



Bulletin

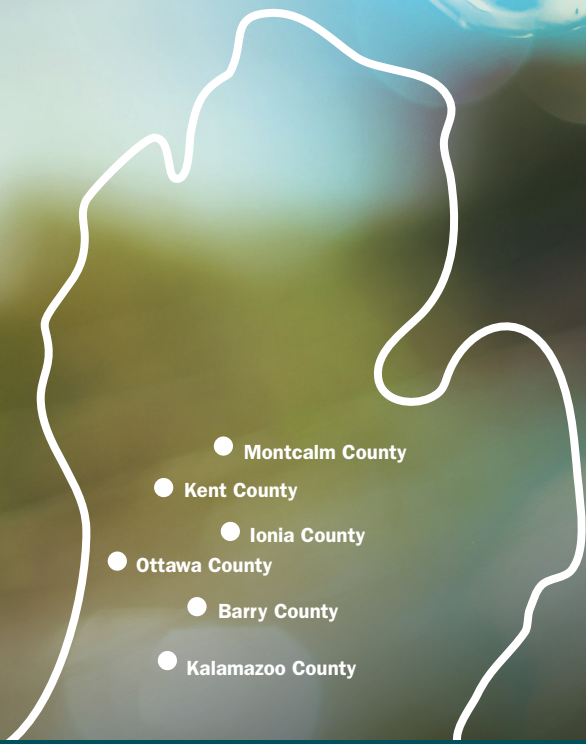
THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE KENT COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY & THE KENT COUNTY OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2021

– *Serving Physicians in Kent, Ottawa, Barry, Ionia and Montcalm counties* –

2021

year in review



Joining Forces

As the ongoing pandemic exposes more weakness in our health care system, West Michigan county medical societies are partnering to amplify physician voices on health policy and improve patient care.

Check out the new **BUSINESS OF MEDICINE** section for updates on office administration topics, including:

PAGE 13
Mandatory E-prescribing

PAGE 20
Licensing Requirements

Mark Your Calendar



KCMS 119TH
**ANNUAL
MEETING**
OF THE MEMBERSHIP

AGENDA

- **2021 Year in Review**
*KCMS President
Gerald R. Lee, MD*
- **Election of New Officers**
- **Appointment of Delegates
and Alternate Delegates**
- **Installation of 2022
KCMS President**
Belén Amat, MD

Thursday, January 13, 2022

6:30-8:30pm | Location TBD

Members and spouses/guests welcome

RSVP TODAY!

Phone: 616.458.4157 Email: kcmsoffice@kcms.org Online: kcms.org



BULLETIN

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Gregory J. Forzley, MD — *Editor*
Michelle M. Condon, MD
Patrick J. Droste, MS, MD
Herman C. Sullivan, MD

PUBLISHED BY

Kent County Medical Society &
Kent County Osteopathic Association

233 East Fulton, Suite 224
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone 616.458.4157
Fax 616.458.3305

www.kcms.org • www.kcoa-mi.org

AFFILIATED AGENCIES

Barry County Medical Society
Kent County Medical Society Alliance
Kent Medical Foundation
Ottawa County Medical Society

*All statements of opinions in
The Bulletin are those of the individual
writers or speakers, and do not necessarily
represent the opinions of the Kent County
Medical Society and the Kent County
Osteopathic Association.*

*The Bulletin reserves the right
to accept or reject advertising copy.
Products and services advertised
in The Bulletin are neither endorsed
nor warranted by the Kent County
Medical Society or the Kent
County Osteopathic Association.*

WINTER 2021 • Vol. 106, No. 4

Contents



Cover Photo

Physicians representing Region 5 (Barry, Calhoun, Berrien, and Kalamazoo) and Region 8 (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, and Ionia/Montcalm) are addressing challenges in medicine.

CONTRIBUTORS

- 21** Barry County Medical Society President's Message
- 22** Ottawa County Medical Society President's Message
- 24** Kent County Health Department
- 26** MSU - College of Human Medicine
- 27** Kent Medical Foundation
- 30** Alliance Heartbeat

KCMS

- Meetings of Interest **4**
- President's Message **6**
- In Memoriam **11**

BUSINESS OF MEDICINE

- Mandatory E-prescribing **13**
- Licensing Scams **14**
- Vaccine Information Safety **15**
- Licensing Changes **16**
- Flu Vaccine Recommendation **19**

KCOA

- Meetings of Interest **17**
- President's Message **18**

GET INVOLVED:

Learn more about the Kent County Medical Society at www.kcms.org.

Learn more about the Kent County Osteopathic Association at www.kcoa-mi.org.



Join Us

KCMS MEETINGS OF INTEREST

JANUARY 13, 2022

KCMS ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS

Location to be determined | 6pm

FEBRUARY 7, 2022

**KENT, BARRY, OTTAWA, KALAMAZOO
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Virtual event | Noon

MARCH 1, 2022

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT RESOLUTIONS
FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

OUR MISSION:

The Kent County Medical Society is a professional association, uniting the physicians in Kent County into a mutual, neutral organization; preserving and promoting the health of the citizens of Kent County, the physician/patient relationship, the medical profession, and the interests of physicians.

Visit us

For event details, check out our website kcms.org



KCMS OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Gerald Lee, MD

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Belén Amat, MD

PAST PRESIDENT

Sandy Dettmann, MD,
DABAM, FASAM

DIRECTORS

Michelle M. Condon, MD

Jayne E. Courts, MD, FACP

Megan M. Edison, MD
Member-at-Large

Edward Fody, MD

John Fox, MD, MHA

Warren Lanphear, MD, FACEP

Eric L. Larson, MD
Member-at-Large

Adam J. Rush, MD

REGION 8 DIRECTOR

Eric L. Larson, MD

REGION 5 DIRECTOR

Belén Amat, MD

SPEAKER OF THE MSMS HOUSE

Phillip G. Wise, MD

VICE SPEAKER OF THE MSMS HOUSE

Bryan W. Huffman, MD
Ottawa County Medical Society

AMA DELEGATE

Rose M. Ramirez, MD

AMA ALTERNATE DELEGATE

Jayne E. Courts, MD

MSMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DESIGNATED DIRECTORS

Donald P. Condit, MD, MBA,
Independent Small Practice Physician

Jayne E. Courts, MD, FACP
At-Large Physician

DELEGATION CHAIR

David W. Whalen, MD

MSMS DELEGATES TO JANUARY 2022

Patrick J. Droste, MS, MD

Megan M. Edison, MD

Eric L. Larson, MD

Gerald R. Lee, MD

Rose M. Ramirez, MD

Brian A. Roelof, MD

Adam J. Rush, MD

Herman C. Sullivan, MD

John E. Van Schagen, MD

David W. Whalen, MD

Phillip G. Wise, MD

MSMS ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO JANUARY 2022

John H. Beernink, MD

Michelle M. Condon, MD

Sandy K. Dettmann, MD

John B. O'Donnell, MD

Remember Your 2022 Dues Payment!

Your continued membership in KCMS enables our Boards to continue work to improve health care in our communities. **2022 dues are due by December 31.** Prompt payment of your 2022 dues is greatly appreciated!

If you renew your KCMS and MSMS dues before November 30, you will earn a \$100 CME discount on MSMS CME programs.

Thank you!



In addition to physicians, nurses, and other health care providers who have battled on the frontlines of the pandemic and deserve tremendous praise and recognition for their valiant work, there's another group of individuals who have been fighting to protect our collective public health and whose efforts may have been overlooked:

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS AND PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS!

Despite threats and pressure to do otherwise, our county health departments and public health officers have done everything possible to protect the health and safety of all residents in their communities, through education, mask mandates, quarantine protocols, and other public health outreach and interventions. It's important, brave work that should be applauded and celebrated. Please take a moment to share your thanks and gratitude for the work they have done in response to COVID-19.

Giving Gratitude

Click [here](#) to thank your county health department and public health officers. Your appreciation will mean a great deal!

Serving those who provide care.

IT'S IN OUR DNA.

We're taking the mal out of malpractice insurance.

Delivering the best imaginable service and unrivaled rewards is at the core of who we are. As an organization founded and led by physicians, we understand the value of superior care. Because for us, it's not just a best practice, it's in our unique code. Join us at thedoctors.com



The Doctors Company
TDCGROUP

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Gerald Lee, MD
2021 KCMS President

Regional Medical Societies Join Forces to Support Physicians

As anticipated, 2021 has been a challenging year due to COVID-19. Sometimes life feels like everything revolves around the pandemic; however, KCMS and MSMS have continued to work on other issues as well. In some cases, the pandemic has accentuated the need for changes.

You may have noticed that Kent County Medical Society continues to strengthen our bonds with other county medical societies in West Michigan, most recently including Kalamazoo County (Kalamazoo Academy of Medicine), Barry County, Ottawa County, and Ionia/Montcalm County medical societies. These partnerships enable us to work together to share resources and to offer members relevant benefits.

The West Michigan Legislative Committee, includes representatives from the above county societies, has been very active. The Chair of the Committee Jayne Courts, MD, also serves as the current Chair of the MSMS Committee on State Legislation and Regulations. In addition to direct legislative advocacy, the House of Delegate Resolutions authored by Kent County members have been passed by the MSMS. Resolutions that address a national issue, are submitted to the American Medical Association House of Delegates, and many have been successfully approved.

Through emails and this magazine, members are updated on critical legislation in the Michigan House and Senate that help our members and their practices. A few recent efforts include the following:

Health Can't Wait—Prior Authorization

Members know the Prior Authorization process diverts valuable resources away from direct patient care, can

delay the start or continuation of necessary treatment, and can negatively impact patient health outcomes

Senate Bill 247 unanimously passed the Senate in late-April and is now under consideration by the House Health Policy Committee. As a top strategic priority of MSMS and the Health Can't Wait (HCW) coalition, we have been focusing efforts on the passage of this important piece of legislation during this legislative term (reminder: legislative terms are two years. Although the timeline is uncertain, it is hopeful that the bill has the support it needs and will move toward final passage.

Surprise Billing

KCMS recently sent members an update to members regarding the No Surprises Act that takes effect in January; and the second interim final rule issued by the Biden Administration.

Scope of Practice/MiACCT

County societies and MSMS have worked to address the Scope of Practice challenges ("scope creep"), and MSMS has created Michigan for Advancing Collaborative Care Teams (MiACCT). This coalition of partner organizations focuses on the value of physician-led health care teams and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

JOINING FORCES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

the importance of medical school education in delivering quality, cost-effective care.

Senate Bill 680 was recently introduced, which would allow for full independent practice for nurse practitioners (NPs). Under the bill, NPs would be allowed to not only provide direct primary care without physician supervision, but they would also be allowed to prescribe opioids and other controlled substances. Further, the bill would require no additional training or education for NPs. MSMS and county physicians are having conversations with legislators in both houses to be included in all discussions about this bill should it begin to move forward.

Behavioral Health

Both the Michigan House and Senate recently introduced proposals that would overhaul Michigan's mental health system. While both proposals essentially eliminate pre-paid inpatient health plans (PIHPs), the Senate plan relies more on shifting that layer of managed care to private insurers, while the House plan is more so a "fee-for-service" model that attempts to allow individuals to choose the care they want with the state more directly picking up the cost.

KCMS Board doubled in size in 2021 which helps to better serve our members. The KCMS Board and staff continue to work on providing benefits that are requested by members to help in their practice. Members' input is always welcome. The KCMS Board monitors revenue and strives to operate responsibly. As part of this effort, the Board reviews financial matters regularly, making budget cuts or necessary changes and as a result, KCMS has a slightly positive balance at this time, in spite of a challenging year.

Thanks to grants by the Kent Medical Foundation, the KCMS and KCOA have partnered to hold Fireside Chats on topics including diversity and inclusion, practice concerns, and business topics.

I am very hopeful for KCMS and look forward to the upcoming year. I am proud of the care our members have provided this past year—for COVID patients and for all patients. Our members have maintained high standards of care for all patients regardless of the reason for each encounter. Kent County physicians have put their own health at risk and have continued to provide excellent health care to our community.

Stay well!

Congratulations!



ON YOUR NEW OFFICE ALONG THE EAST PARIS MEDICAL CORRIDOR!



West Michigan Orthopaedics chose First Companies, Inc.!

"First Companies is the best in the business. They navigated unexpected obstacles of the pandemic with grace and finished our project on time and under budget. The design, leadership, and project execution exceeded our expectations. I can think of no better partner than First Companies and I give them my highest recommendation."

KARL C. ROBERTS, M.D., PRESIDENT, WMAO

Real Estate, Construction & Property Management

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF

For more of our medical professional work, visit:
firstcompanies.com/construction/medical

**YOUR SPACE,
OUR BUSINESS**

www.firstcompanies.com
616.698.5000





HEAR MICHIGAN CENTERS



ATTENTION WEST MICHIGAN!

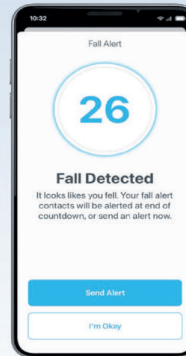
FREE HEARING TESTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS!

- MORE ANDROID CONNECTIVITY
- RECHARGEABLE LITHIUM-ION BATTERY
- UP TO 55 MILLION PERSONALIZED ADJUSTMENTS EVERY HOUR
- EASY TO USE
- MORE FEATURES:

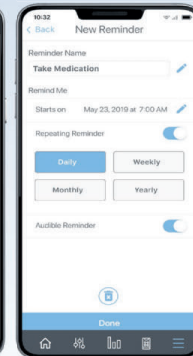


Available in rechargeable styles!

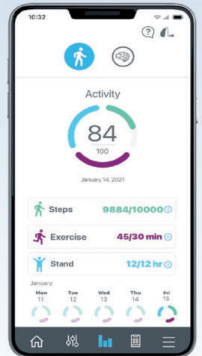
EXPERIENCE THE LATEST IN HEARING AID TECHNOLOGY!



FALL ALERT



REMINDERS



ACTIVITY TRACKER



CALL OR REGISTER ONLINE

616-607-6108

www.HearMichigan.com



Lyle Karp, B.A.
Michigan Licensed Dispenser Owner

IONIA
537 W Main St.

PORTAGE
576 Rommence Rd.
Ste. 121

GREENVILLE
709 S Greenville W
Dr Ste 101,



John Ackerman
M.A., CCC-A
Audiologist-Owner
Michigan Licensed Dispenser

HASTINGS
107 S. Jefferson St.

GRAND RAPIDS
5020 E. BELTLINE, STE. 106

GRANDVILLE
4072 CHICAGO DR.

KENTWOOD
4232 29TH ST. SE

ZEELAND
400 S State St.

LJ-SPAD1109103243

Locate Your Lost, Unclaimed Property on State Website

Have you ever felt as if you are missing something? It could be some unclaimed property! There may be money just waiting for you to claim.

The Michigan Department of Treasury has millions of dollars in lost or forgotten assets from dormant bank accounts, uncashed checks, valuables left in safe deposit boxes and stock certificates. Because these properties were considered abandoned and unclaimed by the bank or company entrusted with them, they are turned over to the state, as required by law. The Michigan Department of Treasury is the custodian of these assets and returns them to their owners (or the owners' heirs) when they are rightfully claimed.



To search the Michigan Department of Treasury's Unclaimed Property database, go to unclaimedproperty.michigan.gov/app/claim-search. Enter your last name or the name of your practice and click search.

Each property is assigned a claim number. Use that number in claiming your property. When ready to submit your claim, select "Continue to File Claim" and follow the instructions.

VARNUM'S HEALTH CARE LEGAL TEAM



Scott D. Alfree
Practice Team Chair



Chloe N. Cunningham



Ronald G. DeWard



Charyn K. Hain



Yvonne Kupfermann



Zachary J. Meyer



Sarah L. Wixson



Tier 1 Metropolitan Ranking in Health Care Law



- Physician Services
- Acquisitions/Joint Ventures
- Professional/Medical Staff Issues
- Contractual Relations
- Managed Care/Integrated Delivery Systems
- Regulatory Enforcement
- Health Care Privacy
- Bond Financing
- Certificate of Need
- Reimbursement Issues
- Government/Legislative
- Accreditation, Licensing, Certification
- Antitrust Issues
- Patient Care Issues
- Quality Assurance and Risk Management

PHYSICIANS:

Make an Impact with Your Input and Action

Medical Societies seek to improve medicine by addressing diverse opinions, concerns at MSMS House of Delegates.

Physician representatives are needed to participate in the Annual MSMS House of Delegates. Interested members from Kent County will be nominated and elected at the Annual Meeting of the Members, which is scheduled to be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Participating physicians have an impact on the future of MSMS and County Societies and how physicians practice. The MSMS House of Delegates hosts 300+ physicians from all around the state to review and research proposed Resolutions that are authored to improve various aspects of medicine. Many Michigan sponsored Resolutions have been elevated to the AMA House of Delegates.

If you are willing to participate, the Delegation is in need of Members' input and involvement for:

- Writing and suggesting Resolutions to be considered. The writing of Resolutions is done in advance, and all Resolution drafts are due on March 1.
- Attending the Annual House of Delegates meeting as a Delegate or an Alternate Delegate. The meeting of the House is held in late April.

In 2021, Kent County Medical Society was eligible to appoint a maximum of 11 Delegates, and an equal number of Alternate Delegates. Barry County and Ottawa County Medical Societies are eligible to one Delegate and one Alternate Delegate. We are hopeful that we will have as many or more Delegates and Alternate Delegates for the 2022 House of Delegates. Service is for a one-year term.

A position description of Delegate/Alternate roles and a template for Resolution writing can be found on the KCMS website: kcms.org. A couple of examples can be sent to you if you wish to see examples, and if you wish to partner with other physicians in co-authoring, please contact patricia@kcms.org. Nominations should be sent to Patricia before January 5, 2022 to add to the Annual Meeting Ballot.

The MSMS House of Delegates meeting will convene on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1 (either virtually or in-person in Kalamazoo). Involvement by Members adds to the diverse opinions and concerns and yields more success to improve medicine. Join us today or contact us if you have questions—please contact Patricia Dalton, Executive Director, at patricia@kcms.org or cell (616) 560-5336.

David Whalen, MD, MPA
Delegation Chair

In Memoriam

SANDRA P. LAST, MD

Dr. Sandra Last passed away on September 27, 2021. She was a graduate of Washington University and earned her medical degree from Wayne State University. After completing her training in radiology at New York University, Dr. Last worked for the Veteran's Administration in Washington D.C. in the early 1970s. She originally intended to move to Grand Rapids for only one year, but her talent, her determination, and her hard work earned her a permanent position at Blodgett Hospital, where she stayed until health issues forced her to retire. In addition to her commitment to her patients, Dr. Sandra Last was very active in teaching medical students and residents.



Update Your Doctors Referral Guide Listing

Maintaining an up-to-date referral guide helps the KCMS office in referring your practice and communicating with you. Please watch for your update forms being sent to your preferred mailing address via postal mail in the coming weeks. We kindly ask that you complete and return the forms at your earliest convenience.

The West Michigan Doctors Referral Guide, at www.westmichigandoctors.com, will be updated immediately and will be accessible via the KCMS website, kcms.org. If you have any questions or if you wish to update your information via phone, please call (616) 458-4157. Thank you!

Act Now! All update forms completed and returned by December 31 will be entered for a chance to win a **\$40 AMAZON GIFT CARD**.

Your

HEALTHCARE LAW FIRM

Wachler & Associates represents healthcare providers, suppliers, and other entities and individuals in Michigan and nationwide in all areas of health law including, but not limited to:

- Healthcare Corporate and Transactional Matters, including Contracts, Corporate Formation, Mergers, Sales/Acquisitions, and Joint Ventures
- Medicare, Medicaid, and Other Third-Party Payor Audits and Claim Denials
- Licensure, Staff Privilege, and Credentialing Matters
- Provider Contracts
- Billing and Reimbursement Issues
- Stark Law, Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS), and Fraud & Abuse Law Compliance
- Physician and Physician Group Issues
- Regulatory Compliance
- Corporate Practice of Medicine Issues
- Provider Participation/Termination Matters
- Healthcare Litigation
- Healthcare Investigations
- Civil and Criminal Healthcare Fraud
- Medicare and Medicaid Suspensions, Revocations, and Exclusions
- HIPAA, HITECH, 42 CFR Part 2, and Other Privacy Law Compliance

WACHLER
ASSOCIATES

wachler.com • 248.544.0888

S E R V I N G H E A L T H C A R E P R O V I D E R S F O R O V E R 3 0 Y E A R S

Tax Deductibility of Dues as a Business Expense



Contributions or gifts to the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) and Kent County Medical Society (KCMS) are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, a portion of your dues may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.



MSMS estimates that 12.6% of your 2022 dues will be nondeductible as this portion is allocable to lobbying as defined by law. If you pay for your 2022 MSMS dues prior to December 31, 2021, you may deduct up to 87.4% of that as a business expense.

KCMS estimates that 2% of your 2022 dues will be nondeductible as this portion is allocable to lobbying as defined by law. If you pay for your 2022 KCMS dues prior to December 31, 2021, you may deduct up to 98% of that as a business expense.

Reminder: Prompt payment of your dues is greatly appreciated!



Making Custom Medications Since 2001





4021 Cascade Rd. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49548
616.974.9792

www.keystonerx.com

Compounding Experts | Nationally Accredited | Pharmacist Owned & Operated

Physician Wellness Resources

Physicians take care of people each day. But who is taking care of them? In a prolonged pandemic with staff shortages, more and more physicians are suffering from stress and burnout.

Visit the KCMS website at kcms.org and check out Physician Wellness Resources. We will be adding to these resources routinely. If you have any recommendations for interesting resources and reading, please let us know at kcmsoffice@kcms.org.

Rediscover meaning, joy, and purpose in medicine!



Mandatory E-prescribing to Take Effect January 1, 2022

The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) confirmed that the date by which Michigan prescribers will be required to electronically transmit all prescriptions for controlled and non-controlled substances will be January 1, 2022.

LARA sent a [formal statement](#) to prescribers and stakeholders concerning implementation of Michigan's e-prescribing law. Several factors have contributed to the uncertainty surrounding the actual effective date:

1. [Public Act 134 of 2020](#) requires prescribers to electronically transmit prescriptions beginning October 1, 2021.
2. The federal e-prescribing mandate took effect on January 1, 2021, but CMS determined it will not enforce it at this time. Instead, they finalized an effective date of January 1, 2021, and a compliance date of January 1, 2022.
3. Federal and state statutes allow for a waiver to be issued if a prescriber cannot meet the electronic prescribing requirements under the respective governing laws. However, there is currently no ability to obtain a waiver from either the federal or state laws. Rules are promulgated by CMS and LARA, respectively, that will address the process for obtaining a waiver and related eligibility criteria. Public hearings were recently held to take comments on LARA's proposed rules and MSMS did submit a letter.
4. The proposed 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Rules recommend to further delay the federal e-prescribing date to January 1, 2023. The final 2022 Medicare PFS Rules are anticipated to be released soon.

If you would like additional background including the list of statutory exceptions in Michigan's law, click [here](#) for a MSMS *Medigram* article published in January 2021.



State Warns Physicians of Licensing Scams

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Director Orlene Hawks are alerting professionals licensed by the State of Michigan to beware of scam artists impersonating state officials in an effort to obtain personal information, or even money, from a licensee.

Attorney General Nessel has warned the public about bad actors who use legitimate government references and the threat of government action to trick individuals into taking action that facilitates theft. This warning comes after officials became aware of licensees being targeted recently and told their license was at risk if they did not comply with demands, including a payment to maintain their license with the state.

Remember! Do not reply to any suspicious emails and never provide personal information. If personal information is compromised, it may be used to commit identity theft or used in other fraud schemes.

LARA urged licensees to beware of elaborate, sophisticated scams—notably scams where callers identify themselves as LARA staffers reaching out to physicians and other licensed professionals threatening

to suspend their license. LARA would never do that. Investigators and Michigan State Police have teamed up to stop these scams, however, licensees need to be on alert to the possibility of being a targeted victim.

Last fall, several State of Michigan licensees encountered spam emails or spam websites impersonating LARA. LARA Director, Orlene Hawks notes licensees should be cautious of unsolicited requests for any of their personal information. LARA will not contact you directly asking for personal information.

- Be suspicious of any unexpected emails or links to websites. If your personal information is compromised, it may be used in other fraud schemes.
- Do not respond to—or open hyperlinks in—emails or text messages about validating your personal data.
- If there are any hyperlinks, check the URL before clicking. LARA websites will have “michigan.gov” in the URL.
- If you suspect fraud, report it immediately to LARA by calling (517) 241-0199 or by emailing BPLHelp@michigan.gov.

More details on how Michiganders can protect their personal information are available on the [Consumer Protection Team’s webpage](#).

Help Patients Manage Vaccine Information

When it comes to COVID vaccination cards, raise awareness to protect privacy and reduce counterfeits.

Many of us who read social media routinely have witnessed the very proud posts of friends and family who displayed their post-vaccine stickers or COVID-19 vaccination cards. These proud testaments may have helped encourage others to schedule their vaccine appointment, but should photos of our vaccine cards be shared on social media?

The popular new posting trend poses the question: Now what do we do with the card and how accessible should it be? The cards include the date, location and which COVID-19 vaccine the person received. Patients should be made aware of the following reminders in managing their COVID vaccine health information:

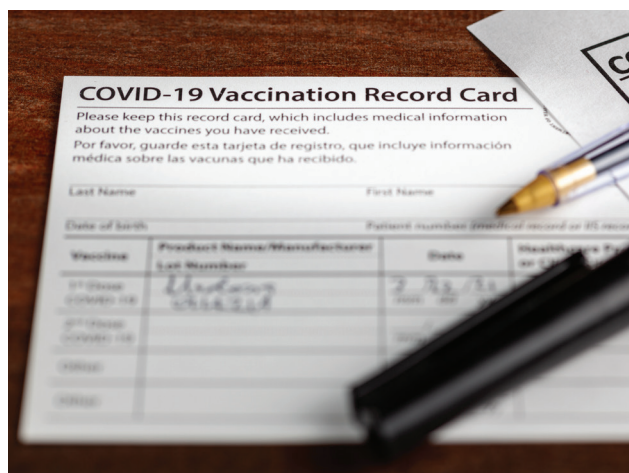
DO: Protect your personal information

- Be proud.
- Take a photocopy of just your card to keep securely with your important health info.
- Take a cell phone copy to keep securely on your phone, in case the original copy is misplaced. This also allows you to have it easily accessible.
- Let your doctors' offices know that you have been vaccinated; when; which vaccine, etc.

DON'T: Post a “selfie” of you with your card to post to social media. If you take a “selfie” with your vaccine card, keep it confidential. Counterfeit cards are easy to make, or someone could pretend to be you and copy the card—like stealing someone’s identify for credit cards or other financial information.

DO: Correct any information that is wrong

If the patient is aware of an error, anywhere on the card, they should return as soon as possible to the location of the vaccine to have the information corrected.



DO: Protect the card—BUT avoid laminating the card

If the card is kept in a wallet, be sure to slip the vaccine card in a sturdy plastic sleeve. Many pharmacies and physician offices are using these marketing tool ideas to give to patients to remind them of contact information. A plastic sandwich bag should suffice to keep the card dry and clean, but a sturdy cardboard should be used to keep the card from developing frayed edges, or wrinkles.

DON'T: Laminating the card is not a good idea. This may not be the last time you need to add to the card—there may be future boosters, another vaccine for future years, etc.

DO: Promptly replace a lost card

A card can be replaced with the assistance of your photocopy or cell phone photo—but it is difficult and time consuming to recreate. The photo taken of your card can be helpful and may expedite the process, especially if the vaccine was received at a temporary or “pop up” vaccine location such as at a church or school site.

DON'T: Delay the process—instead make it a priority to gather information to verify your information and obtain a replacement. The process may be difficult depending on your vaccine location and access. It is best to be proactive as soon as you know you need a replacement card.

DO: Share your vaccination status with all your physicians

Sharing vaccine details with all your physicians helps to confirm your electronic medical record is up to date and accurate. This information may assist in replacing a card, or confirming vaccine information, in case needed.

Understanding Licensing Changes



Updated resources are available to clarify the license requirements for medical doctors and osteopathic physicians. Changes include the new addition of three hours of implicit bias and modifications to the pain and symptom management area to include one hour of controlled substance prescribing.

A SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- **Implicit Bias:** A minimum of 3 hours every 3-year relicensing cycle. New licensees need 2 hours within the 5 years immediately preceding.
- **Medical Doctors with renewals in January 2022** need no training; renewals in 2023 need 1 hour; renewals in 2024 need 2 hours; renewals in 2025 need 3 hours. Then after, every 3-year renewal cycle will need to report 3 hours. (Any hours after June 2021 can be used for license renewal after 2022.)
- **Osteopathic Physicians with renewals in December 2021** need no training; renewals in 2022 need 1 hour; renewals in 2023 need 2 hours; renewals in 2024 need 3 hours. Then after, every 3-year renewal cycle will need to report 3 hours. (Any hours after June 2021 can be used for license renewal after 2022.)
- Training must include strategies to reduce disparities in access to and delivery of health care services and the administration of pre- and post-test implicit bias assessments. Acceptable modalities of training are a teleconference or webinar that permits live synchronous interaction, a live presentation, or an interactive online instruction. Solely recorded or archived content is not allowable, a live component is required.

Online Resources

- Live and archived programming for all of the currently required content can be found at [here](#).
- For the new resources: MDs, click [here](#): DOs click [here](#).

Updated resources are available to clarify the license requirements for medical doctors and osteopathic physicians. Changes include the new addition of three hours of implicit bias training and modifications to the pain and symptom management area to include one hour of controlled substance prescribing.

Training content must include, but is not limited to, 1 or more of the following topics:

- Information on implicit bias, equitable access to health care, serving a diverse population, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and cultural sensitivity.
- Strategies to remedy the negative impact of implicit bias by recognizing and understanding how it impacts perception, judgment, and actions that may result in inequitable decision making, failure to effectively communicate, and result in barriers and disparities in the access to and delivery of health care services.
- The historical basis and present consequences of implicit biases based on an individual's characteristics.
- Discussion of current research on implicit bias in the access to and delivery of health care services.

EDUCATION ON PAIN, SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT

- A minimum of 3 hours of continuing education every 3-year relicensing cycle.
- At least 1 of the 3 hours must include controlled substances prescribing.

KCOA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Adam T. Wolfe, DO

VICE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Hemingway, DO

DIRECTORS

Christopher Barnes, DO
Craig Bethune, DO
Christopher Glisson, DO, MS
Paul Harris, DO
Brad Irving, DO
Norm Keller, DO
Lance Owens, DO
William Sanders, DO
Jacob Stremers, DO
Laura VanderMolen, DO

MICHIGAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

PAST PRESIDENT

Jeffrey D. Postlewaite, DO

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

OF DELEGATES MICHIGAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

Craig H. Bethune, DO

MOA DELEGATION

Craig Bethune, DO
Bradley Clegg, DO
Joanne Grzeszak, DO
Bob Joyce, DO
Everett Kalcec, DO
Norman Keller, DO
Edward Lee, DO
Gary Marsiglia, DO
Jeffrey Postlewaite, DO
C. Eugene Soechtig, DO
Adam Wolfe, DO
John Wolfe, DO



Join Us

KCOA MEETINGS OF INTEREST

FEBRUARY 7, 2022

KCOA/KCMS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Virtual event | Noon

FEBRUARY 18, 2022

MOA HOUSE OF DELEGATE RESOLUTIONS DUE

APRIL 30, 2022

MOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Virtual meeting

MAY 9, 2022

KCOA/KCMS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Location to be determined | Noon

SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

KCOA/KCMS Legislative Committee

Location to be determined | Noon

Update Your Referral Guide Listing

Maintaining an up-to-date referral guide helps the KCOA office in referring your practice and communicating with you. Please watch for your update forms being sent to your preferred mailing address via postal mail in the coming weeks. We kindly ask that you complete and return the forms at your earliest convenience.

The West Michigan Doctors Referral Guide, at www.westmichigandoctors.com, will be updated immediately and will be accessible via the KCOA website, KCOA-mi.org. If you have any questions or if you wish to update your information via phone, please call (616) 458-4157. Thank you!

Act Now! All update forms completed and returned by December 31 will be entered for a chance to win a **\$40 AMAZON GIFT CARD**.



Adam Wolfe, DO
2021 KCOA President,
Board of Directors

Hopeful Holidays

As I write this update, the leaves on the trees outside are dropping quickly and we have had our first dusting of snow—an inevitable signal that the winter season is next in West Michigan. The seasons continue to change, and we continue to battle as a profession this increasingly complex pandemic.

We have learned so much and have made dramatic progress on so many fronts. Despite our progress, we continue to see high patient censuses in our hospitals, extremely busy offices managing medically complex and more unstable patients—all cause for concern in the future.

However, we have not lost (and cannot lose) hope.

My message is to bring the anticipation and excitement of continued progress for the new year. It is time to focus on nurturing ourselves and each other, starting our collective recovery from the last two years, improving our collective health leaning into 2022. It has been a very difficult 2 years. We need to appreciate and care for ourselves as physicians and help the rest of our health care team follow suit and make it to this end of the pandemic—together.

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

The holidays have always been an opportunity to look forward to future possibilities and plan. My personal and leadership goals include recognizing, embracing, and cultivating positive thoughts for our members and for the health of our community. Although a daunting task, there are key areas of focus for KCOA which will help us make progress on

our organizational goals for next year:

- Continue to work with local health leaders to clarify public health needs and resources.
- Increasingly provide health care to our underserved communities.
 - Build on the access and care provided in new delivery platforms, including Telehealth and improved efficiencies with our in-person visits.
 - Leveraging social media to broaden our reach and influence to our community.
 - Work to educate and advocate for our population in West Michigan on safety and health priorities to strengthen their health literacy.

My hope is that the coming holiday season will bring you and your families much needed respite—time to pause, reflect, recalibrate, and remind ourselves of what is important in our lives.

My hope is that the coming holiday season will bring you and your families much needed respite—time to pause, reflect, recalibrate, and remind ourselves of what is important in our lives. I continue to be grateful for the great opportunity to work together with you as physicians in our practices and in support our local hospitals for what matters: our patients, our profession, our family, and the health of the communities and region that we love so much. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming months.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season!
Adam

THIS FLU SEASON:

Share
Highlight
Address
Remind
Explain



KCOA

S.H.A.R.E. Your Flu Vaccine Recommendation

The Centers for Disease Control has developed a mnemonic device to help physicians and their staff make a strong vaccine recommendation. This method known as S.H.A.R.E. can help communicate a clear message to your patients on why flu vaccines are important—information patients can use to make informed decisions about vaccinations.

SHARE

Share why an influenza vaccine is right for the patient given his or her age, health status, lifestyle, occupation, or other risk factors.

- The vaccine can protect you and your family from getting sick from flu.
- Getting the vaccine protects yourself and vulnerable people around you—like your children and parents and others.

HIGHLIGHT

Highlight positive experiences with influenza vaccines (include your personal experience or examples from your practice), as appropriate, to reinforce the benefits and strengthen confidence in influenza vaccination.

- Our practice recommends a yearly flu vaccine.
- I get one every year.
- My family gets vaccinated.

ADDRESS

Address patient questions or concerns about influenza vaccines, including any side effects, safety, and vaccine effectiveness, in plain and understandable language.

Acknowledge that while people who get an influenza vaccine may still get sick but receiving the vaccine may lessen the severity.

- A flu vaccine cannot cause flu infection.
- Common side effects of an influenza vaccine are mild, like redness, swelling, soreness, or a low-grade fever for a flu shot—these go away within a few days.
- Flu vaccines aren't 100% effective, so you may still become sick with flu.
- Studies show that even if you do get sick, vaccination may make your flu illness less severe.

REMIND

Remind patients that influenza vaccines help protect them from serious influenza illness and complications that can result in hospitalization or even death for some people.

- It's flu season and flu activity will start to pick up.
- More cases in the coming months are expected.
- I want to help protect you (and your family) against flu and any serious complications.

EXPLAIN

Explain that avoiding potential costs related to being sick with the flu, including potential serious health effects for the patient, time lost from work, financial costs, and potentially spreading flu to more vulnerable family and friends.

- The vaccine reduces potential flu illness and doctors' visits.
- By being vigilant, you will avoid missed work and school functions.
- You are protecting yourself and family from flu-related complications.

Help Resolve Challenges in Medicine

The Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates will take place on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

The HOD will be virtual and has been moved from the traditional Spring Convention in order to adhere to the American Osteopathic Association's HOD timeline of submitting resolutions to their HOD.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions must be submitted by February 18, 2022.

The MOA relies on the support and participation of its members in shaping the health policy of tomorrow. Submitting resolutions for action directly influences the MOA advocacy agenda.

DELEGATES

Delegates to the MOA HOD must be submitted by February 18, 2022. Even if you have never served as a delegate before, the MOA welcomes you to join. Contact your component society to learn more about how you can be a delegate or submit resolutions.

WHO CAN AUTHOR AND INTRODUCE RESOLUTIONS?

Any MOA member in good standing may author a resolution; however, introduction of resolutions to the House of Delegates is limited to delegates, alternate-seated delegates, component associations, MOA Departments, Councils, or Board of Trustees. Non-delegate status members in good standing should contact their component association for assistance in identifying an appropriate channel for resolution introduction.

Tax Deductibility of Your Dues as a Business Expense

Kent County Osteopathic Association estimates that 1% of your 2022 paid membership dues will be nondeductible as this portion is related to lobbying (as defined by law). If you pay your 2022 KCOA dues prior to December 31, 2021, you may deduct up to 99% of that amount as a business expense.

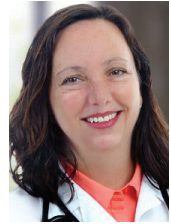
Reminder: Prompt payment of your dues is greatly appreciated!

2021

year in review

BARRY COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

Become Engaged



Belén Amat, MD
2021 President
Barry County
Medical Society

Last year challenged physicians, practices and hospitals to levels we never imagined. What we didn't see coming is that 2021 was going to test us further, at times feeling like there is no end in sight.

We all long to see family members and friends, miss concerts and sporting events. Very slowly we have started to have face to face visits with our patients, we started going to restaurants and maybe even had a chance to travel again.

This pandemic has shown the weaknesses of our medical system; therefore, I think we have an opportunity to take back medicine. We all want to get back to being physicians and taking care of our patients without so much interference, we have been trained and we have studied for years and know how to best take care of our patients. I call you to get involved in changing back medicine to what we all know is the most important: The doctor-patient relationship.

Another way to be engaged is to bring to light issues in medicine that challenge our delivery of care. The problems in medicine need to be highlighted by physicians, working together for best articulation of the issue and then suggestions to repair them. The annual MSMS House of Delegates is the place for physicians to highlight those

suggestions. The suggestions begin with a form ([Click here for Template](#)). Barry County physicians may author these Resolutions and submit by March 1, 2022. Contact me or the Kent County Medical Society office for more information on the form and the process.

I call you to get involved
in changing back medicine
to what we all know is
the most important:
The doctor-patient relationship.

We were successful this year in shaping the Prior Authorization legislation, which was a herculean task, and even though it is not perfect, it is a stepping stone for future changes. The next project is to advocate for the physician lead team. We must lead defining the medical team for our patients and for our own profession. We often hear about demoralization in our profession, and I believe if we participate in taking back medicine, it will strengthen us as a group and help us regain personal and professional satisfaction.

I look forward to meeting you personally when handshakes are allowed again. In the meantime, I wish you memorable holidays.

OTTAWA COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

OCMS Secures Your Seat At the Decision-Making Table



Bryan Huffman, MD
2021 President
Ottawa County
Medical Society

As the COVID-19 crisis continues, I want to thank all of you again for your service to our community. Whatever area of medicine you may work in, all have had been affected by COVID-19 and contributed to caring for our community. It is a great honor to be associated with such a fine group of individuals who use their training and compassion to serve others, even in the face of personal risks.

As someone who has had multiple family members affected by this virus, I personally appreciate all of the outstanding care administered by my physician colleagues and the compassionate staffs with whom we work. I know the members of our community share these thoughts and appreciation. Despite the challenges that accompany a career in modern medicine, there is no greater reward than the appreciation that accompanies caring for individuals in their times of need. I truly hope each of you has individually experienced this appreciation in this time of great reliance on our profession and found fulfillment in your work.

Throughout these recent months, your county, state, and national medical societies have been working on your behalf. Representatives from the Ottawa County Medical Society have been participating in discussions with legislators and health officials to help guide informed decisions on health policy. We have also been partnering with the Kent County Medical Society to help amplify our voice at a state level both within MSMS and the state government in Lansing. Through MSMS

we have advocated on scope of practice issues, helped to advance reforms in the maintenance of certification process, and fought to reduce the burden of prior authorizations. We continue to work on these issues and many more on your behalf in the hopes of reducing the administrative burdens placed on physicians and improving the quality of care for our patients. We thank you for your continued support through your membership and encourage your involvement with these issues and many more through active involvement with the medical society and personal interactions with your representatives in Lansing.

The annual MSMS House of Delegates meeting was a virtual meeting this past year due to COVID-19 but will be taking place in person in Kalamazoo in the spring of 2022. I have been fortunate enough to be elected Vice Speaker for the upcoming house meeting and look forward to representing our county in this role. The House of Delegates is our annual meeting in which physician

We thank you for your continued support through your membership and encourage your involvement with these issues and many more through active involvement with the medical society and personal interactions with your representatives in Lansing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

In Memoriam

The Ottawa County Medical Society mourns the loss of the following physicians who passed away in 2020 and 2021. Our thoughts are with the families of these colleagues:

VERNON L. BOERSMA, MD

Dr. Vernon Boersma passed away on June 19, 2021. He was a graduate of Hope College and earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School. Dr. Boersma served in the Navy during WWII and the Korean War. He became the first pediatrician in Ottawa and Allegan counties and was active in the community, serving on the boards of many organizations. A great supporter of Hope College, Dr. Boersma was one of the first recipients of the Most Valuable Alumni Award. He was a college physician for a number of years.

DONALD E. SIKKEMA, MD

Dr. Donald "Don" Sikkema, of Grand Haven, passed away on February 25, 2020. Dr. Sikkema graduated from

Calvin College and received his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School. He served as a Captain in the US Army (1957-1960) and as a medical missionary to Nigeria (1960-1963). He returned to the U of M Medical School to specialize in internal medicine and cardiology. He practiced medicine in Grand Haven from 1967 until he retired in 2001.

LAWRENCE R. SMITH, MD

Dr. Lawrence Smith passed away on July 9, 2020. Dr. Smith served his undergraduate at Hope College and received his medical degree from Ohio State University Medical School. He completed his internship and residency in emergency medicine at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids before becoming the first board certified ER doctor in the city of Holland. Dr. Smith established Emergency Physicians Inc. which contracted with Holland Hospital, where he practiced from 1978 to 1998. He practiced in the Holland area until his retirement in 2013.

SECURE YOUR SEAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

representatives from every county in the state meet to determine the official MSMS stance on all sorts of issues pertaining to medicine. If you have any related issues for which you would like to see change, you may present them for discussion and a vote at the House of Delegates. I would be happy to help any member with this process. We are also always interested in any member who wishes to participate as a representative of our county society at the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates is run much like a state house or the U.S. House, and I have found participation in it to be very interesting and rewarding. If you are interested in having a seat at the decision-making table, this is a great way to "be in the room where it happens."

I thank you all for your continued support of both the Ottawa County Medical Society and the Michigan State Medical Society. They remain the only organizations advocating for physicians at a local and state level.

SOLID ADVICE. REAL SOLUTIONS. FOR HEALTH CARE BUSINESS.

At The Health Law Partners, our unparalleled knowledge of the business of health care is coupled with timely, practical solutions designed to maximize value.

The HLP attorneys represent clients in substantially all areas of health law, with particular emphasis on:

- Licensure & Staff Privilege Matters
- Health Care Litigation
- Health Care Investigations
- Civil & Criminal False Claims Defense
- Stark, Anti-Kickback, Fraud & Abuse, & Other Regulatory Analyses
- Physician Group Practice Ancillary Services Integration and Contractual Joint Ventures
- Appeals of RAC, Medicare, Medicaid & Other Third Party Payor Claim Denials & Overpayment Demands
- Health Care Contractual, Corporate & Transactional Matters
- Compliance & HIPAA
- Health Care Billing & Reimbursement

HLP 
THE HEALTH LAW PARTNERS

MICHIGAN
NEW YORK

TheHLP.com [248.996.8510]



Nirali Bora, MD
Kent County
Health Department
Medical Director

Physicians Have Great Influence on Patients' Vaccine Decisions

By Brian Hartl, MPH; Nirali Bora, MD; Karla Black, PhD; and Kristin Hedges, PhD

As of September 24, 2021, Kent County was averaging 218 confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection every day. While these current numbers are not at the levels observed during previous surges, the emergence of the Delta variant along with loosened restrictions related to prevention measures (e.g. masking in high-risk settings, limits on gatherings) potentially set the stage for cases to continue to rise.

COVID-19 continues its assault on the Kent County community. As of this writing, Kent County is averaging over 300 confirmed cases a day, the positivity rate is 18.0% and hospitalizations are approaching numbers seen at the peak of the spring surge. Recent recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have expanded vaccine eligibility to those 5-11 years of age and booster doses are now available to those 65 years of age and older and those 18 years of age and older who live or work in high-risk settings or have underlying health conditions. As of November 8, 29% of the Kent County population 16 years of age and older had not yet received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Despite evidence showing that the COVID-19 vaccine is effective at reducing the risk of serious infection, hospitalization and death, many individuals remain hesitant to receive the vaccine. To better understand attitudes and concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine among local residents over 18 years old, several organizations partnered to conduct a community survey from July-October 2021. Of the 396 respondents, 28% were unvaccinated. While reasons for not becoming vaccinated varied among survey respondents, it

was clear that physicians have great influence on an individual's decision to get vaccinated.

KEY FINDINGS

People Trust Their Physicians

- Because navigating the large amounts of misinformation and disinformation surrounding COVID-19 is difficult, survey respondents continued to report that their own doctors and healthcare providers were their preferred trusted source.
- When asked where they preferred to receive educational information about the COVID-19 vaccine, 41% of community members preferred one-on-one conversations with a doctor.
- When asked about their preferred location for receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, 47% of respondents who had yet to get the vaccine stated that their preferred location would be their own doctor's office or urgent care.

Concerns About Vaccination

The following themes were reported as concerns about the vaccine and provide opportunities for physicians to use talking points to educate their patients who are hesitant to receive the vaccine.



Reproductive Health

- CDC strongly recommends the vaccine before or during pregnancy because the benefits outweigh the known risks of becoming infected with COVID-19.
- Vaccines have not been linked to infertility or miscarriages.
- Women in the clinical controlled trial became pregnant during the trial.
- Vaccines can impact menstrual cycles, however not fertility.
- Data indicate that a COVID infection can lower sperm count in men and lead to male infertility.
- Getting vaccinated can improve fertility for men and increase safety of pregnancy for women.

Side Effects

- Side effects can include injection site pain, redness, and swelling and fever, chills, and myalgias that resolve in 1-2 days.
- Other rare side effects include myocarditis, more common in boys and young men after the second dose and thrombotic thrombocytopenia in women under the age of 50 after J&J.
- Long-term side effects.
- Many people report fear of a new vaccine and discuss unknown complications.
 - *At this point we have over 6.6 billion doses given.*
- Help reorient the scale of weighing risks.

- *We do not know of any long-term side effects from the vaccine.*
- *We do know of long-term side effects of a COVID infection: lung damage, heart damage, brain damage, etc.*

The mRNA Vaccine is a New Vaccine

- While this is the first mRNA vaccine, there is decades of research supporting its development.
 - *mRNA technology has been researched for 30 years.*
- ‘m’ stands for messenger.
 - *The messenger carries the instructions of defense to the immune system.*
- The vaccine does not alter your DNA.
- The mRNA in the vaccine teaches your cells how to make copies of the spike protein, it cannot make the virus.
 - *If you are exposed to the real virus later, your body will recognize it and know how to fight it off.*

The COVID-19 vaccine is the most effective tool we have to limit the impact of this illness on our local community and eventually end the pandemic. Physicians and other health care providers in Kent County have already helped this community vaccinate over 70% of our residents. We want local physicians to recognize that they are trusted entities and that their counseling on the COVID-19 vaccines continues to make an impact on each individual and our community.



Angela Thompson-Busch, MD, PhD
Community Assistant Dean,
Grand Rapids Campus
Michigan State University
College of Human Medicine

Fall Happenings

As I look back on past KCMS entries, I see the last one that I posted before the COVID-19 pandemic was in February 2019. Since that time, every entry has discussed how COVID-19 is impacting our medical students and the curriculum. The optimistic side of me hoped that by now I wouldn't be writing about it. Alas I will start with a short COVID-19 update.

While our West Michigan health systems continue to be overwhelmed by patients with COVID-19, things are better for the medical students of MSU College of Human Medicine. We are teaching in-person instead of on Zoom. Can you imagine anatomy class on Zoom? Four-hour didactic sessions on red blood cell abnormalities on Zoom? We can't see complete faces since we are all masked, but we have much better interactive didactics.

The students have returned to busy clinical experiences and feel valued as a helpful part of the medical care team. They are learning a ton about triaging, bed space and caring for patients in a complex time. The Grand Rapids based students have all been vaccinated and are getting boosters for this fall. We absolutely support the use of vaccines for children and adults in an effort to save lives.

On a different note, the College of Human Medicine is in the midst of a search for a new Dean. Aron Sousa, MD, has done an amazing job as the interim dean after Dr. Norman Beauchamp took on the role of MSU executive vice president for health sciences in October

2019. Dean Sousa has given us weekly updates on COVID-19, and MSU policies and successes through [town halls](#) and [Dean's Updates](#). I cannot imagine the amount of work that it has taken him and others to keep our medical school functioning during this pandemic. There will be big shoes to fill, but it will be important for the college to have someone in a permanent position as the Dean.

The students have returned to busy clinical experiences and feel valued as a helpful part of the medical care team.

In other news, we continue to take diversity, equity and inclusion seriously, and place this as one of our most important efforts. Dr. Lisa Lowery is helping Dr. Wanda Lipscomb lead the way. Dr. Lowery is the assistant dean for diversity and cultural Initiatives, while Dr. Lipscomb is senior associate dean for diversity and inclusion. Together they are building a more inclusive place for the students both within the walls of the Secchia Center, in the clinical settings and in the community. I am confident that their efforts in West Michigan will lead to a better community within which to practice medicine.

As a closing, please stay safe and well. Please consider getting the vaccine, if not for yourself then for others.



KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION



Brian Janssen
2021 Kent Medical
Foundation, Board Chair

Supporting KCMSA Alliance

The Kent Medical Foundation made a grant to the to the Kent County Medical Society Alliance and its Lab Coats & Libations fundraiser.



KMF Board member Alexis Boyden, second from the left, volunteered at the Lab Coats & Libations fundraiser.



KMF Board member Debbie Schumaker, volunteered to help raise money for KCMSA Alliance initiatives and grants.

KMF

Consider Supporting KMF, KCMS Alliance with Donation

Charitable giving is an important part of the legacy you choose to leave. At this time of year, many of us are considering our year-end philanthropic support. Please consider one of the non-profit charitable organizations associated with Kent County Medical Society. Checks should be endorsed to the specific agency you wish to support:

- Kent Medical Foundation**
- KCMS Alliance Foundation**

MAIL YOUR DONATION TODAY

C/O Kent County Medical Society Office
233 East Fulton, Suite 224; Grand Rapids, MI 49503.
Organization specified in your donation will issue a charitable receipt.

For more information on charitable giving, please contact KCMS at (616) 458-4157.

As 501(c)(3) organizations, your gift is tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Did you know that, making charitable contributions through your will allows you to support the organizations you care about, while maximizing the tax benefits to your estate. You may make a bequest to any of these charities as well. You may also do so by creating a new will, providing an amendment to your existing will or naming one of them in your living trust.

To include a charitable contribution in your will simply use the following sample language:

“I give, devise, and bequeath _____ [\$ amount] or [% of estate] _____ to _____ (charity).”



KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION

Holiday Card CAMPAIGN

SHARE YOUR HOLIDAY WISHES

WHILE HELPING THE KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Contribute to this annual campaign and your name will be listed among other donors who have helped make the annual Holiday Card possible!

CONTRIBUTIONS

Holiday Card Campaign Gifts received by November 28 will be included in the annual Holiday Card, which will be mailed the first week in December. You can contribute in two ways:

CHECK

Please make check payable to Kent Medical Foundation. Complete donor form at right and mail to:

Kent Medical Foundation
233 East Fulton, Suite 224
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



ONLINE VIA PAYPAL

Go to www.kcms.org/kmf or simply scan this QR code.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Kent Medical Foundation at 616-458-4157.



KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION

Holiday Card CAMPAIGN

DONOR REGISTRATION

YES! Count me/us in to continue the mission to assist The Kent Medical Foundation in community outreach endeavors and health promotion projects. Please find my/our check enclosed for the following amount (contribution amounts are NOT disclosed on the card):

\$1,000 \$750 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$_____ Please keep my donation anonymous.

Please print your name(s) below exactly as you would like to be presented on the Holiday Card insert.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please return to: Kent Medical Foundation | 233 East Fulton, Suite 224 | Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Contributions are tax deductible.



KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION

Holiday Card CAMPAIGN

IN GRATITUDE

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FOR ALLOWING THE KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION BOARD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS. THE FOLLOWING GRANTS WERE MADE TO DATE IN 2021:

Autism Support of Kent County \$300

KMF supported the annual community awareness walk coordinated by the Autism Support of Kent County (ASK) organization, a local resource for education and support of families and individuals on the autism spectrum.

Exodus Place \$1,000

Exodus Place is a resource for men who are in the fight of their life against homelessness, addiction, and financial instability. Program assists in rapid re-housing, rehabilitation and personal development for anyone facing hardship.

Feeding America West Michigan \$2,500

This grant enables Feeding America to distribute nutrition-education packets in Kent County schools to encourage healthy diets and nutrition. Packets contain books, activity sheets, cutting boards, pencils, erasers, stickers to provide children with the means and confidence to make healthy food choices.

KCMS & KCOA Diversity and Inclusion Series \$2,000

Kent Medical Foundation supports the important, continued discussions on diversity and inclusion topics for physicians and office teams.

KCMS Alliance \$250

Sponsorship of the Lab Coats and Libations event raising funds and awareness for the Kent County Medical Society Alliance Foundation and their support for many local organizations and programs.

KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian F. Janssen
President

Paul Nicholson
Vice President

Deborah Shumaker
Treasurer

Alexis Boyden
Trustee

Jayne E. Courts, MD
Trustee

Sandy Dettmann, MD
Trustee

Thank You for Your Support

The Trustees of the Kent Medical Foundation know there is competition for your generosity. It is hoped that you will continue to support the efforts of the Kent Medical Foundation and its grant making efforts.

The Kent Medical Foundation welcomes grant applications from local non-profits and health organizations that work to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. Contact Executive Director for more information and granting timelines at patricia@kcms.org.



heartbeat



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Finally! We were able to hold Lab Coats & Libations, our KCMSA Foundation's oft postponed fundraiser! It was the first opportunity in a long time to raise funds for our grant program that has benefited so many worthwhile projects and causes in Grand Rapids. This low-key event—no new ball gowns were necessary—raised over \$25,000. The nearly 100 people in attendance enjoyed themselves tasting Perrin Brewing Company's beers and sampling food pairings by Katie's Cuisine. A special thank you to our sponsors Advanced Radiology Services, Spectrum Health, Harvest Wealth Advisors, Kent Medical Foundation, and Urology Associates of Grand Rapids, as well as the many volunteers and donors who helped make the event possible.

Suhair Muallem and Nancy Fody,
KCMSA Co-Presidents

Follow Us!



INSTAGRAM
@kcmsalliance



FACEBOOK
@kcmsalliance



YOUTUBE
www.kcmsalliance.org

fall calendar

- December** **Peanut Butter Collection for Feeding America in December**
Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram accounts for details about drop off spots.
- December 1** **FUNdraiser: Dine at Olive's Restaurant**
A percentage of proceeds from lunch and dinner will go to our Foundation this day. Mention the KCMS Alliance when you get your bill.
- December 9** **Holiday Open House**
Members and prospective members will gather and celebrate the holiday season together. For details, email president@kcmsalliance.org.

Foundation Spotlight

This quarter, the Kent County Medical Society Alliance Foundation gave over \$5,000 to the following programs:

- "Partner in Play" family sponsorship for the Children's Healing Center. Funds sponsor a family for a year of services at the center.
- Document Shredding Program for Beyond26. Funds enabled them to purchase a shredder and air purifier. This program provides employment for adults with disabilities.

KCMS Alliance Event Recap fall 2021

September 7

Membership Meeting

Members gathered at Roanoke Ranch to tour the facility and pet the horses, and then conducted a brief business meeting following. The mission of Roanoke Ranch is helping at-risk youth gain confidence and self-esteem through working with horses.



September 9

Gavel Club Luncheon

Past presidents gathered at member Alexis Boyden's home to catch up and share highlights from their year as president. After missing last year due to the pandemic, it was wonderful to be able to gather in person!



October 9-10

North Central States Regional Meeting

A couple of our members attended the American Medical Society Alliance's regional meeting in St. Louis, MO this year where they learned about the challenges in healthcare today, Stop the Bleed program, and shared leadership practices.



Connor Kloplic of Perrin Brewing Company explains the differing beers we tasted.

October 19

Book Club: "Deacon King Kong" by James McBride

Members gathered on the Schuler Books outdoor patio for lunch and discussion of this riveting novel set in 1969 about life in the Brooklyn projects.



Emcee Michelle McKormick of WLAV kicks off the Live Auction with flair!



Melissa Block of the Children's Healing Center shares the impact the Alliance Foundation has had on the families they serve.

November 4

Lab Coats & Libations Fundraiser

Nearly 100 people came out to support our Foundation and its mission to support the health needs of our community through our grant program for nonprofit organizations.

MSMS Offering On-Demand Webinars

The MSMS Foundation has a library of on-demand webinars available, many of which are free, making it easy for physicians to participate at their convenience to meet their educational needs. Click [here](#) for full course details or to register. Once registered, you will receive an email within 15 minutes with links to watch the on-demand webinar and to complete the survey evaluation. Here are some of the webinars offered:

WEBINARS THAT MEET BOARD OF MEDICINE REQUIREMENTS

- A Day of Board of Medicine Renewal Requirements
- Human Trafficking
- Medical Ethics—Conscientious Objection among Physicians
- Medical Ethics—Confidentiality: An Ethical Review
- Medical Ethics—Decision Making Capability
- Medical Ethics—Eliminating Disparities in Health Care What Can You Do?
- Medical Ethics—Just Caring: Physicians and Non-Adherent Patients
- Medical Ethics—Racial Disparities in Maternal Morbidity and Mortality: A Persisting Crisis
- Medical Ethics—Reclaiming the Borders of Medicine: Futility, Non-Beneficial Treatment, and Physician Autonomy
- Pain and Symptom Management:
 - *Naloxone Prescribing*
 - *Tapering Off Opioids*
 - *Pain and Symptom Management, and Balancing Pain Treatment and Legal Responsibilities*

GRAND ROUNDS SERIES

- A Review of COVID-19 Variants
- Coronavirus Relief—Overview and Updates
- CURES Act—What is Information Blocking and How Do I Comply?
- Cyber Preparedness & Response for Medical Practices
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (Intimate Partner Violence)
- Federal Information Blocking Rules
- Henry Ford Health System COVID-19 Requirement for Employees
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Update from New Director Elizabeth Hertel
- Navigating the No Surprises Act
- Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Region 1

- Update on COVID-19 from Joneigh Khaldun, MD, Chief Medical Executive

MONDAY NIGHT MEDICINE SERIES

- Practicing Wisely—Save 2 Hours Each Day
- Creating a Manageable Cockpit for Clinicians
- 100% Virtual Collaborative Care for Behavioral Health Outcomes
- “Then when you know better, do better.” Next Steps in the Journey of Dismantling Systemic Racism Within Health Care and Beyond
- Implicit Bias and Racial Disparities

A TEAM BASED APPROACH TRAINING MODULES

- Module 1: How to Develop a Pharmacist-Physician Collaboration
- Module 2: Medication Therapy Management Reimbursement and ROI

OTHER WEBINARS

- 24th Annual Conference on Bioethics
- Coding Update for 2021
- Evaluation Management Updates for 2021
- Health Care Providers' Role in Screening and Counseling for Interpersonal and Domestic Violence: Dilemmas and Opportunities
- HEDIS Best Practices
- In Search of Joy in Practice: Innovations in Patient Centered Care
- Integrating Pharmacists into Practice: The Missing Link for Comprehensive Medication Therapy Management
- Legalities and Practicalities of HIT—Cyber Security: Issues and Liability Coverage
- Legalities and Practicalities of HIT —Engaging Patients on Their Own Turf: Using Websites and Social Media
- Medical Marijuana Law

Questions? Please contact Beth Elliott at (517) 336-5789 or belliot@msms.org.