



MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

99 WASHINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 408, ALBANY, NY 12210
518-465-8085 • Fax: 518-465-0976 • E-mail: albany@mssny.org

June 13, 2022

TO: MSSNY COUNCIL

**FROM: JOSHUA COHEN, MD, COMMISSIONER
JANINE FOGARTY, MD, ASST. COMMISSIONER
PAT CLANCY, SR. VP/MANAGING DIRECTOR, PUBLIC HEALTH AND
EDUCATION**

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION REPORT

The following is an update on various projects that MSSNY's Division of Public Health and Education are involved in and occurred over the last year.

MSSNY Emergency Preparedness and Disaster and Terrorism Response Committee

Emergency Preparedness Grant--MSSNY's contract with the NYS DOH for its Emergency Preparedness grant has been renewed for the 20th year. The \$79,125 grant allows MSSNY to continue "Medical Matters" ; its various podcasts, programming at the HOD, and also provides support for the MSSNY CME site, along with offsetting staff. MSSNY's Medical Matters hosted nine webinars during the 21-22 grant year and various podcasts, including the most recent podcast on Monkey pox. This pod cast has already been heard by nearly 200 physicians and can be listened to at <https://www.buzzsprout.com/51522>. MSSNY has over 100 podcasts available and over 15,000 downloads. MSSNY Podcasts can be listened at Apple podcasts, Google Podcasts, iHeart Radio, and Spotify.

The Emergency Preparedness Committee has been actively involved in helping to educate hundreds of physicians and other healthcare providers throughout the course of the pandemic. Since January 2020, the majority of our *Medical Matters* have been on the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, each of the webinars have been posted to the MSSNY CME (<https://cme.mssny.org/>) for viewing by all physicians. Melissa Hoffman, MSSNY Public Health Associate, is responsible for the webinars and podcasts and can be reached at mhoffman@mssny.org.

The **David B. Meza, III, MD Emergency Preparedness Award**— has been awarded to Craig Katz, MD, vice chair of MSSNY Emergency Preparedness Committee. Dr. Katz's selection was based on his unwavering commitment to educate his colleagues on many of the mental health issues related to trauma, including the impact of COVID-19. Dr. Katz is the third recipient of this award and follows Dr. Arthur Cooper and Dr. William Valenti as awardees.

Veterans Matters Program

MSSNY continues its efforts to educate physicians regarding the mental health needs of veterans through its Veterans Matters program. The Veterans Mental Health Training Initiative (VMHTI) provided a live seminar on January 22, 2022 in Lake Placid. The title of the program will be The Impact of COVID-19 on Veterans. This same program was provided as a webinar jointly with Medical Matters as a webinar in January. Additionally, currently, faculty is developing a new program on sexual trauma by veterans and once completed, training will be offered to faculty to present this program throughout the state.

During the 2022-23 New York State budget process, \$250,000 was set aside for the Veteran's Mental Health Training Initiative. We are currently working with our partners, the NYS Psychiatric Association and the NYS Association of Social Workers in meeting and discussing with the New York State Senate, to ensure that this allocation is split between the three organizations.

County medical societies executives/presidents can contact MSSNY for information setting up a live program or a webinar for your hospital or county medical society. Please contact Melissa Hoffman at mhoffman@mssny.org.

ASTRA ZENECA Grant

MSSNY is again the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from Astra Zeneca. This grant allows MSSNY to provide podcasts on immunizations, including COVID 19. This grant, which has been an on-going since 2014, has allowed MSSNY to purchase equipment to facilitate the development of these podcasts.

MSSNY Joint Organizational Meeting on COVID 19

At the request of the New York State Department of Health, the Medical Society of the State of New York convened and has an ongoing monthly call with the Department of Health on the pandemic. This group is comprised of MSSNY, various medical specialties, county medical societies executives, the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO), local county health commissioners, and officials from the New York State Department of Health. The purpose of this group is to help facilitate and promote COVID19 immunizations, ensures vaccine equity and assist with any distribution of COVID19 vaccine. The meeting also is a forum to answer any questions regarding the guidance issued by the state or federal government regarding the pandemic. The next call is July 13, 2022, from 12-1:30 p.m. via Zoom. Any physician interested in participating please contact Pat Clancy at pclancy@mssny.org.

MSSNY Practice Transformation Initiative

Bassett and Northwell completed their surveys, and each had an individual report-out of their data. The AMA leadership met with St. Peter's, and they decided to not move forward with their post-mini-z survey at this time, as they wish to address some of the issues they have been experiencing among their physicians as shown in their pre-mini-z survey. They do plan to use the P2P program and a few peer support related resources including the quintuple aim to combat the dissatisfaction and burnout among workers.

Northwell has submitted an abstract to ICPH which is under review, and they are also applying to the Joy in Medicine Health System Recognition Program to which Bassett applied and received recognition last year. We are hoping NY Presbyterian will distribute their post-mini-z survey to the participating physicians at their institution, as they participated in various interventions throughout the course of this project and could have some great data to share at the conclusion.

The AMA does not yet have any formal plans for a conclusionary event. There are several other groups in other states that need to/are in the process of completing their final Mini-Z so the AMA's focus has been on that. Staff at the AMA stated that it is likely that they will hold some kind of virtual meeting wherein we can share aggregate results of the program for the groups that surveyed both pre and post, and they may also ask some groups to share their work, as some groups saw very positive results across time.

The Telehealth Initiative

MSSNY still has four practice sites who have signed onto this initiative: CDOC with Dr. Raza, Northwell Telehealth with Dr. Hertz, Eger Rehabilitation Center with Dr. Seminara, Mt. Sinai with Dr. Eiting. Many of the other states involved with this cohort has lost participation from practice sites and are having trouble signing sites.

Ms. Cayla Lauder, MSSNY's Public Health Associate, has been working with the practice sites to put together a practice profile which identifies their goals for the case studies they will be engaging in. CDOC wishes to use telehealth to manage patients discharged hospital visits addressing the community need to reach more people, as well as incorporate RPM. They are working on starting telehealth services and will be meeting with the leadership at the AMA to have further discussion.

Eger Health Care and Rehabilitation Center are interested in using telehealth to engage cardiology, interventional vascular, pulmonary services, dermatology, and wound care specialists. Utilizing video telehealth for on-call and weekend coverage will assist the medical staff while not at the facility to be able to better assess a patient's status and avoid unnecessary trips to local emergency departments where the likelihood/odds of the patient being admitted is 67%. They have some baseline data that they will be using to start their case study based on their interests.

Mt. Sinai is an emergency medicine practice using telehealth for episodic care. The video telehealth connection is made directly through Epic (EHR) for acute care. Their goals for the case study are to optimize workflows, as well as linking lab and radiology orders. We are in the process of contacting the practice sites to see how they are doing with their case studies and gathering questions for the leadership team at the AMA.

The AMA has been having monthly check-in calls with the state associations and has been starting to develop some "cookie-cutter" or universal PICME activities for the practice sites to use if they fit their personal goals. After our most recent meeting with the AMA and other state associations, the AMA will be putting together a meeting to involve all practice sites from each state which will hopefully answer any questions/hesitations physicians are having about moving forward.

The AMA has also shared an online portal where practices can complete the return on health framework in a simplified data collection process. There is the option for practice sites to measure across time which can demonstrate either change across time within a value stream or expanding measurement of value more comprehensively. On the backend, the AMA will monitor data submitted and pull submissions to share with practices and the cohort 2.

Cayla Lauder, MSSNY Public Health Associate, has spearheaded this PTI and TTI programs on behalf of MSSNY. She can be reached at clauder@mssny.org.