

MSSNY Council Report
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Manhattan and the Bronx
November 3, 2022

New York County Medical Society

- Echoing concerns heard at the last meeting of the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors of the Society believe that MSSNY, like the AMA and most specialty societies, should hold contested elections for officers as the norm. Although members can run from the floor, there is a clear advantage to those who are on the slate of the Nominating Committee. As there is no prohibition in the Bylaws, the Nominating Committee should be asked to nominate at least two names for each office (using as its basis only names from those who have been nominated for consideration through the MSSNY nominating process for county medical societies in August). The Society is bringing a resolution for action on this item to the November 3, MSSNY Council Meeting asking that the 2023 Nominating Committee nominate for a contested election for officers.
- The Society's Committees on CME and Public Health, chaired by Michael Goldstein, MD and Peter Lombardo, MD, respectively, are working on the fall Grand Round series. On November 10 the Society will hold a program on How to Survive a Lawsuit. On December 6, with the leadership of the Committee on Physician Wellness, Chair Jill Baron, MD, and Program Director Steven Mandell, will hold "Physician Addiction: A Health Care Crisis." Additional programs on Value-Based Payment Systems and Medical Marijuana are also being discussed.
- The Society will be holding an in-person Legislative Breakfast, resuming the event in person for the first time since COVID, in winter of 2023.
- Society Board member Connie DiMari, MD, had her letter to the editor printed in the New York Times regarding the Times article "But Can She Cure Her Ailing Heart," September 20, 2022. The article concerned the tale of burnout and physical pain for a primary care physician. Doctor DiMari's letter was printed as follows:

Do we need to add to physician stress and burnout the reporting requirements of quality metrics and expect near-impossible metric improvement? Or do we rely on the physician's intrinsic motivation to improve the health of their patients? After reading about Dr. Becher, I think the answer is easy.

How many more physicians will we lose to administrative or other non-clinical fields, only exacerbating the crisis in the availability of primary care? It is no wonder that medical students now shun primary care fields.

- The Society is reviewing comments to be made to Congress on flaws in MACRA and Value-Based Payment plans, but in particular is concerned that the administrative work for these programs leads to time away from patient care and burnout, taking the doctors' attention away from the individual patient.
- The Society has formed a work group to discuss recent legislation in New York State calling for insurance reimbursement for medical marijuana.
- The Society has been urging members to communicate with Governor Kathy Hochul on the wrongful death bill, prior authorization, and other issues. The Society is reaching out to New York City Mayor Eric Adams as well, given the effects on municipalities.

Bronx County Medical Society

- Bronx County Medical Society had participated with Montefiore/Einstein Cancer Center in an event on October 23, 2022 in the Bronx called Making Strides of the Bronx. The American Cancer Society started Making Strides Against Breast Cancer to unite communities, companies, and individuals with a collective goal to end breast cancer as we know it.

The Making Strides movement raises lifesaving funds that support breast cancer patients, survivors, thrivers, and caregivers through every step of the journey. We've enhanced digital offerings available to anyone across the nation, including one-on-one breast cancer patient support services and the use of video chat to safely connect patients, caregivers, and family members with valuable services and resources through our website, in addition to a 24/7 helpline. Apart from skin cancers, breast cancer is the most common cancer type in women. In fact,

In 2022:

APPROXIMATELY

290,560

people will be diagnosed with breast cancer

AN ADDITIONAL

51,400

cases of ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) will be diagnosed in women

Several of Bronx County executive leadership was working with the Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson to help facilitate this successful event and the event raised \$286,698 dollars.

- Bronx County Medical Society leadership is working with Senator Alessandra Biaggi office to assist with the NYC Care Health Care Access Program. The big push for this program is to assist the community (New Yorkers) who do not qualify for or cannot afford health insurance with NYC Care services which are provided through NYC Health & Hospitals. Bronx County physicians have been assisting patients with the initiative by NYC Health & Hospitals and to enroll call 646-NYC-CARE for more details or <https://www.nyccare.nyc/about/> in multiple languages.
- Bronx County Medical Society leadership was invited by Senator Gustavo Rivera office to an event that was titled "State Senator Rivera Thank You Reception". The Senator hosted the event to thank the Bronx County leadership as well as other organizations present for their above and beyond support of Senator Rivera during his recent primary.
- Bronx County Medical Society will be hosting their 108th Annual Bronx County Medical Society Medical Symposium in person and located at the beautiful Marina Del Rey in the Bronx on Nov 6th at 6pm. We will be honoring our 3 Immediate Past Presidents- Dr. Saxena, Dr. Stern and Dr. Huberman for all being exceptional presidents in their tenures. We will be also honoring Dr,

Ramon Tallaj who is the Chairperson of Somos Community Care and Corinthin IPA and Dr. Jose Goris who is the soon to be President of the Dominican Medical and Dental Society who have both been champions during the pandemic and very instrumental to the communities they serve as great physicians while providing the best of quality patient care to their patients.

All other counties leadership are also invited as it looks like its going to be a great event not to miss.