Draft Minutes
MSSNY’s Committee on Infectious Diseases
January 23, 2020
7:30 AM via Webex

Present
Janine Fogarty, MD, Asst. Commissioner
William Valenti, MD, Chair
James Braun, MD, Vice-Chair
Karen Myrie, MD, Vice-Chair
Philip Kaplan, MD

Absent
Mary Ruth Buchness, MD
Richard Schoor, MD
Wehbeh Anis Wehbeh, MD

Excused
Joshua Cohen, MD, Commissioner
Monica Sweeney, MD
Joan Cincotta, Alliance

Staff
Patricia Clancy, Sr. Vice President
Public Health and Education
Maureen Ramirez, Administrative Asst.

1) Welcome

2) Minutes – from October 17, 2019 - approved

3) Resolution 166 – This resolution was amended per discussions by the committee. A substitute resolution has been submitted and approved by MSSNY Council. It was noted that there continues to be opposition to require medical exemptions only. It will take time to gather data on how the change in the law affects the number of students.

• Discussion of legislative proposal to allow non-patient scripts to be issued by pharmacists for PrEP
• MSSNY has some concerns with this expansion of scope of practice for pharmacists.
• Pharmacists are not doctors.
• There is a lot of confusion regarding the proper administration of PrEP drugs and the results.
• Concerns that if not properly administered there could be significant health issues down the road.
• Drug resistance is a concern.
• Support of an increase of availability of PrEP, but concern there seems to be a serious lack of medical care which is critical.
• Blood draws are a critical component of PrEP and pharmacists cannot perform blood
draws.
• Whoever writes the prescription for PeP is required to make an appointment for the
patient with an HIV Provider.
• The pharmacy would require a collaborative physician to oversee the program.
• Administering PrEP requires follow up oversight. Patients that do not take the PrEP
drugs properly or for some reason miss a dose, can suffer from significant health issues
if not monitored by a physician.
• Drug resistance is a concern.

4) New Business – New bill before the Legislature -that would mandate physicians to test
for Hep C in anyone born between 1980 and 2000. This is a change from the original range
of 1945-1965. Studies note a significant increase in Hep C cases in this new age group.
Discussion in the committee followed. Some recommendations were considered.
• Currently it is not a mandate, but an “offer”.

5) Resolutions – There was a discussion of a resolution pertaining to HPV Vaccine. The
members talked about the importance of education vs mandates through school
requirements.
• Questions whether the original law had sunset?
• Note that the Health Department has convened a task force to “End the HCV epidemic
by 2030”. The committee should check in to see what that task force has accomplished.
• Serious concerns that this mandated testing will not be covered by insurance.
• Colleen Flannigan will be asked to come and address the committee.
• What is the timeline on this bill?

Dr. Kaplan will draft a resolution regarding HPV education and prevention. Pat Clancy noted
that all resolutions for the House of Delegates must be submitted to MSSNY by March 11, 2020.

Next Committee Meeting: April 30, 2020

Adjourned.