



The Medical Society of the County of Queens  
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## **Councilor's Report – March 2021**

### **Society Highlights**

- **KUDOS to** - S. Skeivys, MD, Past President & MSSNY Councilor, for his involvement with the Million Hearts® team and his 2020 Hypertension Control Champions virtual event video recording last Friday!

The panel discussion will go live on the [Million Hearts® Facebook page](#) on February 24 at 1 p.m. EST. If you are available, join them live to help answer any questions from viewers. The campaign will be shared via **Twitter** - #hypertension control with the @MillionHeartsUS Executive Director, Facebook & LinkedIn.

- **President's Report** - David Vilabrera, MD - Dr. Vilabrera reported his presentation to the First District Branch (FDB) meeting. He extended his congratulations to Dr. Michael Richter on his appointment as Vice President of FDB.
- **Guests Visits** - The Society had two distinguished guests this past January, **Dr. Steven Kaner, First District Branch President, and Ms. Liz Harrison, ED Kings County Medical Society** - Dr. Kaner thanked the Queens Medical Society for the chance to attend their Comitia Minora. He expressed concern regarding COVID vaccine availability, distribution, and administration.
- **The Society has had two CME live activities accredited by the Academy of Medicine of Queens County:**
  - ✓ ***Chronic Limb Threatening Ischemia (CLTI): Reducing amputations through a coordinated limb salvage program.***  
**Presenter - Carlton Taylor Lewis, MD**, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Weill Cornell Medicine, NY-Presbyterian Hospital, Queens  
Dr. Lewis is a vascular surgeon at New York-Presbyterian Medical Group Queens and an assistant professor of surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine. Dr. Lewis specializes in performing procedures, including endovascular aneurysm repair, open aneurysm repair, carotid endarterectomy, TCAR (carotid stenting), and vascular access surgery. He also performs radiofrequency ablation of varicose veins, endovenous laser ablation, thoracic outlet decompression, endovascular treatment of peripheral arterial disease, and arterial bypass surgery.

The Academy of Medicine of Queens County designates this live activity via Zoom for a maximum of .5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.

✓ **End of Life Guidance**

**Presenter - Lorraine M. Giordano, MD, FACEP, FAADM**, Past-President & Trustee of the Medical Society of the County of Queens

“Dr. Giordano, or simply “Dr. G,” as she is known to the hundreds, if not thousands of NYC paramedics she has trained and mentored over the years, is an exceptional EM physician and EMS leader. She was the head of the Jamaica Hospital (Queens, NY) paramedic program in the mid -1980’s. Her wealth of experience, knowledge, and commitment to the EMS field is second to none.

The CME objective was to guide physicians and help them assist patients and their families with end-of-life issues. Topics reviewed were:

- 911 NYC Call System – Process defined and explained. Examples presented.
- Terminology – Review and definition of common end-of-life language.
- Directives – Acceptable pre-hospital directives. Confusions and misconceptions must be clarified to assure full honor of patients’ wishes.
- Questions were entertained.

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- **The Bulletin** – Winter 2021 was published on February 19, 2021. Copy of all previous issues is accessible at <https://www.mscq.org/The-Bulletin>. The Society is currently accepting materials for their summer of 2021. Please e-mail [QMS@QueensMedicalSociety.org](mailto:QMS@QueensMedicalSociety.org) by 4.15.2021.

- **Digital Campaign** – Erik Blutinger, MD, and Moira Casey Dr. Blutinger and Ms. Casey unveiled the new Society Digital Campaign. This new program is needed because of perceived misconceptions/apprehensions surrounding COVID-19 (information and vaccines). The involvement of existing social media platforms will be utilized. Hashtags (#) and posting photos of physicians and others receiving their vaccines are among the first initiatives. In the future, emphasis must be placed on Primary Physicians encouraging their patients in person and distributing to a broader population once vaccines are more readily available. Please follow them on Twitter or view all the candid photos at

<https://www.mscq.org/sys/website/?pageId=1076297>

- **News Release - NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery Start Online CME**

**(January 21, 2021 – Rockville Centre, NY)** Leaders of the Academy of Medicine of Queens County and NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery, Rockville Centre, NY, have announced the start of a new online continuing medical education (CME) program to be called “QMS CME NOW.”

The free online service will enable society members and other local physicians to earn AMA PRA Category 1 credit in various subject areas, including neurovascular care, treatment options for spine conditions, and surgical care for primary brain tumors.

According to John Pile-Spellman, MD, a partner and attending interventional neuroradiologist at NSPC, “since it has been so hard to meet other physicians for dinner or conferences to discuss interesting cases, my colleagues and I were eager to develop a safe, convenient way for us to share our clinical insights with other doctors in the community. And provide the added benefit of being able to earn CME while doing it. Our partners at the Medical Society of the County of Queens and its educational arm, the Academy of Medicine of Queens County, recognized the need, too, and helped us create a new digital platform for learning and collaborating.”

Evangeline Rosado-Tripp, Executive Director, Queens Medical Society, explained that the Academy would review and credential the courses created by the faculty and physicians at NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery. Ms. Rosado-Tripp notes that the Society and the Academy are very excited about this partnership’s opportunity to all physicians.

**ABOUT NSPC BRAIN & SPINE SURGERY** - Founded in Freeport in 1958, NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery has grown to become one of the largest, private neurosurgical groups in the US with seven conveniently located offices on Long Island, including offices in Lake Success, Rockville Centre, Commack, West Islip, and Riverhead.

The practice’s experienced neurosurgeons and interventional neuroradiologists are experts in “Bloodless” brain and spine surgery, including laser spine surgery, endoscopic spine surgery, ultrasonic spine surgery, radiosurgery, and other advanced minimally invasive techniques which are used to treat brain tumors, brain aneurysms, trigeminal neuralgia, herniated disc, spinal stenosis, chronic back pain, and other conditions. Please visit [www.nspc.com](http://www.nspc.com) to learn more.

**Respectfully Summited by** J. Skeivys, MD, Councilor, and E. Tripp, ED, 2.19.2021