

THE BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 99, NUMBER 2

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Genesee County Medical Society

For you; for your patients; for your practice

**Please Support
MDPAC**

**Da Vinci Robotic
Assisted Radical
Prostatectomy in
Genesee County**

**MSMS
Legislative
Platform &
Priorities**

GENESEE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Organized Medicine's Leading Edge

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

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FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 99, NUMBER 2

THE BULLETIN

READ BY 96% OF GCMS MEMBERS

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Our Vision

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

Our Mission

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

PLEASE NOTE

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

THE BULLETIN

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By 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.

ARE YOU AT RISK FOR A HEART ATTACK?



There are more than **3 million cases** of **heart disease** diagnosed in the U.S. each year.

Coronary artery disease is the “silent killer,” but some warning signs are apparent. They include unusual pain in the left armpit, arm and upper chest; unexplained heartburn; and malaise, tiredness or “just not feeling right.”
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Please Support MDPAC!

Physician engagement is essential to the success of a pro-medicine legislature. Current and potential lawmakers want and need to hear from professionals in the field of medicine.

Genesee County Medical Society is actively participating in discussions regarding the following bills: Prior Authorization Reform Bill number 247, CRNA Scope Bill number SB680, Telehealth Parity Bill number 2948, and CME Bill number 5414. Along with MSMS staff and current members of political offices our physicians join in a discussion bringing the most current activities within Legislation. Please find the dates of these important Legislative Liaison meetings posted in our monthly GCMS Bulletin. Please join us!

MSMS/GCMS members also have an opportunity on "[Engage](#)" to communicate, educate, and activate on the things most important to Michigan physicians. Because Physician involvement is essential to keeping medicine a priority in Michigan. By joining The Michigan Doctors' Political Action Committee (MDPAC) you can make a difference and help fight the fight!

MDPAC is a bipartisan political action committee made up of physicians, their families, residents, medical students and others interested in making a positive contribution to the medical profession through the political process. Established by the Michigan State Medical Society, MDPAC supports pro-medicine candidates running for the State legislature, Michigan Supreme Court and other statewide positions.

Please consider giving to MDPAC today! Your donation will support many of our physician goals to achieve the better care for our patients

Thank you,

Khalid Ahmed, MD

GCMS President



Medical Society Foundation

February 16, 2022

6:00 p.m.

Board of Directors

February 22, 2022

6:00 p.m.

Practice Managers

March 10, 2022

9:00 a.m.

****All meetings will be held via ZOOM**

Announcement

GCMS members now entitled
to a 15% discount on automobile
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Da Vinci Robotic Assisted Radical Prostatectomy in Genesee County

The prostate is a small walnut shaped gland in the male reproductive system. Cancer of the prostate gland is one of the most common cancers among males, affecting several hundred thousand men per year in the United States.

Early stages prostate cancer (PC) may have no signs or symptoms. Common symptoms of advanced prostate cancer include:

- Difficult, painful, and/ or frequent urination
- Blood present in semen
- Bone Pain
- Pain in the pelvic area

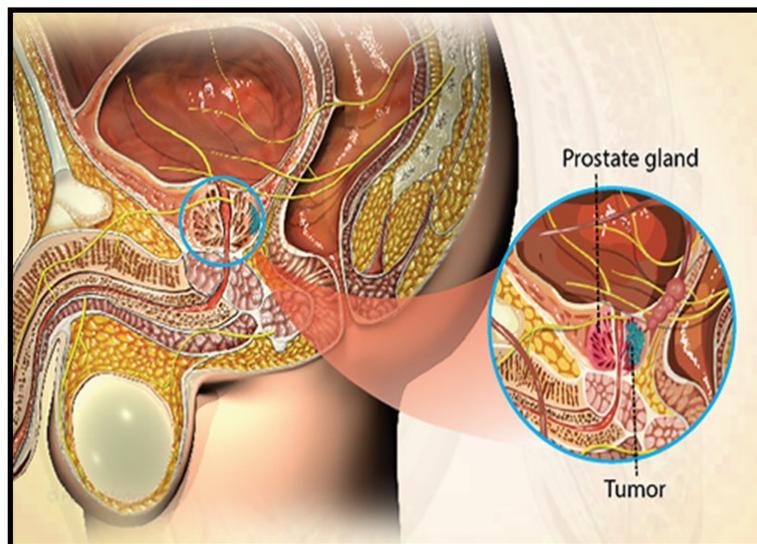
“The majority of prostate cancers are adenocarcinoma”, as stated by Dr. Roger Jump.

Other (extremely rare) types include:

- Transitional cell cancer
- Small cell prostate cancer
- Squamous cell cancer
- Prostate sarcoma

Dr. Harold Rutila stated “Well over 90% of prostate cancer is adenocarcinoma, the other types are quite rare with most Urologists seeing one or two cases in their entire career”.

Early stages of PC are treatable with good survival rates. Advanced stages of prostate cancer have much worse survival rates. It is imperative to catch this cancer in the early stages.



Treatments for prostate cancer are pharmacological, radiation, and/ or surgery. Over the past decade a radical prostatectomy has been performed with greater precision with the assistance of a surgical robot.

Robotic radical prostatectomy is a minimally invasive surgery utilizing the assistance of a surgical robot to remove the entire prostate. The robotic technique allows the surgeon to operate through much smaller ports rather than a larger incision.

The robotic procedure incorporates the latest advancements in robotic-assisted technology and allows a surgeon greater visualization, enhanced dexterity, precision, and control.

For qualified patients, the Da Vinci Robotic Prostatectomy offers potential benefits over the traditional open prostatectomy, including:

- Shorter hospital stay
- Less pain
- Less risk of infection
- Less blood loss and transfusions
- Less scarring
- Faster recovery
- Quicker return to normal activities

The Da Vinci Surgical System is a robotic surgical system made by the American company Intuitive Surgical. Approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2000, it is designed to facilitate surgery using a minimally invasive approach. The System is powered by state-of-the-art robotic technology. The System allows the surgeon's hand movements to be precise movements of micro-instruments within the operative site.

The magnified, three-dimensional view the surgeon experiences enables them to perform precise surgery in complex procedures through small surgical incisions.

The Da Vinci System enhances surgical capabilities by enabling the performance of complex surgeries through tiny surgical openings. The System cannot be programmed and cannot make decisions on its own. The Da Vinci robot requires that every surgical maneuver be performed with direct input from the surgeon at the console. The Da Vinci Surgical Robot consists of two components. There is a console the surgeon works at commanding the robot at the surgical field.

The exact treatment for prostate cancer will be determined by your surgeon. Not every patient with prostate cancer is a robotic surgical candidate.

I am very please Robotic Radical Prostatectomy procedures are performed in Genesee County.

This article was written with collaboration from Dr. Harold Rutila, MD and Dr. Roger Jump, DO.

For more information, please contact

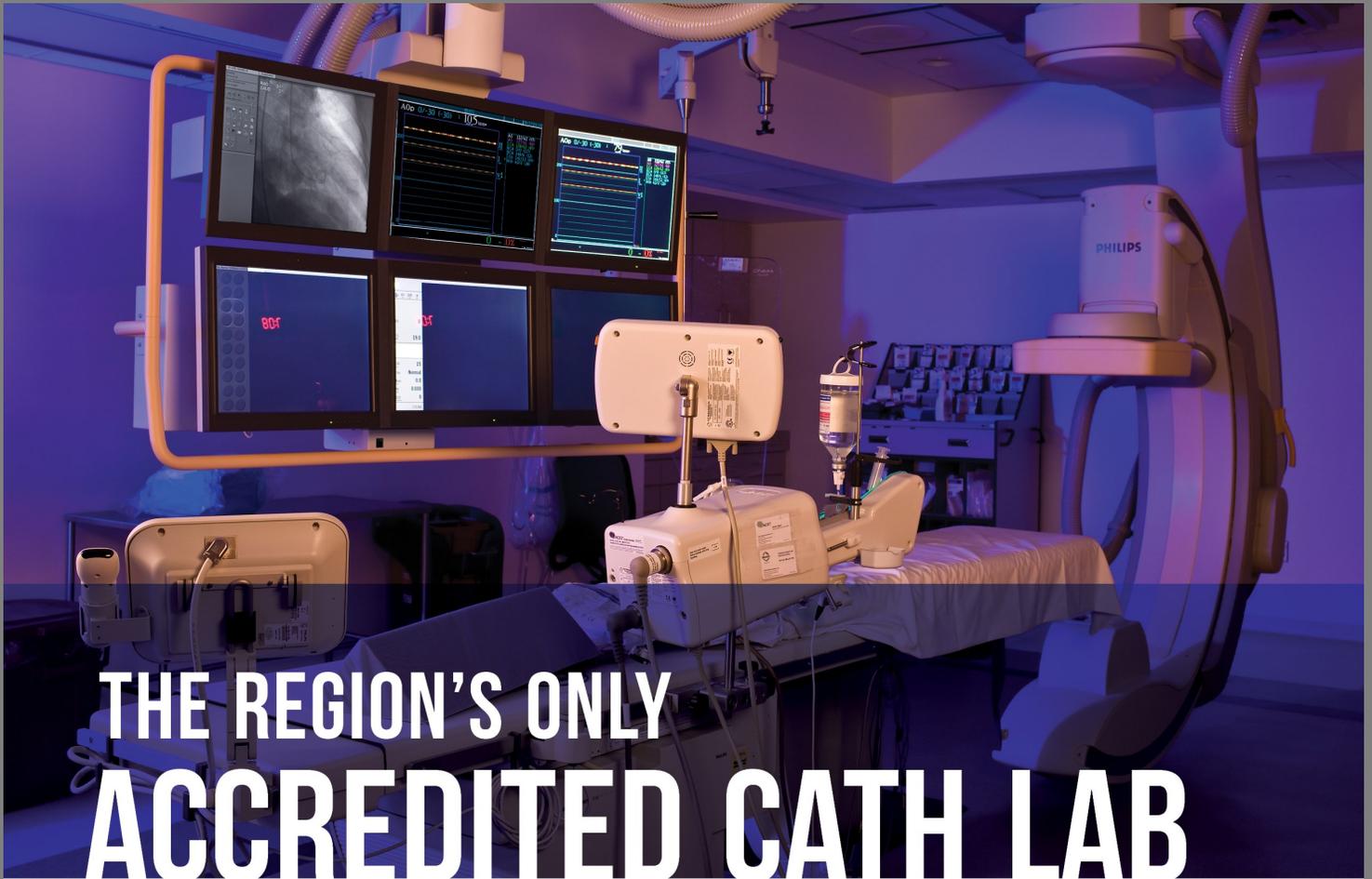
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- 1. Require Masks in your Practice**
- 2. Practice Social Distancing in your Office**
- 3. Educate your Patients on Vaccinations**



Government Relations & Physician Engagement Team

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Josiah Kissling, Senior Director
State and Federal Government Relations
E: jkissling@msms.org
P: 810/444-7149



Joshua Richmond, Senior Director
Physician Engagement and
Organizational Integration
E: jrichmond@msms.org
P: 517/974-5331



Stacey Hettiger, Senior Director
Medical and Regulatory Policy
E: shettiger@msms.org
P: 517/410-6366



Scott Kempa, Manager
State and Federal Government Relations
E: skempa@msms.org
P: 248/770-8378



Kate Dorsey, Manager
State and Federal Government Relations
E: kdorsey@msms.org
P: 313/525-0646



Anne'ka Marzette, Coordinator
Medical and Regulatory Policy
E: amarzette@msms.org
P: 517/336-5736



Mary Kate Barnauskas, Specialist
Medical and Regulatory Policy
E: mbarnauskas@msms.org
P: 517/336-7575



Legislative Platform & Priorities



MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY



MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

120 West Saginaw Street, East Lansing, Michigan 48823
P: 517 / 337.1351 » E: msms@msms.org

MSMS Legislative Platform & Priorities



MSMS Legislative Priorities

Key priorities of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) and its 15,000 physician and medical student members are as follows:

COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a devastating toll on the physical and mental health of Michigan citizens, as well as the economic health of our state. Additionally, many of Michigan's medical practices are trying to regroup from financial and staffing losses and increased costs to comply with regulatory mandates. By using scientific data to help inform decision-making, MSMS is committed to working collaboratively with stakeholders to end the COVID-19 pandemic, safely re-engage all economic sectors, provide efficient and equitable vaccine distribution, and ensure practice sustainability.

Prior Authorization and Step Therapy Reform

The prior authorization process diverts valuable resources away from direct patient care, can delay the start or continuation of necessary treatment, and can negatively impact patient health outcomes. Step therapy, also known as fail first, is another practice that disrupts patient care by requiring patients to try other therapies before being approved for the treatment that their doctor originally prescribed. MSMS will work closely with the Legislature, regulators, and other stakeholders on ways to reform prior authorization and step therapy processes to ensure transparency, remove unnecessary and costly care delays, and support shared decision-making.

Team-based Care

Patients are best served by a team-based approach to care that provides the maximum amount of choice while ensuring that they benefit from the additional training and expertise that comes from having a physician on the team. A highly functioning health care team is the best way to serve patients. MSMS will continue to promote the role of the physician as the leader of the health care team and oppose any efforts to expand allied health professionals scope of practice that may put patients at risk.

Telemedicine

Telemedicine has proven to be an effective care delivery method that ensures convenient and timely access to patients. Before the outbreak of COVID-19, insurers covered telemedicine visits to varying extents; however, there were often obstacles such as low reimbursement and restrictions on site of care. Although payers removed some of the regulatory and administrative barriers during the pandemic, these policies are now reverting to pre-pandemic times. Moving forward, payment and service parity for the use of clinically appropriate telemedicine services is critical.

Health Equity

Several events in 2020 brought to the forefront the need to prioritize advocacy addressing systemic policies and other contributing factors that deny historically marginalized groups equal and just opportunities to maximize quality of life and health outcomes. In order to improve the health of all populations, MSMS will work to advance policies that reduce disparities and improve health equity.

Graduate Medical Education (GME)

Studies repeatedly demonstrate that one of the best ways to recruit and retain physicians is via local medical schools and residency programs. GME helps fill the gap in underserved areas by providing extremely low-cost care to those most in need. Michigan has been a leader in expanding medical school class sizes to address the projected demand for physician services, it is imperative that we continue to fund GME slots to allow these future physicians to learn here in Michigan, train here in Michigan, and stay here in Michigan.

Legislative & Regulatory Platform

MSMS has long-standing positions and policies on numerous topics. Following is an overview of the top issues comprising the MSMS legislative and regulatory advocacy platform.

Insurance and Regulatory Advocacy

- Support mental health and substance use disorder parity
- Ensure appropriate access to and payment for telemedicine
- Advocate for adequate and transparent physician networks
- Reduce unnecessary administrative costs

Public Health and Prevention

- Strengthen public health infrastructure
- Support vaccine availability and oppose efforts to weaken Michigan's vaccine laws
- Improve health equity
- Ensure access to evidence-based non-opioid pain care and opioid use disorder treatment
- Reduce childhood environmental hazards
- Reduce gun violence through health screening, patient counseling and expanded access to mental health services

Professional Liability

- Preserve existing tort reforms
- Support higher negligence thresholds in medical liability cases
- Eliminate the lost opportunity doctrine
- Maintain the legislative intent and enforceability of all medical liability tort reforms

Medicaid

- Seek funding parity with Medicare
- Seek funding sources that are fair and sustainable
- Support state funding for the Healthy Michigan Plan
- Ensure access to physician-directed care

Physician Supply and Training

- Increase graduate medical education funding at state level
- Minimize burden of medical school debt

Insurance Contracting Reform

- Limit retroactive audit timeframes
- Support adequate disclosure of fee screens
- Support appeals process that includes independent reviews

Scope of Practice

- Support physician-led, team-based health care
- Support education over legislation as the means of increasing scope of practice
- Oppose independent prescriptive authority by non-physicians
- Support patient right-to-know/health professional credentials disclosure

For more information about MSMS legislative advocacy, please contact:

- Josiah Kissling, Senior Director, State and Federal Government Relations, at jkissling@msms.org
- Scott Kempa, Manager, State and Federal Government Relations, at skempa@msms.org
- Kate Dorsey, Manager, State and Federal Government Relations, at kdorsey@msms.org

Why GCMS??

Genesee County Medical Society

Organized Medicine's **Leading Edge**



MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Genesee County Medical Society (GCMS) gives you the opportunity to share resources, discuss ideas, and network with some of the most active and respected physicians in the state. You will receive news and information via The Bulletin magazine, meetings, faxes, and emails. Because GCMS is politically aggressive, it can provide its members with myriad opportunities to shape the future of medicine locally, as well as on a state and national level.

When you join GCMS you also join the [Michigan State Medical Society \(MSMS\)](#). MSMS has experts to assist you with practice management, business strategies, third party reimbursements, and contracting issues.



[CLICK TO LEARN MORE AND JOIN](#)

TOP 7 REASONS TO JOIN

1. GCMS is an aggressive advocate on behalf of member physicians with third-party-payers.
2. GCMS is an aggressive advocate on behalf of its members physicians and their patients with state and federal legislatures.
3. When specific issues arise that require immediate action, email lists are institute to communicate directly with members.
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 monthly meetings with federal and state legislators, and communicates with them at other times on as as-needed basis.

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GCMSA January Neighborhood Coffee

Winters in Michigan are always unpredictable. Hence, the Alliance does not plan on membership meetings for January and February lest we need to cancel them in the last minute due to inclement weather. Instead, we have informal get togethers over coffee at a member's home. We kicked off the New Year with a coffee in January at the beautiful home of Vijaylakshmi Sayal. With some members being snow birds, eight of us could attend it. Our host served several delicious snacks with coffee and tea. It gave us a chance to have plenty of "girl talk."

Thank you, Vijaylakshmi, for a great time.



Seen in the picture are (L-R): Vibha Kaushal,
Vijaylakshmi Sayal, Kee Ja Kang, Lakshmi Tummala,
Sabita Tummala, Cheryl Thoms.



Lakshmi Tummala

**VIA
ZOOM**

ATTENTION

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

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

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

Please email executivedirector@gcms.org to RSVP,

YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZOOM INVITE

NEXT MEETING DATE:

March 10, 2022 9:00 A.M.

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



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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?

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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/))

1/4-page ad \$100/month

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.

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



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



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YMCA - 360



Visit ymca360.org for fitness classes of all ages!

Arthritis Foundation



Click [HERE](#) for arthritis exercises!



NEW YEAR, NEW YOU!

Healthy Habits Challenge

January 1 - February 28, 2022

EARN 3,000 TOTAL WELLNESS POINTS

Challenge Goal:

An eight-week individual challenge that encourages individuals to practice daily activities to be more active, eat healthier, and promote wellness to others. Each participant who reaches the challenge goal of 3,000 total Wellness Points will be entered into a drawing to win a prize.



How to Earn Wellness Points:

- 100 points** for every 2,500 steps logged
- 100 points** for every 1 pound of weight loss
- 10 points** for every 2 fruit and vegetable servings
- 10 points** for every 3 hydration servings
- 10 points** for every minute of mindfulness

CHALLENGE PRIZES:

Individuals who reach the goal of 3,000 Wellness Points during the challenge will be entered to win fitness trackers, as well as weekly prize drawings!



Get Started:

- 1 Register at commit2fit.com
- 2 Track Your Activities
- 3 Get Entered to Win Prizes



Visit www.commit2fit.com



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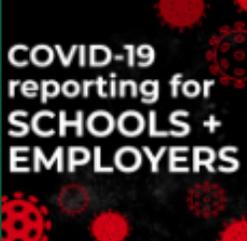
For Daily Genesee County Covid-19 Numbers

 **COVID-19 Summary for Genesee County, Michigan**

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

 **CLICK HERE**

For Reporting



COVID-19 reporting for SCHOOLS + EMPLOYERS

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

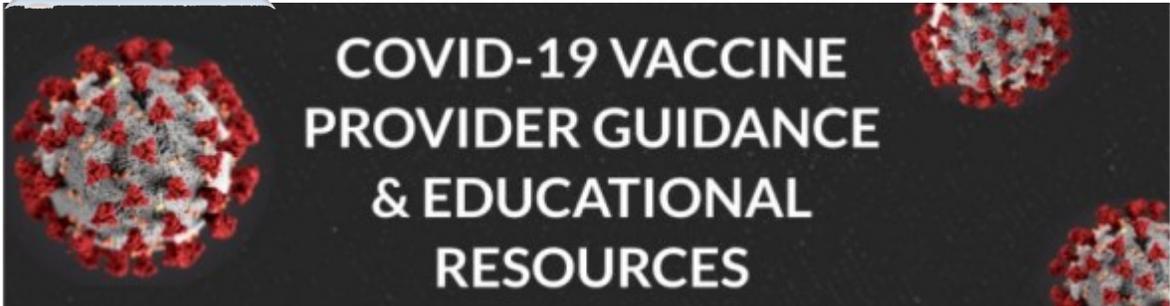
 **CLICK HERE**

For State of Michigan Covid-19 Information





 [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](#)

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Medical Society Foundation

Consider a donation to the Medical Society Foundation for all of your holiday sentiments while supporting important health related causes.

The Medical Society Foundation has been coordinating physician giving in Genesee County since 1987. This holiday season, why not use the Foundation to make sure your gifts to family, friends and colleagues help to improve the health and well-being of our community.

By giving to the Medical Society Foundation, you receive a great year-end tax benefit at the same time you tell others how much their health- really means to you.

The Medical Society Foundation funds have been used to support the charitable activities of the Genesee County Medical Society.

Contributions can also be made in memory of an individual or to honor someone.

For questions or information on how your gift can help support the charitable activities of your Medical Society Foundation contact **GCMS at 733-9923** or email executivedirector@gcms.org

Medical Society Foundation Mission Statement: The Medical Society Foundation is organized and does operate for the purpose of supporting continuing medical education and health-related charitable activities that further the cause of medicine.

Mail your donations to:

Medical Society Foundation
4438 Oak Bridge Drive, Suite B
Flint, MI 48532-5400

GHS Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services for Children and Young Adults



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

Reasons to call GHS:

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

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

What happens when the GHS Intensive Crisis Team is called?

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

Other services include:

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

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

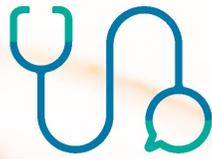
** Intensive Crisis Stabilization services cannot be provided to individuals who are currently residing in inpatient settings: Jail/detention centers or residential settings (i.e. child caring institutions, crisis residential, etc.).

GHS Intensive Crisis Stabilization Services for Children

810.257.3740 877.364.3648

420 W. Fifth Avenue, Flint 48503 • www.genhs.org

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



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Rediscover meaning, joy, and purpose in medicine.

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



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



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

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



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



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

RESOURCES FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS

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

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT
www.MSMS.org/SafeHaven

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





120 West Saginaw Street | East Lansing, Michigan 48823
517-337-1351 | msms@msms.org | www.msms.org

Application Code: _____

State and County Medical Society MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join MSMS and your County Medical Society online at www.joinmsms.org



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

Male Female

First (legal) Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____ MD DO

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

Job Title: _____

W Phone _____ W Fax _____ H Phone _____ H Fax _____

Mobile: _____ Email Address _____

Office Address Preferred Mail Preferred Bill Preferred Mail and Bill

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Address Preferred Mail Preferred Bill Preferred Mail and Bill

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

*Birth Date: ____/____/____ Birth Country _____ MI Medical License #: _____ ME #: _____

Medical School _____ Graduation Year: _____ ECFMG # (if applicable) _____

Residency Program _____ Program Completion Year _____

Fellowship Program _____ Program Completion Year _____

Hospital Affiliation _____

• Primary Specialty _____ Board Certified: Yes No

• Secondary Specialty _____ Board Certified: Yes No

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

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

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

