

Draft Minutes
MSSNY Committee on Preventive Medicine and Family Health
Thursday, January 27, 2022
Via zoom

Present

Joshua Cohen, MD Commissioner
Janine Fogarty, MD Asst.
Commissioner
Nina Huberman, MD MPH Co-chair
Sarah Nosal, MD Co-chair
Erick Eiting, MD Vice-chair
Frank Dowling, MD
Tzvi Furer, MD
Geoffrey Moore, MD
Matthew Weissman, MD
Jocelyn Young, DO
Christian Coletta, Medical Student
Helena Mirza, Alliance

Excused

Moshe Bressler, DO

Absent

Roy Korn, MD
Joseph Baldonado, MD
Emily Senay, MD
Susan Urban, MD

Invited Guests

Parag Mehta, MD MSSNY President-elect

Staff

Troy Oechsner, Executive VP
Pat Clancy, Senior VP/Managing
Director
Maureen Ramirez, Administrative Asst.

1) Welcome

2) Adoption of September 30, 2021 minutes – approved

3) Review of the 2022 MSSNY House of Delegates PHE Sunset Review –

PHE 150.968 Quiet Zone – Sunset

PHE 207.988 Patient Transitions – Sunset

PHE 290.991 Head Injury Prevention in Hockey – Reaffirm with modifications (1 dissent, these decisions should be left to the sports medicine specialists)

There are several resolutions within the AMA creating strong comprehensive policy on sports injuries. This policy covers many sports and the importance of proper equipment for reach. MSSNY has an overall policy regarding head injury. Pat Clancy will send a copy of MSSNY policy to the committee so that they can be certain this is covered properly.

4) Healthcare Workers shortage – this topic was placed on the agenda as requested from the previous committee meeting. It was suggested that perhaps there should be a focus on physicians rather than all healthcare workers. Some areas of focus suggested were struggles to hire physicians. Difficulty recruiting and lack of funds to pay personnel. Can't hire NP's with sufficient physicians to supervise. There was mention of the Medical Reserve Corps and that they are desperately seeking physicians to help. The concern being, physicians are exhausted and over worked as it is, how are they going to find the time or the

energy to help. Staff is leaving in heavy numbers. Nurses are leaving because of the pay disparity of office staff vs travelling nurses whose pay is significantly higher. It is important to frame the question correctly when recruiting physicians to work in the state of NY. We also need to concentrate on "keeping" physicians in the state of New York. The offer of paying off student loans is not the answer for Family Practice Physicians who are struggling and making significantly less than other physicians. There needs to be a reduce in burden, reduction in regulatory requirements and a need to provide support where everyone is working at the same level. The idea of a type of clearing house so people can be sent out where needed. Credentialing is always an issue. The CAQH credential data base has always been there. It is a source of accessing physicians records. Burnout is an issue and the financial issues are going to impact the future of accessing medicine in this state. Because of the increase in employed physicians, more and more physicians are working for someone, it is felt that people do not respect what it really takes to become a doctor. Because of what it costs to properly train a physician, Primary Care physicians never catch up monetarily.

Question – Is the Physician Wellness Committee also used on stress and burnout? The committee is focused on physician stress. The Peer 2 Peer (P2P) program and the hotline were created to assist. Trying to implement P2P with larger organizations has been more difficult, but the program is seeing success in that area. They look at the systemic pressure. Doctors have historically had issues with depression, alcohol and drugs.

Question – why are they always pushing for physician resilience? "here...we gave you this...why are you complaining?" instead of "how can we HELP you?" The MSSNY survey was mentioned and it found that women physicians reported a higher rate of burnout than men. Pat Clancy will share those results with the committee. The AMA also did a survey. Hopefully when those results are finalized, we will have result specific to New York State. This survey was launched during the height of the pandemic.

5) MSSNY/NYS DOH/NYC DOH/NYSACHO Vaccine Workgroup—Update provided by Pat Clancy, Sr. VP/Managing Director, PHE

This group was formed at the request of the New York State. Monthly meetings have been taking place since October. There are many agencies involved. NYS DOH, NYC DOH, county health departments, county medical societies, county specialty groups as well as physicians. There have been discussions on vaccine distribution, monoclonal antibody, antiviral availability. It has created an ongoing conversation which provides answers and assistance with ongoing issues. Any physician is welcome to participate. Pat Clancy would encourage any committee member to join in.

Next Meeting: May 12, 2022

Adjourned