



7th District Branch Report **October 2021**

Since the last meeting of the MSSNY Council, the Seventh District Branch has been involved in the following issues and activities:

- MCMS is working to develop a Physician Wellness Committee to address physician stress and burnout. A first meeting was held with Drs. Mike Privitera, Chair, and Susan Danahy, President, MCMS Board of Directors.
- MCMS continues to lead and to support several MCMS Committees including Addiction Medicine, Billing (primary practice, OB/Gyn, Pediatrics), Practice Management, Private Practice, Quality Collaborative, Advocacy, Membership, etc. to advance the work of the MCMS and its constituents.
- MCMS has submitted an application for a grant opportunity through Excellus BCBS for “Health Equity” to address race-based medicine. The proposal includes clear, defined goals for reducing health disparities and improving health equity in communities of color, especially within Black and Latino communities, where historic and current racism and discrimination continues to result in a higher burden of health inequities and social disadvantages. **The MCMS has partnered with the Black Physician’s Network as well as the two major hospital systems in Rochester, NY to focus on how biological racism is embedded in a key tool used to measure kidney function—the glomerular filtration rate, or GFR.**
- MCMS launched **its Phase 3 Quality improvement project on Adolescent Mental/Behavioral Health** on October 12, 2021. This year-long initiative will focus on:
 - Increasing:**
 - the total # of PHQ-9 screenings done at physicals for 12-18-year-olds.
 - the # of signed patient, parental and/or legal guardian two-way consent form for communication with mental health professionals.
 - the appropriate follow up for patients (via appointment or phone call) with moderate to severe depression (PHQ9 of 10 or above).
 - the communication from the BH/MH provider back to the PCP/pediatrician on patients’ progress.
 - Decreasing:** the time/gap from the time family/pediatric physician makes referral to BH/MH provider to the date the patient is seen by the specialist.
- MCMS actively participates in the Federation of Executive Directors for medical societies to support MSSNY’s transition to a new member database.
- MCMS continues to **offer a variety of educational “Survival Series” and Grand Rounds** to its physician membership and constituents.
- MCMS is actively interviewing to fill a full-time Business Development Manager position.