinars

Opioids and Michigan Workers' Compensation Webinar

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

12:15 - 1:00 pm

No cost, but registration is required

Presenters:

David Campbell,
MA, CRC
Workers'
Compensation
Agency,
State of Michigan

Kristina Kloc
Health Care Services
Division
State of Michigan

Paul Kauffman
Director of Medical
Programs Accident
Fund Insurance
Company of America

The State of Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency is pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the new Michigan Workers' Compensation reimbursement rules related to chronic opioid use. This section of the webinar will provide practitioners with a thorough understanding of the new opioid reimbursement rules and their impact on providers who treat injured workers. Topics include:

- The history of the rule
- Understanding the definition of "chronic" in relation to the rule
- Explanation of required documentation for reimbursement of treatment for chronic, non-cancer pain with opioids
- Review of new billing codes that allow for practitioner reimbursement for additional services being provided
- Familiarizing the practitioner with the State of Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency website for additional opioid resource materials and forms

Registrants will be emailed the webinar link and call-in instructions prior to the event.

[Register Online](#)

HAIL TO THE GCMS ALLIANCE: PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Band members have a special bond. A great band is more than just some people working together. It's like a highly specialized army unit, or a winning sports team.

A unique combination of elements that becomes stronger together than apart.

Steven Van Zandt (Little Steven)

Each year, the July issue of The Bulletin is turned over to the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. This is an opportunity for the Alliance to promote their activities and encourage new memberships. The Alliance is an integral partner in advancing the goals of organized medicine at the local, state, and national levels.

This past year was marked by focused political action, dedicated charitable activities, and fun social and educational programs. Congratulations to outgoing President Ruqsana Ahmed, the Alliance Board of Directors, and the general membership for a great year and a job well done. Welcome to Maria McCann and Raquel Yapchai as they take over the responsibilities as incoming Co-Presidents. They will surely carry on the important work of the organization.

Check the Alliance website (GCMSA.org) for upcoming programs and activities. Encourage your spouse to become a member if they are not already. The more members that participate, the more effective is the organization. After all, membership has its privileges.



Daniel Ryan, MD



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Do you recognize this
DOCTOR?



Look for the Answer inside!



*The
Queen's
Royal Ball*

NOVEMBER 7, 2015
6:00 PM

WARWICK HILLS
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

RSVP'S BY OCTOBER 30, 2015
TO [SSMITH@GCMS.ORG](mailto:ssmith@gcms.org) OR
PHONE (810)733-9923

Geranium Luncheon MARKS LEADERSHIP CHANGES

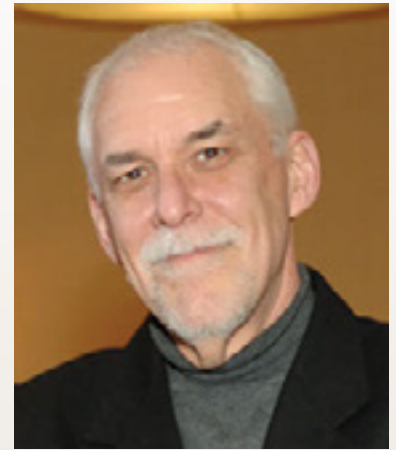


In keeping with tradition, this past May we celebrated a year of hard work and dedication from outgoing President Ruqsana (Polly) Ahmed at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club. We greatly appreciate all of Ruqsana's time and effort as President which led to another great Alliance year. Also celebrated was the installation of incoming Co-Presidents Maria McCann and Raquel Yapchai. With new leadership comes new ideas and we look forward to the upcoming year. Also installed were returning Secretary, Tinsi Olds, and returning Treasurer, Joy Dawn Hardman. Dr. Deborah Duncan was also present at the Luncheon to show her support and to give thanks for all the work the Alliance does to help show support for the GCMS. Also present were Pete Levine, and Sherry Smith, both avid supporters of the Alliance. In turn, we greatly appreciate all that Pete and Sherry do and we thank them for their continued commitment. While attendance was a little lower than previous years, the Geranium Luncheon still provided an opportunity for recognition of Past-Presidents, as well as a delightful afternoon of visiting and catching up with old friends. Special thanks to Amita Desai for all her work in making the Luncheon an event enjoyed by all.

OUR ALLIANCE SHINES

One sure sign of an organization that strives to succeed is that it is very self-critical. Our GCMS Alliance falls into that category. Every year there is a new President, or co-Presidents. Board members change, and committee members change, sometimes more and sometimes less. The amazing thing, is that the GCMS Alliance consistently comes up with leaders who lead well. Every year is not the same. Each year the Alliance seeks specific leadership skills among its leadership. This year, the Alliance has as co-presidents, Maria McCann and Raquel Yapchai. They are sisters, and a dynamic duo. Last year, the president was Polly Ahmed, who brought warmth and collegiality. Raquel and Maria will bring dynamism. One is not better than the other. Every organization needs different leaders for different times. Enjoy them.

Please also know how lucky we are to have such a dynamic Alliance. Every single time that I go to a County Executive meeting, people want to know how we go so lucky. The thing that people do not realize, is that there is no luck involved. There is a culture of involvement here. It exists in the Medical Society, and it exists in the Alliance. It is palpable and a joy to watch both organizations progress from year to year accomplishing great things.



Peter Levine, MPH

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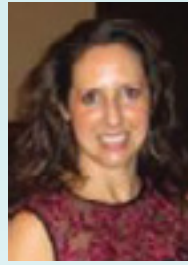
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GCMSA CO-PRESIDENTS BIOS



***Raquel
Yapchai***

Raquel Yapchai was born and raised in Flint Township. After graduating from Flint Powers Catholic High School, she opted to stay local for school and work. An interest in healthcare developed while working at McLaren Regional Medical Center through the mid '90's. While working on completing a bachelor's degree in health care administration, she changed hospitals and began working at Genesys Regional Medical Center. Graduating from U of M Flint in 2001, she began working in Trauma Services at Genesys. During this time she met her husband to be, Curtis Yapchai, MD, who is an Emergency Department Physician. Following a few years of dating, filled with lots of traveling and fun times, they married in 2005. They reside in Grand Blanc with their two children, Lolyana age 7 and Bryce age 5 ½. Both work at Genesys still. Life is busy but finding time for favorite pastimes remains a high priority. Having two little ones has slowed their great passion for traveling, but now that Loly and Bryce are getting older, the Yapchais are ready for some big travel plans! Other favorite interests are leisure reading, working out, and always cherishes quality time spent with family and friends. Recently, Raquel has become interested in Human Trafficking and looks to become more involved in the upcoming year. Being a part of the Public Awareness and Community Outreach Committee has been very eye opening. She feels honored to be part of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance, as it has opened so many new avenues of interest as well as the beginning of some wonderful friendships. Looking forward with high hopes to continue the accomplishments this wonderful group of members has become known for.



***Maria
Elena McCann***

Maria McCann was born and raised in Genesee County, primarily in Flint Township. After graduating high school from Flint Powers, she worked at McLaren Regional Hospital for 14 years, while attending U of M-Flint, graduating from the Hurley School of Radiologic Technologists and working at Hurley Medical Center as a CT Technologist. In 2004, she met her husband Dr. Michael L. McCann while he was completing a trauma fellowship at Hurley. They married that year and Maria resigned from McLaren. The following year, she resigned from Hurley as her husband completed his training, and they left Michigan for six years. Prior to moving back to Michigan, Maria became involved with the Ladies Auxiliary in Topeka, Kansas, where she was to be President-Elect, until withdrawing to move back to Michigan. She is happy to be back with family and friends, and works per diem at Hurley Medical Center in the Radiology department. This is her three-year anniversary with the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. She has served as Secretary, Co-President Elect, alongside her sister, Raquel Yapchai, and is now prepared to take on the challenge of serving as Co-President. She is looking forward to serving this term with her sister and the rest of the amazing board members. As Co-President, Maria hopes to continue the traditions of this wonderful group of members and to keep its presence strong within the medical community.

*The
Queen's
Royal Ball*
11/7/2015
R.S.V.P.
BY 10/30/15

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*The Only One of Its
Kind in Genesee,
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CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL**

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Miracle Network
Hospitals

hurleychildrens.com

A Letter from Your GCMSA Co-Presidents



As Co-Presidents, we would like to welcome you to our new year 2015-2016 of the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance. We both feel privileged to be in this role and we hope to fulfill the honor and commitment as others before us have done. With that being said, a special wholehearted ovation has to be given to

our wonderful immediate Past-President, Ruqsana Ahmed. She has definitely left big shoes to fill and we are so grateful for all she has done this previous year.

Initially, neither one of us really understood the huge part the Alliance plays in the community. We have been delighted and inspired upon learning of the accomplishments and time given by this wonderful group. It has been a huge treat looking back at past years and seeing the commitment and dedication our fellow Alliance members have consistently demonstrated. In spite of many of us being so fortunate, it is not much of a surprise to see the difficulties many Genesee County (mainly City of Flint) residents have experienced. These difficulties range from little to no healthcare, sub-marginal resources for children, and the list goes on. Our association gives us the opportunity to serve and help fulfill some of our communities' needs. The key word is SERVE. We believe that we are called to do this, not just in helping within our community, but also as a way of showing support for all the dedication and hard work from our physician spouses. To borrow a quote from a previous President, "We can do more together!"

While looking at major objectives and goals as we start off our term, there is one thing that has to be said, we need MEMBERS! We have reached an ultimate low with 70 registered members! We are hoping that this is something we can help to change. The current members who remain involved consistently show their dedication and we have still been able to accomplish great things. Our fear though, is burnout. We want to get the numbers back to reflect even more of the great potential we have.

With reference to looking at how to get new members and past members involved again, we believe, with changing times, comes the need to revisit vision statements and areas of high priority. By doing this, we can better reach out to those who need us, as well as stay current with the ever-changing needs of our medical community. We are looking to do this without taking away any recognition to all the hard work that has already been done in past years. We have some ideas of our own, but would welcome any other suggestions and ideas. Feedback can be sent to www.gcmsalliance.org.

We are still learning and educating ourselves on all that is entailed with the Michigan State and Genesee County Medical Societies. It is very evident that one focus of importance is our continued efforts to support MSMS and GCMS on the legislative front. We have the opportunity to continue raising awareness and provide updates on the constantly changing legislative environment with members who consistently show their commitment by staying involved and being a presence to reckon with at our State Capitol. On several occasions throughout the previous year, various groups of Alliance members made trips to the Capitol. This will also continue!

While we are definitely open to suggestions of other areas to focus on, we strive to continue the special interest that the Alliance has always taken in areas of women's health, programs for child enrichment and recently in the area of human trafficking. Our interest in human trafficking has grown, both by our involved members striving to raise awareness, and by programs we have been



able to host and attend. Last June, two of our members attended a meeting at the State Capitol about human trafficking. In October, many of us attended a luncheon with a former victim of human trafficking as our guest speaker. She shared her story of survival and courage as a hope in raising awareness. Among other guests, Senators Dave Robertson and Judy Emmons were present. We look to have increased involvement and awareness as we have tentative events planned for the upcoming year, mainly looking at getting data back to update us on where we stand now; how laws have changed, and how other areas have been impacted as result of educating ourselves and others in the community. Now that there has been and will continue to be so much work done identifying potential victims of trafficking and who to notify, we are excited that a next goal might be to start brainstorming on developing resources and programs for victims who have been pulled out of their current environment, in hopes they never feel they have to return. There is much more to come on this issue!

We will continue striving to reach children in need with budgeted money for Children's Programs. This past winter, our focus was the McLaren Child Evaluation Clinic. In addition to the budgeted allowance, we also had a few generous members donate additional monies. We were able to put together hundreds of goody bags to be distributed to patients of various ages both male and female. S.A.V.E in schools will also continue to be one of our programs. We plan to distribute informational booklets this year, in the hopes of keeping with past tradition. Health Careers Day and Immunization Day are also programs we will continue to carry on with our dedicated chair members.

In addition to the above areas of focus, we also like to incorporate having FUN! We had several programs the previous year that were social, but still met our goal of service or education. We had a fun afternoon, while being educated at the Health Issues and Fitness Dance event as well as Women and Investment, we hope to have more of those same valuable programs. One of our upcoming social events is our Gold Trade-In event. We hope to have this in January 2016. This is a much anticipated afternoon of entertainment that could

be quite lucrative for some. Recently, both of us came across this sort of opportunistic event and were astounded at the outcome. We hope to share the "experience" with the rest of the members. We have not yet determined our Children's Program, but have already started brainstorming for something to match the creativity of past years. In keeping up with women's health areas, we are looking to have a guest speaker talk on "Skin Renewal" options and treatments...something we believe all are interested in! We also plan on having a Book Club with the choice topic being Alzheimer's disease. The book chosen is sure to be thought provoking and enjoyed by all ages. We regret to announce we will not be carrying out one of the normal traditions. We have opted to not have the Family Picnic this year. While the picnic last year was a huge success, we feel that between timing and schedules, attendance will suffer. The summer will be fairly quiet but we are excited to get started with our kickoff event the GCMSA International Luncheon. This is such a great event to attend and see people we haven't seen in a while. And let's not forget, have some GREAT food! We strongly encourage everyone to come.

We are very excited for this upcoming year and hope others will join us in our enthusiasm and hopes for an amazing Alliance year. Having worked with the Board Members last year, we know we are surrounded by some wonderful and dedicated women. Again, we express our excitement and are graciously thankful for this opportunity, while also humbly asking for guidance and support from seasoned members. Besides raising membership, our main goal remains to serve in this role with the same integrity, commitment, and dedication as the past-presidents have. We strongly encourage and invite non-active members to become active again! We have already met and made friends with some wonderful individuals, and would love to put more faces with names. Any and all feedback is welcomed and can be sent to www.gcmsalliance.org.



FREE! Commit to Fit! Class Schedule

Commit to Fit offers fitness classes and healthy cooking demonstrations at **no cost** to all individuals who live or work in Flint and Genesee County. Depending on the facility, participants may be asked to complete a brief registration form prior to attending a class. Class sizes are limited and are on a "first-come, first-served" basis. See back side for details.

JULY 2015 CALENDAR



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4
Senior Stretch YMCA - Downtown Flint 9:00am	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Healthy Cooking Demonstration Flint Farmers' Market 12:00 p.m. Enhance Fitness Carriage Town Ministries 2:30 p.m.	Zumba Gold (Beginner) GAC 5:30 p.m. <i>*Shape Up Your Plate Challenge Begins!</i>	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Basic Yoga IHFC 6:45 p.m.		Happy 4th of July!!
6	7	8	9	10	11
Senior Stretch YMCA - Downtown Flint 9:00am	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Healthy Cooking Demonstration* Flint Farmers' Market 12:00 p.m. Enhance Fitness Carriage Town Ministries 2:30 p.m.	Zumba Gold (Beginner) GAC 5:30 p.m.	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Basic Yoga IHFC 6:45 p.m.	Body PHIT UM-Flint Rec 5:30 p.m.	Fitness at the Park! Max Brandon Park 10:00 a.m. Fit Club at the Local 10:00 a.m. Fitness at the Park! McKinley Park 1:00 p.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18
Senior Stretch YMCA - Downtown Flint 9:00am	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Healthy Cooking Demonstration Flint Farmers' Market 12:00 p.m. Enhance Fitness Carriage Town Ministries 2:30 p.m.	Zumba Gold (Beginner) GAC 5:30 p.m.	Enhance Fitness Flint Farmers' Market 10:00 a.m. Basic Yoga IHFC 6:45 p.m.	Body PHIT UM-Flint Rec 5:30 p.m.	Fitness at the Park! Max Brandon Park 10:00 a.m. Fit Club at the Local 10:00 a.m. Fitness at the Park! McKinley Park 1:00 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25
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27	28	29	30	31	
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JULY 2015

Class Descriptions & Locations

Basic Yoga (1 hour) - This class is a balanced flow of postures designed to build stamina, strength, and flexibility while promoting weight loss and general stress relief.

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



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

Genesys Athletic Club (GAC)
801 Health Park Blvd
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
(810) 606-7300



Body PHIT – (1 hour) -The best of fitness is fused into an exhilarating boot camp that uses BOSU balls, resistance bands, blocks, and Pilates/yoga mat work to blast your traditional body weight sessions out of the box. You will gain strength, endurance, and flexibility. Manage your weight and look better. You will sweat, train tough, play rough, and HIT it! Join PHIT!

University of Michigan-Flint Recreation Center (UM-Flint Rec)
401 Mill Street (for mapping)
303 E. Kearsley
Flint, MI 48502
(810) 762-3441



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

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



Healthy Cooking Demonstration (30 minutes) - Learn how to cook a simple, healthy dish by a vendor at the Market and try a sample after!

Flint Farmers' Market
300 E. First St
Flint, MI 48502
(810) 232-1399



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

Carriage Town Ministries
605 Garland Avenue
Flint, MI 48503
(810) 233-8787



Fitness at the Park! (1 hour) – Low-impact aerobic exercise designed to increase physical activity for people of all fitness levels. It's designed to keep you strong, balanced, and flexible so you retain the ability to do all of life's normal daily activities.

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Fit Club Workouts (45 minutes) – Join the Fit Club every Saturday at 10am for fun boot camp style workout videos. All ages are encouraged to attend! Check out their [Facebook](#) page for up-to-date information!

The Flint Local 432
124 W. 1st Street
Flint, MI 48503
(810) 813-4000



Questions?
Email
commit2fit@flint.org



Please Call Your Lawyer Especially If Requested To Be Interviewed By Licensing And Regulatory Affairs (LARA)

BY: JOSÉ T. BROWN
Cline, Cline & Griffin

“Some patients...recover their health simply through their contentment with the goodness of the physician.” - Hippocrates, Precepts

In the past year, the frequency and the significance of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) “interviews for investigation” have increased. These “interviews for investigation” are to the detriment of all medical practitioners and provide the foundation for LARA to file an administrative complaint. Frequently, I get calls from physicians or insurance carriers after an investigative interview. Many times it’s like trying to put the toothpaste back in the tube. It’s too late! The absence of a lawyer representing your interests can be devastating; the licensing impact by LARA can be far worse than any medical malpractice case. Not only can a LARA investigation result in suspension, reprimand, or revocation of your license, substantial fines can be imposed before reinstatement of your license. Then comes the final scourge of many great doctors; a report to the National Practitioners Data Bank. This affects future credentialing, privileges, medical malpractice insurance premiums, and licensing.

A number of factors including the Affordable Healthcare Act, EHRs/EMRs which can track overuse of any prescriptions and every medical procedure, the Medi-Data system for Medicare audits, and increased federal funding for Medicare fraud to LARA have resulted in increased licensing actions. In fact, there is a task force focused upon Southeast Michigan. It is moving north toward Genesee County seeking out the distribution of narcotics in the absence of a narcotics contract or MAPS search. The narcotic distribution count can be easily and accurately tracked through the use of MAPS (Michigan Automated Prescription System). Please visit the following link to determine that electronic medical record has made life much more difficult for practitioners prescribing Schedule II drugs. The electronic medical record has created many unintended consequences including further regulation of fees and now your license. This should cause pause.

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/mtgs/pharm_awareness/conf_2013/may_2013/maps.pdf

The second troubling aspect of LARA investigations is the post-medical malpractice settlement scenario. If a physician settles or is involved as a named defendant

in a medical malpractice case, it can trigger a licensing investigation. The following statutes mandate an investigation of your settlement following a medical malpractice action.

MCLA 333.12631, sub-section 4, requires that if LARA receives information reported under §16243, sub-section 2, that indicates 3 or more malpractice settlements, awards, or judgments against a licensee in a period of 5 consecutive years, or 1 or more malpractice settlement awards or judgments against a licensee totaling more than \$200,000 in a period of 5 consecutive years, whether or not a judgment or award is stayed pending appeal, the Department shall investigate.

Secondly, the Public Health Code requires under §16243 that insurance companies must report:

Information from an insurer providing professional liability insurance as to claims or actions for damages against an licensee; settlements in any amount, final disposition not resulting in payment on behalf of the insured, and a personal injury claim to have been caused by an error, omission, or negligence in the performance of the insureds professional services. An insurance carrier that receives a request under this sub-division shall submit the information requested directly to LARA.

This means the carrier must provide information that is requested by LARA that may not have even resulted in a settlement or payment on behalf of the insured. This should cause you to pause.

A third area of concern is LARA’s request for your interview may quickly turn into criticism of a colleague. Even though LARA may represent that their focus is not upon you, your interview may become the basis of an administrative complaint against a colleague. Once you’re in the interview, without a lawyer, you can’t put the toothpaste back in the tube. Questions may be asked without a “look see” at the involved records or knowledge of the involved patient.

A lawyer can assist in setting some ground rules with LARA and providing advanced knowledge as to the patient’s name and an opportunity for a record review. This will make your interview manageable.

The task force, the non-focused interview and these 2 statutory sections maintain fertile ground for licensing investigations. No physician or healthcare provider should have a Pollyannaish approach about an interview with

LARA. In my experience, the LARA investigations lack medical sophistication (after all a doctor is not heading up the investigation) and solid foundational data to judge your medical standard of care. Myriad problems include:

1. All medical records of the particular patient are not obtained for the investigation.
2. Healthcare providers in other practice fields or specialties may be reviewing the case for the standard of care (one case involved a Ph.D. reviewing the standard of care of a general surgeon).
3. Subpoenas and information may be obtained prior to the interview without your knowledge.
4. Interviews with other colleagues, including nurses or support staff may have taken place without your knowledge.

You may be stepping on a landmine in the hopes of “cooperation.” For these reasons, it is not recommended that a physician provide an interview without gathering the records, and discussing the scope of the interview through his/her attorney. Be wary! Many physicians believe they are simply giving an interview, when unbeknownst to them; this interview becomes the focus of the investigation. Many physicians have provided interviews without the medical record. For the most part,

interviews should remain confidential, until the interview rears its ugly head in an administrative complaint. Finally, many physicians may not know the particular patient involved which may form the basis of the administrative complaint. LARA must maintain confidentiality until the administrative complaint is pursued. Why should a physician provide an interview in the absence of the specific patient and without an opportunity to review the pertinent medical records? The question is rhetorical. I can't imagine a physician providing a deposition, in the absence of the medical record and attorney representation. Many insurance carriers provide an attorney of your choice to represent you in a licensing action without further premium costs to you.

What are the ramifications if an interview doesn't go your way?

- * Possibility of the issuance of an administrative complaint;
- * The absence of a thorough medically sophisticated investigation;

- * The frustration of learning your interview formed the basis of a complaint against a colleague;
- * The need for an adversarial hearing before the Sub-Disciplinary Committee of the Board of Medicine which may result in huge sanctions, reprimand, suspension and/or revocation of your license;
- * The licensee may consent to a LARA imposed probationary period to avoid a decision from the Board of Medicine. LARA has contracted with a group known as Affiliated Physicians. Affiliated Physicians will monitor and proctor your office procedures;
- * Quarterly reporting or more frequent reporting to LARA to satisfy the standard of care;
- * Costs of monitoring and proctoring are the responsibility of the licensee.

Finally, in the event of a licensing sanction, reporting is done to the National Practitioners Data Bank. This results in checking the “yes” box for credentialing, privileges, and medical malpractice insurance. Much, if not all of this scenario can be avoided by following the simple mantra:

PLEASE CALL YOUR LAWYER!

TRUST EXPERIENCE. COUNT ON COMMITMENT.



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2015-2016 GCMSA EVENTS

2015-2016	PROGRAMS	VENUE
September 15, 2015 – 11:00	International Luncheon Chairperson: Lakshmi Tummala	Home of Anjali Misra
October 20, 2015 – 11:00	Human Trafficking Event Chairpersons: Cheryl Thoms and Rosa Wang	TBD
November 7, 2015	President's Ball Chairpersons: Joy Dawn Hardman and Jeanette Rivera	Warwick Hills Country Club
November 17, 2015 – 11:00	Alzheimer's Awareness Book Club Discussion Chairperson: Raquel Yapchai	Home of Velynda Makhene
December 10, 2015 – 11:00	Children's Program Chairperson: Diane Morris (tentative)	TBD
January 2016 – 11:00	Gold Trade-In Chairperson: Maria McCann	Home of Maria McCann
February 16, 2016 – 6:00pm	Social/Wine Party	TBD
March 3, 2016 – 11:30	Women's Health-Skin Renewal- Featuring Rejuv Ave Chairperson: Raquel Yapchai	TBD
April 2016 – 11:00	Social event or possible break	TBD
May 2016 – 11:00	Geranium Luncheon Chairperson: Amita Desai	Warwick Hills Country Club

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Issues Of Serious Concern For Medical Practices!

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

*July Topic: NO MEETING HELD IN JULY
Enjoy your Summer!*

*August Topic: "Value based Payment Modifiers"
Presenter: Stacey Hettiger*

September Topic: "BCBSM Updates"
Presenter: Dan Martin, BJ Beyers, and Tina Gach*

Please see page 20 for more details regarding these meetings!



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

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

Light breakfast available
(coffee, tea, fruit cups, granola bars)

The Legislative Liaison Committee Meets Senators Horn And Robertson, And Representative Graves

On June 1st, the Legislative Liaison Committee meeting had a very spirited meeting, chaired by Abd Alghanem, MD, in the absence of Dr. Cathy Blight, Committee Chair. For most members of the Committee, it was their first time meeting Senator Ken Horn, who represents a piece of northern Genesee County. Senator Horn was joined in the meeting by Senator Dave Robertson and Representative Joe Graves.

The Committee reviewed two scope of practice bills, including Senate Bill 68, which is a nurse practitioner's bill that has been so substantially altered, that MSMS now supports it and the nurse practitioners no longer do. There was also an extended discussion regarding the expansion of the nurse anesthetists' scope of practice issue, which GCMS and MSMS are opposed to.

The Committee reviewed several budget issues, including the importance of graduate

medical education. It was proposed by Dr. Venkat Rao, that the state allocate \$5,000 per foreign resident so that hospitals would buy an H1B visa, instead of a j-1 visa, allowing the community to maintain the physician following the completion of their residency program. Joe Neller, of MSMS's staff, discussed the single drug formulary issue for Medicaid. MSMS supports the single drug formulary initiative. MSMS is also in favor of the primary care uplifts, which are currently funded.

There was also discussion of the handling of e-cigarettes. The Committee universally spoke in favor of treating e-cigarettes LIKE any tobacco products. Should you wish to attend the Legislative Liaison meetings held on the first Monday of each month, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Cathy Blight, Chair, or Peter Levine.



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If you or someone you know would like to advertise in The Bulletin please contact Sherry Smith at ssmith@gcms.org or Call (810) 733-9923.

YOUR \$\$\$ AT WORK

- GCMS worked with third-party payers on behalf of several members
- GCMS met with legislative delegation to discuss several bills
- GCMS remained engaged with the Greater Flint Health Coalition's key projects
- GCMS task force continued work on C-Section rate study
- GCMS held meeting for practice managers on tools to use to make practice smoother

Did you recognize...

John A. Waters, MD

GCMS Past President



Announcement

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

For details, contact:

POTTER & ROOSE
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Providers of insurance for the GCMS & its members for 50 years.

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The Queen's Royal Ball

IN HONOR OF THE
GCMS & GCMSA PRESIDENTS
NOVEMBER 7, 2015 – 6:00 PM

AT THE
WARWICK HILLS
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

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RSVP'S ARE REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 30, 2015
TO SHERRY SMITH AT SSMITH@GCMS.ORG
OR PHONE (810)733-9923

Practice Managers Tackle Stage II Meaningful Use and Managing Online Reviews



The May Practice Managers meeting was most interesting.

Dara Barrera, Manager of Practice Management and Health Information Technology for the Michigan State Medical Society, provided a concise review of Stage II Meaningful Use proposed changes for 2015. She emphasized the fact that the changes have not been made yet, but the purpose of the presentation was to help practices prepare for those likely changes. She reviewed proposed changes and objectives, as well as measures which will be retired, changes to existing measures, and the proposed nine core objectives and public health measure options, and explained that hopefully by July, the final decisions will be made and communicated to the physician population.

She also reviewed the critical issue of managing physician online reviews. (Her presentation may be viewed at <http://gcms.org/bulletins.php>, click May Practice Managers - Online Physician Ratings). She noted that 85% of U.S. adults use the internet, 75% of U.S. adults search for health information online, and 20% of patients use online health information to choose a primary care physician. She described how the Affordable Care Act is bringing more people online to search for health insurance and to find a physician.

Barrera provided examples of several online review sites, as well as the types of ranking data that third-party payers are posting online. She also provided ideas for how to manage online reputations, with a focus on defense and damage control, and how to go on the offensive.

Physicians wanting their practice managers or key staff to attend these meetings may contact Sherry Smith via email at ssmith@gcms.org or call 810-733-9923.

Please remember that the GCMS practice manager meetings are a GCMS membership benefit and monthly service provided for member practices only.

July: *No meeting scheduled, enjoy your summer!*

August: **“Value based Payment Modifiers”**
- Stacey Hettiger

September: **“BCBSM Updates”**
- Dan Martin BCBSM, BJ Beyers,
and Tina Gach
Followed by a day of claims problems consultation meetings with BCBSM staff at the GCMS offices.





How physicians are reducing frustrations, increasing time with patients

Now physicians have a new way to minimize stress and overcome barriers to providing the best care: A free online series of physician-developed, proven solutions that can make your practice thrive.

The AMA's new [STEPS Forward initiative](#) offers a collection of interactive educational modules that help physicians address common practice challenges while earning continuing medical education credit. You'll find implementation guidance, case studies, and downloadable tools and resources.

Ways to make your practice thrive



- Synchronizing prescription renewal
- Encouraging medication adherence
- Implementing EHRs
- Avoiding burnout
- Helping patients control blood pressure

Visit STEPSforward.org to access all 16 modules.

Physicians who already have used the practice transformation series have seen positive changes.

"Before, there wasn't enough time in the office visit to get it all done," one physician said.

Another physician noted that using these solutions led to a rediscovery of the "beauty of reconnecting with my patients."

[Learn more about STEPS Forward](#) at [AMA Wire®](#).

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American Medical Association, 330 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 39300, Chicago, IL, 60611, [\(312\) 464-5000](tel:3124645000)

Genesee County Medical Society
Board of Directors
April 28, 2015 - Minutes

I. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order in the Rapport Conference Room at 6:30pm, by Deborah Duncan, MD, President.

II. **Review of Minutes**

Motion: that the minutes of the March 24, 2015 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented. The motion carried.

III. **Reports**

A) GCMS Alliance

Ruqsana Ahmed, President of GCMS Alliance, reported that this is her last meeting as President. The new Co-Presidents, Maria McCann and Raquel Yapchai, will begin their term in May, at the Geranium Luncheon. She invited all Board members to attend. She noted that five Delegates will be attending the MSMSA House of Delegates on May 1st and 2nd. She will be holding a Board lunch to thank her Board members for their excellent service. The April Alliance meeting featured a fashion show.

B) Finance

1. Budget-to-Actual report for the period ending March 31, 2015

Motion: that the Budget-to-Actual report for the period ending March 31, 2015 be approved as presented. The motion carried.

2. Fundraising Report

Dr. Deborah Duncan reported that meetings are beginning to be held with doctors about giving to the Foundation

C) Legislative Liaison

1. Next Meeting

Dr. Cathy Blight reported that the next meeting of the Legislative Liaison Committee will take place on May 4th, and will feature House of Delegates issues.

2. No Fault Update

The no fault legislation is running into roadblocks arranged by MSMS, the Michigan Hospital Association, and the Michigan Osteopathic Association.

3. Senate Bill 68

Senate Bill 68 will pass in a seriously revised form through the Senate and it will be further revised in the House. MSMS has submitted a substitute Bill which should help dramatically. The Michigan Nursing Association has withdrawn their support for Senate Bill 68. Levine noted that MSMS requested that we thank Senator Dave Robertson for his help on this issue, and also let the Board know how helpful he has been on this issue.

D) Community & Environmental Health

Dr. Gerald Natzke provided an update on the Mayors' Water Quality Technical Advisory Committee.

Motion: that a letter be sent to the Mayor and the Emergency Manager expressing the opinion that the Technical Advisory Committee should continue to meet to move forward on Flint water quality issues and that a process be put into place to insure that the Health Department is instantly aware of water quality issues so that it can put warnings out to the community in real time. The motion carried.

Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors

April 28, 2015 - Minutes

E) Greater Flint Health Coalition Updates

1. Community Health Rankings

Community Health Rankings were briefly reviewed. Flint is still in 81st place.

2. State Innovation Model Project

The State Innovation Model Project will have an application submitted on behalf of several ACO's in the community, by the Greater Flint Health Coalition. This may bring millions of dollars in incentives into the community built around quality.

3. Transitional Care Management

Peter Levine noted that an admissions discharge and transfer notification system is available on a pilot basis for practices wishing to have that information provided by email, by hospitals and nursing homes

F) Presidents' Report

Dr. Deborah Duncan reminded the Board the September Dinner Business Meeting will cover Great Lakes Health Connect.

IV. New Business

A) Request to BCBSM for 1% Uplift for Organized Medicine Members

Dr. Shafi Ahmed suggested recommending to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the idea of incentivizing physicians to become members of organized medicine by giving them a 1% uplift payment. There was discussion of developing a resolution for the next MSMS House of Delegates.

B) SGR Update

A brief explanation was provided of the SGR fix that was put into place by Congress.

C) Resolution to Raise Minimum Age of Legal Access To Tobacco Products

Motion: that the resolution to raise minimum age of legal access to tobacco products in Michigan be approved as presented. The motion carried.

D) Request from AMA for Meetings with Small Practices Regarding Concerns

The AMA is interested in meeting with some small practices to discuss their concerns

V. Adjournment

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Levine, MPH

Executive Director

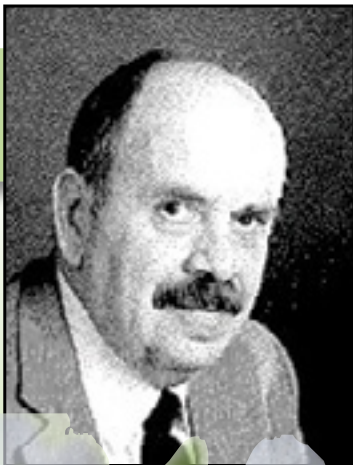
OBITUARIES



Hugh L. Grover, DO

Dr. Hugh L. Grover passed away in June at his home in Bay City. Dr. Grover graduated from Flint Central High School in 1946 and went to Valley Forge Military Junior College in Wayne, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1948. He completed a Bachelors of Science at Eastern Michigan University in 1952, and attended medical school at the College of Osteopathic Medicine in Des Moines, Iowa. He began his family practice on Fenton Road in 1961, and retired after 49 years of service. Dr. Grover served in the Army Reserves, and served on the USNS Mercy ship on humanitarian missions to the Philippines. He obtained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was a member of the American Osteopathic Board of General Practice-Certified, the Genesee County Medical Society, Michigan State Medical Society, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, and the Society of Medical Consultants to the Armed Forces. He was a life member of Flint Masonic Lodge #23, and the Bay City Consistory and Elf Khurafeh Shrine.

Dr. Grover served on the staffs of Flint General Hospital and Genesee Memorial Hospital. He served on the GCMS Membership and Credentials Committee, as well as the Mediation Committee.



Jack E. Benkert, MD

Dr. Jack Benkert passed away on June 8, 2015. He was 87 years old. Dr. Benkert was born on in Reed City. In 1950, he married Patsy Ruth. Dr. Benkert served from 1946 through 1948 in the U.S. Army in Japan.

After his military service, he attended Capital University in Columbus, OH, and Wayne State University in Detroit. At Wayne State University, he earned his medical degree in 1955, for the specialty in occupational medicine. He practiced as a general practitioner in Goodrich and Grand Blanc until 1977. During that time, he delivered hundreds of babies. From 1977 until his retirement in 1991, he worked for General Motors as a plant physician. His hobbies included golf, fishing, bird hunting, and bowling. He was an avid photographer, and could play the ukulele. In 1980 he suffered a debilitating stroke, but continued to work.



SAVE THE DATE!

2015 Hospice Teleconference

"THE LONGEST LOSS": Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia



When: September 23, 2015

Time: 8:00 a.m. Registration
8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Program
*****Full breakfast to be provided*****

Where: Genesys Conference & Banquet Center
Grand Blanc, MI

Please look for your FORMAL invitation with registration information in August!

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Brown Funeral Home

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DOCTOR

JULY

Louise Desgranges, MD	1	Koteswara Vemuri, MD	15
Katikuti Dutt, MD	1	Lawrence Irish, MD	17
John Hebert, III, MD	1	Peter Rydesky, MD	17
Ivana Vettraino, MD	1	Shahzad Sadiq, MD	18
Tarik Wasfie, MD	1	Shihab Rabh, MD	21
Barina Zado, MD	1	James Vyskocil, MD	21
Abdul Moqtadir Hasnie, MD	2	Orestes Iung, MD	22
Leo Mercer, MD	2	Farhan Khan, MD	22
John Morrison, DO	2	Allen Turcke, MD	24
John Waters, MD	3	Ahmed Hamdi, MD	25
Linda Norrell, MD	4	Jae Kim, MD	25
Ruaa Al-Ward, MD	6	E. Grant Murphy, MD	25
Glen Sullenger, MD	6	Dong Whan Oh, MD	25
Kamal Hasan, MD	7	Jon Santiago, MD	25
Amro Sheta, MD	7	James Knaggs, MD	26
James Gibbons, MD	8	Srilatha Koduru, MD	26
Niketa Dani, MD	9	Edward Holden, MD	27
Bhadrabala Ganatra, MD	9	David Strahle, MD	27
Fikria Hassan, MD	9	Seann Willson, MD	28
Kathleen Justice-Kirtek, MD	10	Eyassu Habte-Gabr, MD	28
AppaRao Mukkamala, MD	14	Robert Cross, MD	29
Frederick VanDuyne, MD	15	Myo Zaw, MD	30

GCMS MEETINGS

— JULY 2015 —

2015 Past President's Ball Committee,
7/1 - 12pm, Sagano's Japanese Bistro

**The following list of monthly meetings
are recessed in July:**

- Legislative Liaison Committee
- Bulletin Committee
- C-Section Task Force
- Finance Committee
- Board of Directors
- Practice Managers

**Community & Environmental
Health Committee, 7/22**
12:30pm, GCMS Offices

2015 GCMS Presidents' Ball
November 7, 2015 - 6 o'clock pm
Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club

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Custom designed physician office. Available for rent or purchase in Stone Bridge office complex off Linden Rd. across from Genesee County Medical Society. New roof and heating/cooling.

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PHYSICIANS NEEDED

at the Emergency Medical Center of Flint Various shifts available for part-time, as well. Must be willing to do minor stitches, infants & children, splinting, and minor eye & ear procedures. This is a classic urgent care much like family practice. Hours of operation 9:30am - 9pm, 7 days a week, closed on major holidays Located at 2284 S. Ballenger Hwy., Suite 2, Flint, 48503.

Contact Pete Levine at 810-733-9925.

AUTOCLAVE NEEDED

by not-for-profit urgent care center. Please contact Brenda at bcraft@gcms.org or call (810) 232-2710.

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State & County Medical Society Membership Application

Application Code:

- I am in my 1st year of practice post-residency.
- I am in my 2nd year of practice post-residency.
- I am in my 3rd year of practice post-residency.
- I have moved into Michigan, and 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.

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: _____

Cell: _____ Email: _____

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, has your license to practice medicine in any jurisdiction been limited, suspended or revoked?: 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

When completed, please mail to MSMS or Fax to (517) 336-5797. Thank you!