

Draft Minutes
Medical Society of the State of New York
Long Term Care Subcommittee
Thursday October 8, 2020
7:30am via Zoom

Present

Jay P. Slotkin, MD – Chair
Steven Kaner, MD – Vice Chair
Ruth Kleinman, MD – Vice Chair
Al Cardillo, President HCANYS
Timothy John Holahan, DO
Thomas Lee, MD
Thomas Madejski, MD
Gregory Pinto, MD

Invited Guests

Bonnie Litvack, MSSNY President
Arthur Fougner, MSSNY Past President

Absent

Joan Cincotta, Alliance
Eugene Kalmuck, MD
Raghu Ram, MD
Naheed Asad Van De Walle, MD

Staff

Moe Auster, Esq., Division of Government Affairs
Pat Clancy, Sr. VP. Of Public Health and Education
Zina Cary, Division of Government Affairs
Raza Ali, Division of Government Affairs
Becky Dawes, Division of Government Affairs

- 1 1) **Welcome**
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- 3 2) **Adoption of Minutes** – January 16, 2020 approved.
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- 5 3) **COVID-19 and Nursing Homes** – Mr. Auster discussed that On March 25, at the height of the
- 6 pandemic, there was an notification announced by the health department that hospitals could
- 7 return COVID positive patients to nursing homes who had been stabilized to help ensure
- 8 hospital space for more fragile patients. The Governor noted that the nursing homes were free
- 9 to reject taking on these patients. As a practical matter, that was extraordinarily difficult for
- 10 nursing homes to do. The state has said roughly 25,000 have died from Covid-19, 6,000 of them
- 11 dying inside the nursing homes. Some believe that number could be higher. The governor has
- 12 been generally praised on his handling of the pandemic, but this is an area where many have
- 13 critiqued if it could have been handled differently. Dr. Holahan spoke on how it has been hard
- 14 on nursing homes and healthcare all together. There was discussion about “lessons learned”,
- 15 involvement of the directions of the institutions, and where the state alternative sites.
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- 17 4) **NYMDA** – Dr. Holahan and Dr. Slotkin represented New York Medical Directors Association at a
- 18 MSSNY legislative advocacy committee, where they talked about priorities for 2021. The
- 19 representative from the emergency medicine organization indicated that one of its priorities
- 20 was dealing with the nursing home patients with COVID, what to do with them when they come
- 21 to the emergency room or where they should be discharged to. Dr. Slotkin spoke of four
- 22 strategies. 1) that every nursing home is required to have a medical director; 2) in Pennsylvania
- 23 there is legislation to create a medical director registrar; 3) the need for medical leadership and
- 24 assisted living. Nursing homes or assisted living are not required to have a medical director or
- 25 medical leadership. There are more patients in assisted living than there are in nursing homes.

26 4) Information to the qualifications for a medical director in a nursing home, the state of
27 Maryland passed the law. Dr. Slotkin discussed Maryland's law that set out qualifications in a
28 nursing home in Maryland requires that you either need to be have your CMT to be a certified
29 medical director, and you can get that certification through the American Medical Directors
30 Association or equivalent courses. That's not the case in New York State.
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32 5) **Annual Conference for the Home Care Association (HCA)** – Al Cardillo spoke about their annual
33 conference, in which Dr. Litvack was a participant in an hour long discussion among various
34 health care association which discussed the importance of collaboration across the health care
35 sectors, and what associations could do to foster collaboration capabilities. Mr. Cardillo
36 indicated that he is developing a one- or two-page position paper advocacy document which
37 lays out some of the barriers to the collaboration and why collaboration could be a force for
38 solutions to so many of the issues. HCA applied for and received a grant to collaborative to
39 identify and respond quickly to high risk patients using zone tool that that addresses some of
40 those high-risk categories such as CHF, COPD, and others. At the University of Rochester,
41 physicians in the critical care department, the medical director for the home care program and
42 the home care staff all talking about this program they have in place, dealing with the trauma
43 and discharge patients post discharge in the initial trauma, which they were treated for in
44 critical care. At the industry level, working together and then trying to garner the support of
45 government.
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47 6) **Next Meetings** – January 21, 2021, May 6, 2021, October 7, 2021
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