Councillor's Highlights

✓ Dr. Saulius Skeivys has been extremely involved in updating the Society about the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and its Appropriate Use Criteria: Dr. Skeivys explained that 2020 is a voluntary demonstration year, however, 2021 is mandated (Protected Access to Medicare Act 2014). All requests for MRI, CT, other high-end imaging requires logging onto CMS website and filling out criteria in a Clinical Decision Support Program that generates a “G” code, which has to be applied to the order. Dr. Skeivys has partnered or requested the support of local radiology groups that are willing to help physicians with this matter. He urges others to do the same.

Society Highlights

✓ Bylaws Committee - L. Carlos Zapata, MD, Chair reported that his committee has met several times in order to meet the deadlines to bring forth all proposed amendments to the current Society Bylaws. Such changes approved at the February Comitia will then be submitted to MSSNY prior to their March Council in order for changes to be approved and to go to the membership for voting.

✓ Nominating Committee - David Vilabrera, MD, President-Elect reported that he met with the Committee in accordance with the Society's Bylaws Article VI – Elections, Article 6.03., to discuss the nominees for the next election. The names approved at the January 7th, 2020, Comitia Minora will go on the 2020 Ballots.

Society Announcements

✓ The 9th Annual Geriatric and Palliative Care Event - NYP Queens and co-sponsored by the Medical Society was on Tuesday, January 14th, 2020 pm, in conjunction with the Weill Cornell Medical Center. Spotlight on Elder Abuse.

✓ You CAN Quit Smoking – The Society joined the NewYork-Presbyterian Queens and The American Lung Association in promoting an eight-week cessation program that will take place January, February, and September 2020. To register call 718.670.1181 or e-mail anr9105@nyp.org

✓ Indian Buffet Experience – Saturday, March 29th, 2020 @ 12 noon – Please join us at Tandoor Restaurant for some network and socializing with other new physicians to learn about benefits, and issues affecting the society. To register call 718.268.7300 – there is a cost to be paid at the event.

✓ Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation as a Therapy for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome by Qiuping Zhou DO, FACEP, Director, Cardiothoracic ICU, LIJ Medical Center. The Society featured the ARDS presentation at its February 4th, Comitia Minora Meeting. Dr. Qiuping Zhou is a board-certified attending physician specialized in Emergency Medicine and Critical Care Medicine at North Shore University Hospital. She is the Director of the Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit at Long Island Jewish Medical Center and an assistant professor of Emergency Medicine at Zucker School of Medicine. Dr. Zhou is an active member of the Society of Critical Care Medicine and the American College of Emergency Physicians.
Virtual Medication-Assisted Treatment – The Kaden Model by Aran Ron, MD
Kaden, Head of Clinical Innovation. Dr. Ron is one of the original founders and, until recently, the Chief Medical Officer of Oscar Health Plan and Pager. Kaden Health is an integrated, evidence-based virtual patient care and addiction recovery platform for opioid use disorder. Kaden Health intends to change the face of addiction treatment by expanding access to comprehensive, clinically excellent, evidence-based care.

HOD 2020 Resolutions – This year’s delegation has been one of the most prolific. All resolutions were supported by at least three other neighboring societies.

- Establishing a New York State-Wide Registry for E-prescriptions, originally by Charles Lopresto, DO, Queens County.
- Physician Burnout is an OSHA Issue, originally by Art Fougner, MD, Queens County
- Run Medical Marijuana Program as Clinical Trial, originally by Art Fougner, MD, Queens County
- Role of Private Equity in Medicine, originally by L. Carlos Zapata, MD, Queens County
- Annual Demographic Report, by L. Carlos Zapata, MD, Queens County
- Insurance Payment Mandate for Genetic Counseling, in collaboration from Saulius Skeivys, MD, Queens County, and Dr. Valluru, Kings County
- End Restrictive Covenants, originally by Art Fougner, MD, Queens County
- Support for Development of Safe Injection Facilities (SIF), in collaboration from L. Carlos Zapata, MD, and Dr. Melniker, Kings County and Dr. Wyer, Bronx County

Respectfully Summitted by
Councilor, Saulius J. Skeivys, MD, FAAFP, and Evangeline Rosado-Tripp, ED, 2.21.2020