



7th District Branch Report **January 2022: Oct-Dec 2021**

The 7th District Branch has been involved in the following issues and activities:

MCMS Advocacy: The MCMS continues to support its members in relevant areas including: COVID-19 vaccine reimbursement (pushing for increased reimbursement rates), Telehealth parity, Preauthorization, private practice financial sustainability and Physician Well-being.

MCMS Medical Practice Salary Survey: The **2022 Physician Office Salary and Benefits Survey** has been completed. It is a summary of salaries and benefits for clinical and administrative employees based on responses provided by local physician practices. The 2022 survey represents the biennial survey prepared by the Monroe County Medical Society and is useful to medical practices in evaluating present compensation levels and future planning endeavors.

MCMS Quality Collaborative: 2021 Accomplishments include:

- **Equity and Diversity Subcommittee** began working to examine various tests and algorithms that vary by race. The estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) is the current area of focus.
- **e-GFR Committee:** this new Committee started in September 2021. New guidelines were developed such that the new equation excludes race in eGFR – to be adopted immediately. The committee is currently working on community education (i.e., patients, doctors, insurers).
- **Results Release Subcommittee** began working with the Equity and Diversity subcommittee to formulate and execute a plan to address race and clinical algorithms. This collaborative group has achieved significant alignment to-date.
- **Physician-Pharmacy Committee:** continues to meet quarterly to discuss local concerns (COVID 19 taking precedence) around prescribing and filling practices. Pharmacies and physicians have worked tirelessly to keep communication up to date regarding COVID 19.
- **Quality Improvement Project:** The Adolescent Mental & Behavioral Health QI project began October 12, 2021, and will continue through October 18, 2022. **Purpose:** To encourage universal depression screening by primary care providers in pediatrics and family medicine and to decrease time to access appropriate care for patients screening for moderate to severe depression.
- **MCMS Community-wide Guidelines:** focus on prevention, and/or treatment and management of, chronic diseases. The MCMS QC develops community principles and educational tools.
Community-Wide Guidelines: revised and approved in 2021 include: Acute-Subacute Low Back Pain, Heart Failure, Lung Cancer Screening, Pediatric Preventative Care, Major Depressive Disorder.

MCMS Partnerships: community initiatives are ongoing with the University of Rochester Medical Center include:

- **Physician Wellness Symposium on Well-Being and Burnout Prevention** is scheduled on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022, from 8:30am-1:00pm**. This **virtual** symposium will bring together academics, educators, and practitioners from a variety of fields for a collaborative, multidisciplinary exploration of the ways to support the well-being of clinicians, faculty, and learners, and to share best practices.