

Suffolk County Medical Society
Councilor's Report
November 04, 2021
Daniel Choi, MD, Councilor

- On October 6th, The Suffolk County Medical Society held its board meeting.
 - This meeting, held virtually, was opened to all members of the Suffolk County Medical Society for their participation. A presentation on the work the medical society does was shared with all the attendees. The focus points being how the medical society functions to “Advocate/Protect”, “Empower/Strengthen”, and “Advance” the profession of medicine for physicians in Suffolk County and the State of New York. We thank Mr. Oechsner for joining us and sharing the impact the medical society has had in the insurance regulatory system and the need for physician engagement.
 - We also had a brief presentation by Ms. Jennifer Wilks on MSSNY PAC contributions, the county contributions made thus far, the work that’s being done, and the hope for the future.
 - Dr. Gregson Pigott, the Suffolk Health Commissioner, updated the Board with the current Covid case numbers, vaccinations guidelines, anticipated changings in the days to come and answered a few questions from the attendees.
 - Representatives from various hospitals, specialty societies and groups informed the board on the happenings in their organizations.
 - The Board of Censors membership report and Treasurer’s reports were also presented as customary.
- On October 13th, 2021 a virtual presentation was delivered to our current treasurer to update and share the visions of the Suffolk County Medical Society. As part of the SCMS Essential Leadership pause, we intend to have similar meetings for each officer in the Executive committee.
- SCMS would like to thank MSSNY for arranging the October 14th, 2021 meeting with the NYSDOH, the NYS Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO), the County Societies and the specialty societies to discuss equity and distribution of the Covid-19 vaccines.
- On October 15th, 2021 SCMS held our second legislative breakfast of the year. We had 17 legislators in attendance. We thank Mr. Auster and Mr. Oechsner for joining us. Many important pieces of legislation were discussed. Of note we thank Legislator Anker for her work on a legislative resolution to have the NYDOH and their IT division collaborate with SCMS and SAM to develop an information resource website for physicians in Suffolk County. The objective of the site is to share urgent and breaking news to all physicians in Suffolk County.
- Scope of Practice was also raised during the legislative breakfast, and many of the senators and assembly members were in agreement with our position after listening to how it would jeopardize patient safety. Many understood the issue from personal experiences.
- On October 21st, 2021 we met virtually with legislator Anker to discuss the next steps and develop the content for the physician information site, as stipulated by the new legislation.
- In partnership with The Academy of Medicine, SCMS will hold the Doctors of Tomorrow Symposium for High School seniors on November 10, 2021.
- In an effort to slowly introduce, right size, and model safe social gatherings and for the wellness of our physicians SCMS/SAM held a small outdoor Movie Night event. We plan to have another one next month.
- The SCMS Executive Committee will meet again on November 3, 2021.