

**Draft Minutes
MSSNY Heart Lung Cancer Committee
October 6, 2021
Via zoom**

Present

Joshua Cohen, MD Commissioner
Janine Fogarty, MD Asst.
Commissioner
Robert Dracker, MD Chair
Brian Strizik, MD Co-vice-chair
Clare Bradley, MD
Donna D'Alessio, MD
Todd Demmy, MD
Amy Early, MD
David Fishman, MD
Alan Klitzke, MD
Lincoln Pao, MD
Bonnie Liebers, Alliance
Francis Danquah, Medical Student

Absent

Clauden Louis, MD Co-vice chair
Timothy Korytko, MD
Marco Lawandy, DO
Raymond Lorenzoni, MD
Julia Schaefer-Cutillo, MD
William Sellers, MD

Invited Guests

Bonnie Litvack, MD Immediate Past
President
Parag Mehta, MD President-elect

Staff

Pat Clancy, Sr. VP/Managing Director
Maureen Ramirez, Administrative Asst.

1) Welcome

2) Acceptance of February 3, 2021 with spelling correction.

3) Discussion on Preventive Screening and the Impact of Covid 19.

Dr. Dracker welcomed everyone one to the meeting. He also stressed the importance of participating in the choice of subject matter – urging everyone to respond when Pat Clancy asked for topics of discussion for the upcoming meeting. He then went on to say that since Covid has had such a tremendous impact on routine visits to doctors' offices, he thought it important to talk about what physicians have noticed in their own practice regarding routine visits and screenings. There has been a significant shut down in breast cancer screening. It has impacted medical care and has delayed diagnosis. Different specialty societies are looking at how to get people back. There has been a significant rise in lung cancer and a serious decline in colonoscopies. Many hospitals have decreased screening. There is a significant need to push routine screenings. There has been an increase in occurrence and severity. Often screening is avoided because COVID screening is required prior to the visit. It needs to be made easier for the patient to obtain this screening. What can MSSNY do?

The Committee agreed to create a white paper to MSSNY Council on health screening. The Committee also discussed contacting the Department of Health regarding public service announcements and building coalitions with groups to get the message out "Get your screening done!"

24 Dr. Litvack pointed out that the white paper would be a basis for the facts behind
25 the message.
26 Insurance companies might get behind the message because it benefits both sides.
27 Pat Clancy offered to reach out to the NYHPA to see if there is interest.
28 A point was made that the American Council of Surgeons has been very active
29 pushing for screenings. Since this solution is already there, MSSNY should seek to
30 collaborate with them. The suggestion of making formal links with national entities
31 to formulate a national message. Childhood vaccinations are down as well. Covid
32 hesitancy has transferred to hesitancy for other childhood immunizations as well.
33 Cardiology has seen a rise in symptoms from either from underlying cardiac disease
34 or some symptoms attributed as a result of the Covid vaccination.
35 Pat Clancy will reach out to the Health Plan Association, The American Cancer
36 Society and the American Heart Association to discuss possible collaboration.
37 All committee members are encouraged to participate in the creation of this white
38 paper. Pat Clancy will email members asking for members to join the subcommittee
39 for the white paper. Please include recommendations for the paper.

40 41 **4) 2022 Meeting Schedule**

42 All meetings are on Wednesday mornings between 8 and 9AM. Meeting dates for
43 2022 are:

44
45 February 2, 2022

46 May 4, 2022

47 October 5, 2022

48
49 **Adjourned**

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