



# MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**Bonnie L. Litvack, MD**  
**President**

Joseph R. Sellers, MD  
President-Elect

Parag H. Mehta, MD  
Vice-President

Arthur C. Fougner, MD  
Immediate Past-President

Frank G. Dowling, MD  
Secretary

Joshua M. Cohen, MD  
Assistant Secretary

Mark J. Adams, MD  
Treasurer

Howard H. Huang, MD  
Assistant Treasurer

William R. Latreille, Jr., MD  
Speaker

Maria A. Basile, MD  
Vice-Speaker

Andrew Y. Kleinman, MD  
Chair, BOT

Philip Schuh, CPA, MS  
Executive Vice President

**Senior Vice-President:**  
Morris M. Auster, Esq.  
Legislative & Regulatory  
Affairs  
Chief Legislative Counsel

**Vice-Presidents:**  
Terrance Bedient  
Committee for Physicians'  
Health

Patricia Clancy  
Public Health and Education

Laurel Mayer  
Meetings and Conventions

Regina McNally  
Socio-Medical Economics

Eunice Skelly  
Membership Services

Christina Southard  
Communications

July 21, 2020

Ms. My Chi To  
Executive Deputy Superintendent of Insurance Division  
NYS Department of Financial Services  
1 State Street  
New York, NY 10004

## **Re: Electronic Billing by Health Care Providers for No Fault Coverage Claims**

Dear Ms. To:

I am writing to you today to indicate our interest and support in solving a problem that adversely affects health care providers in New York State. Our organization, the Medical Society of the State of New York is a membership organization representing students, residents and physicians across all counties in New York State.

Of all possible regulatory reforms to New York's No Fault insurance system, the issue involving electronic billing of no fault insurers by health care providers is the most important. Presently, there is no requirement that health care providers submit any information electronically to insurers, nor is there any provision for the transmittal by insurers of electronic claims documents to providers, such as denial of claim-forms. The present billing system is paper-based and thus outdated.

The current system is peculiarly anachronistic given the fact that few commercial or governmental transactions are conducted on a paper basis.

Electronic claims submission, which has become the norm outside New York's No-Fault system, benefits both providers and insurers by increasing efficiencies between them as respects the mailing procedures that the current system requires. An electronic system offers many benefits to all those involved. Specifically, we view the initiative as benefitting our members by reducing costs and streamlining the claim review/adjudication and payment processes.

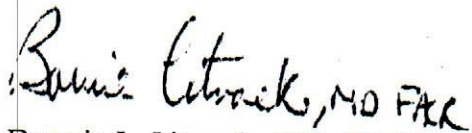
I understand that senior executives of Allstate Insurance Company, GEICO, and State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company wrote to you in March to expedite an ongoing project which would help to modernize the current No-Fault insurance system. Previously, the three insurers presented a proposal to the DFS that entailed the adoption of an electronic claim system and outlined the engagement of a third-party technology vendor

Ms. My Chi To  
July 21, 2020  
Page 2

to build a "clearinghouse" to facilitate electronic billing and communications between health care providers and automobile insurers. Ultimately, the objective should be that DFS mandate via regulation that insurers and health care providers use this new, clearinghouse.

Our organization believes that this project, if taken to conclusion, will provide a great benefit for all participants in the New York No-Fault system, including hospitals, physicians, and other health care providers. We look forward to working with you directly on this critical initiative.

Sincerely,



Bonnie L. Litvack, MD, FACR  
MSSNY President