

**THE FIFTH DISTRICT BRANCH
OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NY**
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*Kathleen E. Dyman
Executive Vice President*

5th District Report to the MSSNY Virtual Council Meeting November 5, 2020

The Fifth District includes Cayuga, Chenango, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and St. Lawrence Counties.

The office of Oneida, Herkimer, Madison, Chenango, Oswego and Cayuga Counties, is moving on November 1st to 17 New Hartford Shopping Center, New Hartford, NY 13413.

Most of the 5th and 6th District Counties are hurting financially. It has been suggested that a ZOOM meeting be arranged to see how each District can help the other and see how MSSNY can be of assistance. Dr. Brian White and Dr. Geoff Moore of the 6th District have created an Excel spreadsheet for the Counties to complete.

Dr. Aaron Kumar, the Executive from Suffolk County is our representative to MSSNY Council and is doing an outstanding job. Workers Compensation and membership remain a concern.

Oneida County is the only county in the state that does initial hospital credentialing. They are very busy.

Onondaga County held a virtual council meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2020. The main presentation about the status of COVID-19 was given by Indu Gupta, MD, MPH, the Health Commissioner from Onondaga County. A tentative date for the Virtual Annual Meeting is Thursday, November 10, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Rabin, MD, MPH, MBA

5th District Councilor

- Produced an outreach video featuring members sharing why the Medical Society is important to them. Onondaga County Medical Society (OCMS) also partnered with Excellus for a print and radio public service announcement featuring OCMS President Dr. Justin Fedor which encouraged individuals not to postpone routine care and reassures them that doctors' offices are safe and ready to serve them. This was very positively received, and members have provided feedback that they would like to see more a campaign promoting influenza vaccinations.
- OCMS is currently conducting pro-active outreach, via personal phone check-ins with members, to identify current needs and priorities going into the fall and prior to the next round of billing. PPE availability continues to pose a challenge for members, as does COVID-19 testing turnaround and reporting requirements.
- After negotiating an early termination of rented office space, OCMS staff continue to work virtually. Work continues on the transition away from a legacy database, with assistance from graduate students in the iSchool at Syracuse University.