



Bulletin

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

SUMMER 2021

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



*Speaking up and speaking out
to reduce the noise and contribute
to harmony in health care.*

HOUSE of Delegates

PAGES 6-9 & PAGES 17-19

PAGE 10
New MSMS Board Members

PAGE 12
CRNA Bill

PAGE 24
Health Department Statistics

Contents

SUMMER 2021 • Vol. 106, No. 2



How should the practice of medicine be repaired, improved, or simply tweaked to help you in your work? With your finger on the pulse of health care in West Michigan, you're uniquely qualified to be part of the solution—participate in the House of Delegates.

KCMS

In Memoriam	3
Meetings of Interest	4
President's Message	5

COLLABORATION

Health Care Employer Compliance with State, Federal Workplace Standards	13
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KCOA

Meetings of Interest	15
President's Message	16

Cover Photo

The House of Delegates is the official policy-making body of the Michigan State Medical Society. Resolutions are used to debate and determine the policies, priorities, and direction of MSMS.

CONTRIBUTORS

21	Kent Medical Foundation
22	Alliance Heartbeat
24	Kent County Health Department
27	MSU - College of Human Medicine

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



BULLETIN

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In Memoriam

RICHARD ILKA, MD

Dr. Richard Ilka passed away on March 23, 2021. Dr. Ilka attended Wayne State University. After graduation, he joined the Navy. Facing the draft for service in Vietnam, he attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, and was sent to the Naval Academy as a math professor. He attended medical school at Stanford Medical School and continued his studies at Westminster Medical School in London, England and at Cambridge University. Dr. Ilka received his MPH degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. He became a surgery intern at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda and was certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine in Occupational and Environmental Health.

Coming to Grand Rapids in 1993, Dr. Ilka joined Butterworth Occupational Health and directed four of their facilities. In 1994, he formed Corporate Occupational Health for consulting and doing independent medical exams. He obtained certification to perform required medical exams for pilots for their FAA licensure, which he continued until the end of 2020. During all these years Dr. Ilka stayed with the Navy and was called up to serve as a Battalion Surgeon, US Marine Corps to be the Commanding Officer of the Navy medical detachment in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm.

In 1993, Dr. Ilka served as the Commanding Officer at the Grand Rapids Reserve Center for four years, retiring as Commander, Medical Corps, US Navy in October 1997.

VINCENT J. TURCOTTE, JR., MD

Dr. Vincent Turcotte, Jr., MD, passed away on April 28, 2021. Dr. Turcotte graduated from De La Salle Collegiate in Detroit and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his medical degree from Wayne State University. After completing his internship at the University of Chicago, he returned to Ann Arbor for his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Michigan. He went on to complete his cardiology fellowship, also at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Turcotte, who began his private practice in cardiology and internal medicine with Western Michigan Internal Medicine Associates in 1963, was known for his pioneering work in interventional cardiology in Western Michigan.

During his career, Dr. Turcotte served as Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, School of Human Medicine, Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan; Chief of Staff at Blodgett Memorial Medical Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1991-1992; President, Kent County Heart Unit; and Chair of the Kent County Medical Society's Physicians Recovering Committee. Following his long and successful career as a clinical cardiologist, Dr. Turcotte went on to serve as Medical Director of Medical Staff Quality Improvement at Blodgett Memorial Medical Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan, from 1993-2000.

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KCMS MEETINGS OF INTEREST

ONLINE CALENDAR

GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ON KCMS EVENTS

Please check out the events page at www.kcms.org.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

KCMS/KCOA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Location to be determined | Noon

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

KCMS/KCOA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Location to be determined | Noon

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



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Check Your Online Referral Guide Information

Have you updated your West Michigan Doctor Referral Guide listing? If you have yet to do so, please visit www.WestMichiganDoctors.com and check to be sure your listing information is up to date. Contact the office at (616) 458-4157 or kcmsoffice@kcms.org with any changes.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Gerald Lee, MD
2021 KCMS President

Organized Medicine Remains Vigilant to Improve the Environment for Physicians

During the initial part of each year, much of the focus of the Board and the Kent (Ottawa, Barry) Delegation is on the House of Delegates and MSMS resolutions. While this takes time and has looked very different these past two years, the work is essential for the good of our patients and our fellow physicians. Each day as you go about your routine, do you think about what frustrates you, complicates your work, or creates a barrier for your patients?

I encourage each member to think about this and then think of potential resolutions to improve the situation and become part of the solution. Too often we become complacent and complain or wait for someone else to fix the problem. Are you familiar with the current issues such as scope of practice, billing issues and prior authorizations? Once issues are passed thru the legislature if no one decides to enforce the new laws such as Maintenance of Certification (MOC), we as a group need to hold others responsible. There is power to speak as a group in organized medicine versus speaking as a group of individuals.

The Michigan State Medical Society House of Delegates incorporates the input, suggestions and sometimes, debate of our colleagues who are collectively working to improve our profession for both patients and physicians (current and future). So while you may not be able to attend, you may certainly provide your input that others can submit — all while working to improve our time in serving patients.

This past year has shown how important it is to approach medical challenges as a collective body. One just has to look at problems in places like India and Brazil to appreciate what we have accomplished in West Michigan.

Medicine continues to change, not only reimbursement and outside corporate forces but even down to types of visits that physicians offer. We need to meet the patients where they are. For many of us change is difficult. Ten years ago, I was not sure I could survive electronic medical

records. We all work in our own little space and are so busy that we do not have the time to notice what is going on around us. This is where organized medicine can help but only if we all contribute. We need to look not only at how potential laws would impact us and our practices, but how they affect our fellow physicians. Not so different than when Ben Franklin said “we will hang together or surely we will hang

individually.” No doubt health care costs are going up to rapidly. How can we do more with less? What can we learn from others?

We look forward to hearing from you, as KCMS members, on how you believe the practice of medicine in West Michigan (and in Michigan), should be repaired, improved, or simply tweaked, to help you in your work. Unhappiness in trying to balance demanding issues mentioned above, does contribute to physician burnout and stress. Physicians need to speak up and speak out to reduce the noise and instead, contribute to harmony.

“We will hang together
or surely we will hang
individually.”

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

2021 House of Delegates Report

The following Resolutions were introduced by David Whalen, MD, Regional Delegation Chair on behalf of the Kent, Ottawa and Barry County Delegations. Authors and Delegates, and Alternate Delegates are thanked for their time during the last two House of Delegates' sessions which were held virtually.

Resolutions originally proposed in 2020 were re-submitted for consideration in 2021. The Resolutions chosen to be reviewed for 2020 and 2021 from the Kent, Ottawa and Barry County Delegations are reviewed in final form below. The entire listing of final MSMS 2021 Resolution Results and a recording of the meeting can be found on the MSMS website: <https://www.msms.org/About-MSMS/House-of-Delegates>.

30-20 - Promote NBPAS as Board Recertification in Michigan

Author: Rose Ramirez, MD

House Action: Reaffirm

RESOLVED: That MSMS actively lobby hospitals and insurers about the rational approach to board recertification that National Board of Physicians and Surgeons can provide for maintenance of certification.

31-20 - Bring Insurance Credentialing into Legal Compliance on Maintenance of Certification

Author: Megan Edison, MD

House Action: Refer

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with Michigan health insurance companies to change credentialing requirements to be in compliance with Public Act 487 of 2018, by requiring only initial board certification for the credentialing of in-network physicians specializing in family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS pursue legal action against Michigan health insurance companies that refuse to work with MSMS to bring the health insurance company's credentialing requirements into legal compliance with Public Act 487 of 2018 and continue to discriminate against family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatric physicians for not participating in or purchasing a maintenance of certification product.

39-20 - End Time Limited Board Certification

Authors: Megan Edison, MD and David Whalen, MD

House Action: Reaffirm

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to call for an end to time-limited American Board of Medical Specialties and American Osteopathic Association board certification; thereby, ending discrimination against time-limited board-certified physicians, and

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to allow the purchase and participation of any proprietary continuing board certification or maintenance of certification or osteopathic continuous certification product to be a voluntary process for all board-certified physicians; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to call on the American Board of Medical Specialties and the American Osteopathic Association to make continuing board certification or maintenance of certification or osteopathic continuous certification a voluntary process separate from initial certification; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) work with the American Board of Medical Specialties and the American Osteopathic Association to ensure that initial board certification remain as a time-unlimited, earned marker of academic competency, and should not be nullified for not participating in or purchasing the maintenance of certification product.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

2021 HOUSE OF DELEGATES REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

10-21 - Financial Impact and Fiscal Transparency of the American Medical Association Current Procedural Terminology Program

Patrick Droste, MD and Megan Edison, MD

House Action: Approve

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) request that our AMA study and report the financial impact of the new 2021 CPT® Evaluation and Management coding system upon physicians, among all specialties, in private and employed practices; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA to publicly disclose all revenue generated by the proprietary CPT® program in a transparent fashion, including but not limited to licensing fees, royalties, electronic health record fees, government and institutional licensing fees, handbooks, training programs, coding apps, and print-based coding resources in a yearly report.

15-21 - Electronic Prescribing Waiver for Michigan's Free Clinics

Author: Michelle M. Condon, MD

House Action: Amend

RESOLVED: That MSMS supports the Free Clinics of Michigan in asking the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Michigan Board of Pharmacy to change the initial proposed language of Michigan Administrative Code Section R, 338.3162a (5) (a)(v), not yet posted for public comment, to allow a waiver for non-profit charitable medical clinics excusing them from being required to submit all prescriptions for non-controlled substances to pharmacies in electronic form.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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2021 HOUSE OF DELEGATES REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

16-21 - Medicaid Dialysis Policy for Undocumented Patients

Authors: Michelle M. Condon, MD, FACP and David Whalen, MD

House Action: Approve

RESOLVED: That MSMS ask the State of Michigan to develop a dialysis policy for undocumented patients with end stage kidney disease as an emergency condition covered under Medicaid; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask the AMA to work with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and other state Medicaid programs to develop a dialysis policy for undocumented patients with end stage kidney disease as an emergency condition covered under Medicaid.

AMA Action – June '21 Special Meeting

Adopted as amended to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association work with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and state Medicaid programs to cover scheduled outpatient maintenance dialysis for undocumented patients with end stage kidney disease under Emergency Medicaid.

18-21 - Medical and Dental Care for Prisoners

Author: Patrick J. Droste, MD

House Action: Approve

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with the Michigan Department of Corrections to establish viable and effective protocols to allow prisoners to present their medical concerns and receive timely responses to their request for medical and dental care; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS support the development of a Review Board, composed of correctional officials, medical professionals such as physicians, nurses, or physician assistants and prisoners, to review inmates concerns regarding medical and dental diagnosis and treatment.

02-21 - Vision Qualifications for Driver's License

Author: Patrick J. Droste, MD, as Delegate to Michigan Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons

House Action: Refer

RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) urge our AMA to engage with stakeholders including, but not limited to, the American Academy of Ophthalmology, National Highway Traffic Safety Commission, and interested state medical societies, to make recommendations on standardized vision requirements and cognitive testing, when applicable, for unrestricted and restricted driver's licensing privileges; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS work with the American Medical Association (AMA) in any efforts by our AMA to seek stakeholder engagement to address standardized vision requirements and cognitive testing, when applicable, for unrestricted and restricted driver's licensing privileges. MSMS shall communicate any resulting recommendations to the Michigan Secretary of State legislative liaison, Michigan legislators serving on committees with oversight of transportation issues, and other stakeholders as appropriate.

MSMS HOUSE OF DELEGATES

West Michigan Delegations Plan Together

Thank you to the Region 5 (Barry and Kalamazoo Counties) and Region 8 (Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon Counties) Delegates who served on the 2021 Delegation. Under the leadership of Delegation Chair, David Whalen, MD, the Delegates attended various pre-House of Delegates events which were held, encouraging explanation of Resolutions.



Region 8 Directors, Anita Avery, MD, Kent County, MSMS Board Chair and Brian Stork, MD, Muskegon County, facilitated the virtual Regional Directors' Update on April 12. Dr. Avery was recognized for her years of service to MSMS Board and Members as Regional Director for Region 8. Thomas Veverka, MD of Saginaw County attended the meeting as a Candidate for President-Elect, MSMS.

Thank You Delegates of Region 5, Region 8

Dr. David Whalen, Delegation Chair, led the team of volunteer Delegates and Alternate Delegates serving Kent, Ottawa, Barry County Medical Societies' participating in the 154th meeting of the Michigan State Medical Society House of Delegates meeting.

KENT COUNTY DELEGATES

- Michelle Condon, MD
- Megan Edison, MD
- Eric Larson, MD
- Gerald Lee, MD
- Rose Ramirez, MD
- Brian Roelof, MD
- Adam Rush, MD
- John VanSchagen, MD

- David Whalen, MD
- Phillip Wise, MD
- Alternates**
- John Beernink, MD
- Patrick Droste, MD, MS
- John O'Donnell, MD

OTTAWA COUNTY DELEGATE

- Bryan Huffman, MD
- Alternate**
- Ned Fody, MD

BARRY COUNTY DELEGATION

- Belén Amat, MD, Region 5 Director
- Natalia DiPaola, MD, Barry County Delegate

Area Leaders Elected to MSMS Board

At the Annual Meeting of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) Board of Directors, the following West Michigan Leaders were elected to serve as representatives from Kent, Ottawa, Barry County Medical Societies. The virtual meeting was held on May 1st and welcomed over 100 members who logged in. MSMS Board members represent regions, or are elected officers, or represent factions in the business of medicine, and there are sections for young physicians, residents, and medical students that have elected representation on the MSMS Board.

ERIC L. LARSON, MD

Eric L. Larson, MD, of Kent County Medical Society, is an anesthesiologist with Anesthesia Practice Consultants, PC and KCMS Board Members, will serve a three-year term on the MSMS Board representing physicians from Ionia, Kent, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, and Ottawa counties.

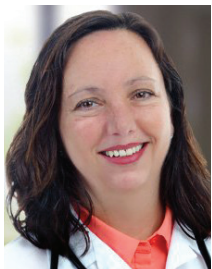


Dr. Larson is a graduate of the Iowa School of Medicine and is a board-certified anesthesiologist.

He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. He has been a member of the KCMS since 2008, and served as the KCMS President in 2018.

BELÉN AMAT, MD

Belén Amat, MD, a member of both Barry and Kent County Medical Societies is currently serving as the President-Elect of the KCMS Board of Directors. She has been a member of the KCMS since 2017.



Doctor Amat is the founder and owner of Direct Primary Care of West Michigan, an independent practice she started in 2017. The

practice utilized the direct primary care model, allowing Doctor Amat to focus on providing increased access and quality time to the patients she serves. Board certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, Doctor Amat is also a member of the American College of Physicians, the American Association for Physician Leadership, the American Academy of Pediatrics.

PHILLIP G. WISE, MD, FACS

Phillip G. Wise, MD, FACS, a long-time member of the KCMS since 2001 and Grand Rapids urologist, was elected to a one-year term as Speaker of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) House of Delegates. He is a Past President of the KCMS, serving in 2013.



Doctor Wise is a graduate of the University of Southern California School of Medicine. He is certified by the American Board of Urology

and was fellowship trained in male reproduction medicine and surgery at the University of Baylor School of Medicine.

BRYAN W. HUFFMAN, MD

Bryan W. Huffman, MD, President of the Ottawa County Medical Society, was elected to a one-year term as Vice Speaker of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) House of Delegates. Dr. Huffman is an Ophthalmologist with Sight Eye Clinic in Zeeland.



Doctor Huffman is a West Michigan native and attended the University of Michigan Medical School and then returned to West Michigan in 2005. Bryan is a diplomat of the American Board

of Ophthalmology, and also serves as a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons, and the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

New Leadership of MSMS Elected

Representatives from Genesee and Saginaw County Medical Societies will lead MSMS for the 2021-2022 season.

PINO D. COLONE, MD

Pino D. Colone, MD an Emergency Medicine Specialist practicing at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, was voted President of the Michigan State Medical Society by the MSMS House of Delegates at the Annual House of Delegates meeting on May 1, 2021.



Doctor Colone, a board-certified emergency physician who earned his medical

degree from the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and completed his residency at the University of Michigan. Doctor Colone also serves as the Vice Chair of the American Medical Association's Council on Constitution & Bylaws, on the Genesee County Medical Society Board of Directors, and is a member of the Michigan College of Emergency Physicians.

THOMAS J. VEVERKA, MD

Thomas J. Veverka, MD, a Saginaw general surgeon, was elected as President-Elect to the Michigan State Medical Society Board of Directors.



Doctor Veverka, received his medical degree from the University of Minnesota. He is a trauma and general surgeon at MidMichigan Medical Center Midland. Prior to MidMichigan Medical

Center Midland, he was in independent practice in Saginaw for 18 years where he was active in surgical resident and medical student education. He has been active in physician leadership including President of the Saginaw County Medical Society and multiple positions at St. Mary's in Saginaw including the inaugural Medical Director of Trauma.

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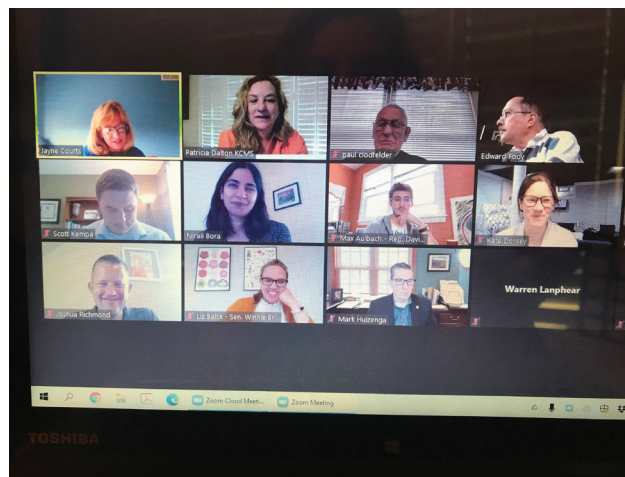


Physicians from Partnering Societies Meet with Legislators

We would like to thank all of our physician members and local legislators who joined us for our first Legislative Committee meeting of the year via Zoom.

As we seek to recover from the events of this past year while simultaneously working to control and prevent further infections, it is critically important that our policymakers work to preserve the ability of physicians to deliver care to patients.

Join your colleagues from all around Kent, Ottawa and Kalamazoo counties to speak with your legislators and communicate the right health policy solutions for you and your patients! If you are interested in joining the KCMS/



Local Medical Societies in West Michigan partnered to meet with respective Legislators representing Kent, Barry, Ottawa, Kalamazoo, and Muskegon.

KCOA/OCMS Legislative Committee, call 616-458-4157 or email kcmsoffice@kcms.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Please save the date for the next Legislative Committee meeting to be held on **Monday, September 13 at noon.**

PHYSICIANS' VOICES HEARD

Update on Scope of Practice HB 4359

On June 24, 2021, the Michigan House of Representatives successfully concurred with the Senate-passed version of House Bill 4359 after MSMS, working alongside the Michigan Society of Anesthesiologists, secured substantial changes to the original House-passed version of the bill last week on the Senate floor. The most significant change was ensuring a doctor is not only part of a patient care team, but also must be immediately available when a procedure is taking place. The new language requires training for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs), prohibits a CRNA from practicing without physician supervision at a pain clinic, and clarifies that CRNAs are not allowed to practice independently. The bill now moves to the Governor's desk for final signature.

When House Bill 4359 was introduced just over four months ago, the bill would have allowed CRNAs to provide anesthesia care without any supervision, input, or collaboration with a physician. The bill also had no

minimum requirements for training or education of CRNAs. The language added by the Senate specifically addressed many of these issues, ultimately helping to protect patients. While the final version of House Bill 4359 is still not perfect, this is a massive step from what was once a bill allowing complete independence for CRNAs. These significant changes would not have been made possible without the advocacy work that county societies and county physicians did to reach out to their senators.

The House and Senate is scheduled to begin their summer in-district work period on Friday, July 2. Therefore, legislative activity will be limited until the Legislature returns to Lansing for session in the fall.

The KCMS/KCOA Legislative Committee will meet on Monday, September 13 at Noon. Members' participation is always welcome.

Health Care Employer Compliance with State, Federal Workplace Standards

Due to the increased COVID-19 vaccination rates in Michigan and across the United States, many Michigan and federal agencies have amended or updated their COVID-19 workplace guidelines, standards and rules. MSMS provided a summary of these changes, as they apply to health care employers:

As summarized below, the workplace rules for health care employers have changed and are now primarily addressed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (“ETS”). Importantly, OSHA’s ETS incorporates various CDC recommendations. Although OSHA’s ETS exempts certain qualifying health care employers from its workplace provisions, all physicians and other providers of health care services (whether or not exempted under OSHA’s ETS) should continue following CDC recommendations when treating patients, including its screening and facemask recommendations. Consistent with this, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (“MDHHS”) published facemask recommendations on June 22, 2021. Relative to health care facilities, such as hospitals, ambulatory care settings (including medical practice offices) and surgical centers, the MDHHS facemask recommendations state that “As of now CDC health care guidance remains unchanged. Facilities should continue to follow CDC guidance.”

Effective June 21, 2021, OSHA’s Emergency Temporary Standard (“ETS”) requires covered health care employers which are not excluded from the ETS, to continue to do the following:

- Implement a COVID-19 plan for each workplace;
- Designate one or more COVID-19 safety coordinators;
- Conduct a workplace-specific hazard assessment;
- Implement policies and procedures to determine employees’ vaccination status;
- Limit and monitor points of entry in settings where direct patient care is provided;
- Screen and triage all clients, patients, residents, and other visitors entering the setting where direct patient care is provided;
- Ensure that facemasks are worn by all non-vaccinated employees;
- Ensure that all non-vaccinated employees are



separated by six feet of physical distance where feasible;

- Install barriers at fixed work locations outside of direct patient care areas where each non-vaccinated employee is not separated by at least six feet of distance from all other people;
- Screen all employees before each day of work and/or shift;
- Notify employees of COVID-19 exposures in the workplace (except where services are normally provided to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients);
- Implement removal policies for employees who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19;
- Provide medical removal protection benefits to those employees quarantined or in isolation, of up to \$1,400 per week, until the employee meets return to work criteria (this does not apply to employers with 10 or fewer employees);
- Implement training requirements; and
- Implement record-keeping procedures.

NOTE: OSHA’s ETS does not apply to non-health care employers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

HEALTH CARE EMPLOYER COMPLIANCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

MINI RESPIRATOR PROTECTION PROGRAM

In addition, the OSHA ETS provides a Mini Respirator Protection Program applicable to respirator use when such use is not specifically required by OSHA. While the ETS does not directly require health care employers to require patients or visitors to wear a facemask, the ETS does incorporate by reference the CDC's COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations. This incorporated CDC guidance recommends health care facilities advise patients to wear source control before entering the facility and further provides that source control measures are recommended for everyone in a health care facility. Importantly, the ETS's requirements for health care employers do not apply to any of the following:

- The provision of first aid by an employee who is not a licensed health care provider;
- The dispensing of prescriptions by pharmacists in retail settings;
- Non-hospital ambulatory care[1] settings where all non-employees are screened prior to entry and people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not permitted to enter those settings;
- Well-defined hospital ambulatory care settings where all employees are Fully Vaccinated and all non-employees are screened prior to entry and people with

suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not permitted to enter those settings;

- Home health care settings where all employees are Fully Vaccinated and all non-employees are screened prior to entry and people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not present;
- Health care support services not performed in a health care setting (e.g., off-site laundry, off-site medical billing); or
- Telehealth services performed outside of a setting where direct patient care occurs.

Accordingly, health care employers in non-hospital ambulatory care settings (including many physician's offices) in which all non-employees are screened prior to entry and people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are excluded, are not required to abide by the health care provisions of OSHA's ETS discussed above. Notwithstanding the inapplicability of the ETS, all health care employers are encouraged to continue to follow public health guidance from the CDC as well as general OSHA guidance. Additional information on recent regulations can be found: <https://www.msms.org/About-MSMS/News-Media/health-care-employer-compliance-with-state-and-federal-workplace-standards>



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Join Us

KCOA MEETINGS OF INTEREST

ONLINE CALENDAR

GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ON KCMS EVENTS

Please check out the events page at www.kcoa-mi.org.

JULY 16-18, 2021

AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES VIRTUAL MEETING

For more information, [click here](#).

SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

KCMS/KCOA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Location to be determined | Noon

OCTOBER 29-31, 2021

MOA 17TH ANNUAL AUTUMN SCIENTIFIC CONVENTION

For more information, [click here](#).

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

KCMS/KCOA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Location to be determined | Noon

OUR MISSION:

Kent County Osteopathic Association seeks to advocate for the physicians of Kent County, advance the science and practice of osteopathic medicine, and provide an arena of osteopathic physicians to support and educate each other and their community.

Visit us

For event details, check out our website kcoa-mi.org





Adam Wolfe, DO
2021 KCOA President,
Board of Directors

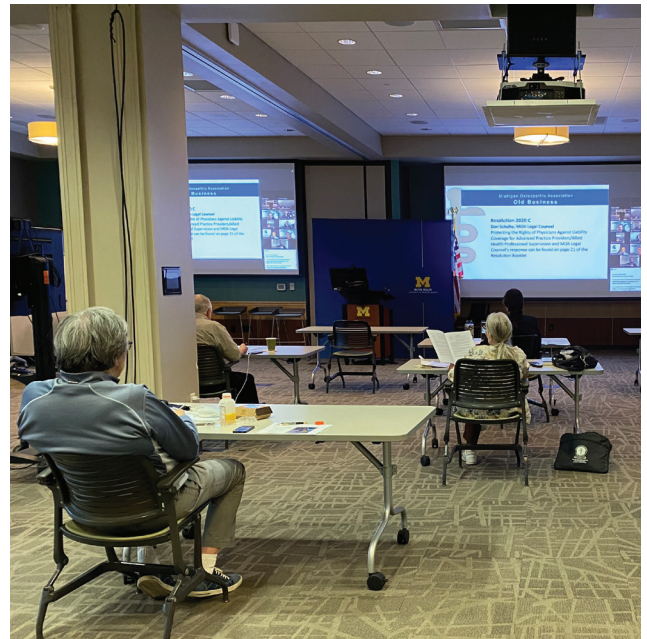
Delegates Address Critical Topics for Osteopathic Physicians

On Saturday, May 22, over 100 Delegates statewide participated in the second virtual Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates, a tradition that goes back to 1898. Thirteen West Michigan Delegates, representing the Kent County Osteopathic Association, were able to attend virtually.

I would like to personally thank the Delegates representing Kent County who participated in the MOA House of Delegates. The KCOA Board appreciates your critical review of the proposed resolutions, and time in participating in the MOA HOD. Participating members included:

- **Craig Bethune, DO,**
MOA Speaker of the House
- **Brad Clegg, DO**
- **William Cunningham, DO**
- **Joanne Grzeszak, DO**
- **Bob Joyce, DO**
- **Norman Keller, DO**
- **Edward Lee, DO**
- **Denice Logan, DO**
- **Gary Marsiglia, DO**
- **Jeffrey Postlewaite, DO,**
MOA 2020-2021 President
- **Adam Wolfe, DO**
- **Everett Kalcec, DO,**
Resident Representative
- **Samantha MacKay Forton**
Medical Student Representative

If you have interest in participating in future opportunities, please don't hesitate to reach out to the KCOA office or myself in person.



KCOA Members attend virtual MOA House of Delegates meeting. More than 100 delegates statewide participated.

KCOA Member, Dr. Jeffrey Postlewaite, who served as the 2020-2021 President of the MOA provided a review of the activity of the MOA during the 2020 year of the COVID-19 pandemic. He introduced David K. Best, DO, Incoming MOA President.

The MOA Members recognized KCOA Member and Delegate, Joanne Grzeszak, DO for her 50 years of membership in the MOA, as well as John Serini, DO from Kent County.

2021 House of Delegates Resolutions

Prevention of Governmental Intervention Restricting Treatment Options, Including Off Label Prescribing Submitted by Stephen Swetech, DO (MCOMA Delegate)

Action at MOA HOD: Approved as Amended

Resolved, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association encourage Michigan legislators to consider legislation to protect physicians who may prescribe medications “off label” if they have been clinically shown to provide potential medical benefit; and be it further.

Resolved, that this resolution be forwarded to the American Osteopathic Association for national legislative action.

Osteopathic Board Payment Reform Submitted by David Leszkowitz, DO (OCOMA Delegate)

Action at MOA HOD: Approved as Amended

Resolved, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) encourage the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to work with the osteopathic specialty boards to reduce the costs associated with osteopathic certification boards in order to become competitive with allopathic board examinations; and be it further

Resolved, that the MOA encourage AOA to continue developing potential solutions including analysis of costs which result in incentivizing senior osteopathic residents to choose to take osteopathic, rather than allopathic, certification board examinations and report actions taken back to the MOA House of Delegates in 2022.

Decoupling Health Insurance Coverage from Employment Status to Improve Health Access Submitted by Oakland County Osteopathic Medical Association

Action at MOA HOD: Referred to MOA Finance Committee for cost analysis

Resolved, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) has the MOA insurance committee investigate decoupling health insurance coverage from employment status and benefits including potential (intended and unintended) consequences; and be it further

Resolved, that the MOA develops a comprehensive report over the next year with the aim of working to ensure equitable health care access for all persons that is independent of employment status and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

West Michigan Medical Student Joins National Board

KCOA Delegates are pleased to welcome Samantha MacKay Forton, OMS III to participate with the Kent Delegation to the Michigan Osteopathic Association. Samantha was very involved in this year’s House of Delegates session.



Samantha is a graduate of Grand Valley State University (GVSU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Science, and a minor in Spanish. She completed a master’s degree in Health Sciences from GVSU before beginning at Michigan State University – College of Osteopathic Medicine.

She has served as a middle and high school science teacher in Honduras and a professor of Anatomy and Physiology. Additionally, she was a Medical Assistant and Translator at Exalta Health, Children’s Healing Center, and Grace Hospice within the Kent County community. She has been active with several children’s and youth organizations in various roles.

In addition, Samantha was recently elected National First Vice-Chair of the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents. She will serve as the student liaison to the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners. Congratulations Samantha and thank you for your leadership and dedication to the Osteopathic profession!

2021 HOUSE OF DELEGATES RESOLUTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

benefits to be presented at the next annual MOA House of Delegates; and be it further

Resolved, that if subsequently adopted by the MOA, that this resolution is appropriately forwarded to the American Osteopathic Association to consider further adoption and making this a national advocacy priority.

Restoring an Equitable and Positive Learning Environment in Medical Training
Submitted by Macomb County Osteopathic Medical Association, Oakland County Osteopathic Medical Association, Council of Interns and Residents
Action at MOA HOD: Approved as Amended

Resolved, the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) adopt a stance of zero-tolerance to abuse and disruptive behavior in residency training and consider such violations as a violation of the code of ethics; and be it further,

Resolved, the MOA support the council of interns and residents to collect data examining the prevalence and nature of abuse experienced by Osteopathic trained residents in Michigan; and be it further,



Resolved, the MOA advocate for a mechanism for addressing abuse in medical training with the goals to restore an equitable and positive learning environment that eliminates abusive behavior and provides a resource to victims outside of their institution; and be it further,

Resolved, the MOA forward this resolution properly formatted to the American Osteopathic Association for national consideration and adoption.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



Congratulations

MOA Recognizes Dr. Grzeszak for 50-Year Membership

KCOA Adam Wolfe, DO visits with Joanne Grzeszak, DO after the MOA House of Delegates meeting. Dr. Grzeszak was recognized by the MOA for 50 years of membership and involvement.

Your

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KCOA

2021 HOUSE OF DELEGATES RESOLUTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Fiscal Impact: A 2020 task force has been formed by the MOA Council of Interns and Residents to address these issues and with the MOA's support can continue their work in this area with adoption of this resolution and no further financial impact to the MOA organization. Any fiscal impact will be handled within the Council of Interns and Residents which has funds available to improve quality of life and training for Michigan osteopathic trainees. Similarly, we believe at the AOA level this would best be administered through the Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL) or similar committee.

COVID-19 Anti-Asian Discrimination and Abuse Submitted by Jasper Yung, DO (OCOMA Delegate)

Action at MOA HOD: Approved

Resolved, that the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) support efforts to educate the public, our physicians and our medical community on the issue of Anti-Asian Sentiment; and be it further.

Resolved, that by dispelling an Asian correlation with the COVID-19 pandemic we direct our medical community's efforts to collectively combat Anti-Asian acts of discrimination and abuse.

Resolved, the MOA forward this resolution properly formatted to the American Osteopathic Association for national consideration and adoption.

Revision of the Invocation to Support Inclusive and Interfaith Language

Submitted by Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) Council of Interns and Residents, Oakland County Osteopathic Medical Association

Action at MOA HOD: Approved as Amended

Resolved, that in the spirit of promoting diversity and inclusion, the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA) develop a process to work towards the inclusion of all spiritual beliefs in the invocations of official MOA events; and be it further

Resolved, that in the spirit of promoting diversity and inclusion, the MOA submit a resolution that recommends the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) develop a process to work towards the inclusion of all spiritual beliefs in the invocations of official AOA events.

Updates on Physician-Led Care, Use of ‘Doctor’ Title



The American Osteopathic Association (AOA), proudly represents its professional family of more than 151,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and medical students nationwide, is deeply concerned by the potential harm to patient care and patient safety resulting from the erosion of physician-led, team-based care. A physician-led team ensures that professionals with the highest level and most extensive degree of medical education and training are adequately involved in clinical decisions and patient care. “Physician-led” does not imply “physician optional.”

The AOA, and the physicians whom we serve, value the important contributions made to our healthcare system by our non-physician colleagues. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), Physician Assistants (PAs), and others have worked tirelessly with physicians to care for patients prior to and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, often under suboptimal and emergency conditions that put their own health and safety at risk. Their selfless service is to be commended. However, it is important to recognize that there is no substitute for the unique and extensive education and training that provides the foundation for physician-level medical decision making.

DISCUSSIONS, COLLABORATION WELCOMED

Non-physician clinicians, including APRNs and PAs, are an integral part of physician-led healthcare teams. Healthy discussions and collaboration, regarding safe and appropriate skill set substitution, roles and responsibilities are in order, and we welcome them. However, recent rhetoric has limited this important

discussion to claimed territory and optical positioning through the use of professional titles, such as “Doctor” in a clinical setting by non-physicians and “Physician Associate” without consultation with the physician community. Further, we recognize the struggle of achieving professional parity (i.e. scope of practice, prescribing and compensation) between APRNs and PAs. However, efforts to seek parity among non-physician clinicians must not be at the expense of the truth in advertising and clarity of roles in our healthcare system.

It is important to recognize that there is no substitute for the unique and extensive education and training that provides the foundation for physician-level medical decision making.

EDUCATION, TRAINING DIFFERENCES

There are important differences between the education and training requirements for physicians and non-physician clinicians. Physicians across the United States, osteopathic (DO) and allopathic (MD) alike, must meet the same education, postgraduate training and testing requirements and practice in supervised environments that afford progressively greater autonomy before ultimately becoming eligible to treat patients on their own through licensure competency assessment and rigorous board certification standards. These requirements ensure that all patients are treated safely and with the same standard of care.

DOs complete four years of medical school, which is comprised of two years of didactic study and two years of clinical rotations, followed by 12,000 to 16,000 hours of supervised graduate medical education (i.e. “residency”) before becoming eligible to independently diagnose and treat patients.



KENT MEDICAL FOUNDATION



Brian Janssen
2021 Kent Medical
Foundation, Board Chair

Proudly Offering a Hand Up

Members of the KMF Board of Trustees voted to support Exodus Place, a local resource for low income, homeless men needing assistance.

A grant of \$1,000 was presented to the Exodus Place in advance of their recent community awareness building event. The program organizes resources to help those who are in the fight of their life against homelessness, addiction, and financial instability. Assistance includes:

- Housing for any length of time.
- Meals to offer food assistance, especially during the pandemic.
- Education including workplace skills and development and GED programs.

- Medical care including medication management and behavioral health support.
- Community resources for care management.
- Faith services to create a spiritual pathway.

The KMF Board is proud to assist community efforts that encourage health promotion, health education, and well being in West Michigan. Grants are made to programs that address these issues. If you know of a program that may need assistance and would like to applying for a grant, please contact Executive Director, Patricia Dalton at patricia@kcms.org.

KMF

Physicians Join the KMF Board

The Kent Medical Foundation Board has elected Dr. Jayne Courts and Dr. Sandy Dettmann as its newest members to serve on the Board. Both physicians have tremendous knowledge and experience with the Kent County Medical Society, as both have served as President of the KCMS Board. Doctors Courts and Dettmann will begin their term at the September Board Meeting.

JAYNE COURTS, MD, FACP

Jayne Courts, MD, FACP earned her medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School and completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. She currently practices with Mercy Health in the Grand Rapids area. Dr. Courts currently serves on the KCMS Board, is a Past President for the Kent County Medical Society and the Kent Medical Foundation Boards. She currently serves on the Michigan State Medical Society Board of Directors and is an Alternate Delegate to the American Medical Association.



SANDY DETTMANN, MD, DABAM, FASAM

Sandy Dettmann, MD, DABAM, FASAM earned her medical degree from Michigan State University, College of Human Medicine in East Lansing. She completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at Spectrum Health and a fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Michigan. Dr. Dettmann is formerly Board Certified in Emergency Medicine and Pediatric Emergency Medicine, and is currently Board Certified in Addiction Medicine and by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. Dr. Dettmann served as KCMS Board President and is an Alternate Delegate to the Michigan State Medical Society.





heartbeat



SUHAIR MUALLEM

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

In 1849, French writer Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr wrote: "Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose" or translated – "the more things change the more they stay the same." He was so right! Rather than install a new KCMSA President at the April 27 virtual annual meeting Co-Presidents Suhair Muallem and Nancy Fody opted for a do-over. Maybe 2021-2022 will be the year the Alliance opens up again!



NANCY FODY

Joining the recycled co-presidents are President-Elect Laura Kozminski, who will be returning as Recording Secretary, as well as

Treasurer Blésie Baumier, Assistant Treasurer Jennifer Baguley, and Corresponding Secretary Andrea Maison. The officers were installed virtually by Michigan State Medical Society Alliance Incoming President Val Doane from Jackson.

Our guest speaker, Ellen B. Fix, talked about Covid-19 and Physician Family Mental Health. Ms. Fix is licensed in the State of Michigan as a Psychotherapist, a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and a Neurotherapist. She is a founder of the Grand Rapids Therapy Group. Ellen presented several coping techniques for dealing with the pandemic.

In keeping with our mission, members were able to donate to two Alliance projects. We supported Judge Gardner's Closet which provides household items to young adults leaving the foster care system for independent living. KCMSA also adopted Roanoke Ranch as a new organization for our support. Roanoke Ranch's mission is to help at-risk youth gain confidence and self-esteem through working with horses.

Otherwise 2020-2021 has been the year of social media, virtual meetings and community service. KCMSA continued to engage members with local, state and national Alliance updates. The following private Facebook insights are as follows:

- Seven new physician families joined us.
- 110 members with 93 of those active on our page.
- The average day with the most engagement is Tuesday and Saturday coming at second
- The post with the most engagements this year is the welcome new Facebook member posts with recipe sharing coming in second.

Let's all hope that 2021-2022 is the year that KCMSA returns to lots of in-person events.

Suhair Muallem and Nancy Fody, KCMSA Co-Presidents

a party with a purpose

LAB COATS & LIBATIONS

save the date
11.04.21

Watch our website and social media for more details!

Event Recap spring 2021

February Snowshoeing

KCMS Alliance members finally enjoyed the great outdoors together! We met for an afternoon of snowshoeing and cross-country skiing at Indian Trails.

March General Meeting

Held virtually via Zoom.

April Fundraiser Shopping Event

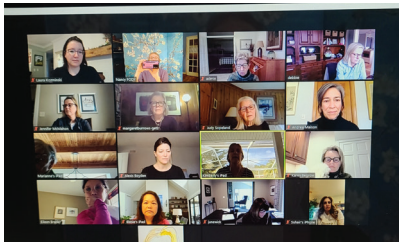
Members enjoyed wine and shopping at Tulips Little Pop-Up Shop in Kalamazoo and online. Proceeds benefited the KCMSA Foundation grant program.

Virtual Annual Meeting

Featuring guest speaker Ellen B. Fix, LMSW, CAADC. Our officers were installed and we amended our bylaws by adding language for virtual meetings.

Book club

virtual meetings continued throughout the year! In March, we discussed *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett, and in April, *The Big Burn* by Tim Egan.



May Access of West Michigan Walk for Good Food

Seven members and one dog walked together as a socially distanced group at Roselle Park in Ada raising funds to end hunger in West Michigan and to provide healthy food for everyone.

Foundation Spotlight

At the March KCMSA Foundation Board meeting three grants were awarded:

- **Hope Network**
\$2,750 for their Caregiver Education and Enrichment program.
- **Mary Free Bed**
\$1,545 for their Pediatric Outpatient Feeding Program.
- **Positive Impact for Life**
\$1,500 for their Mentoring and Tutoring Program.

So far this fiscal year, our Foundation granted \$14,495 for the health and well-being of our community!

Follow Us!





Nirali Bora, MD
Kent County
Health Department
Medical Director and
Brian Hartl, MPH

CLOSING VACCINATION GAPS IN KENT COUNTY

Can We Reach 70%?

The first dose of COVID-19 vaccine was administered in Kent County the week of December 14, 2020. In the five months since then, over 530,000 doses of vaccine have been administered to residents of Kent County.

As of May 14, 50% of the Kent County population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This is an incredible accomplishment that reflects the collaboration among the health department, health systems, pharmacies and community partners that have been instrumental in achieving this milestone towards protecting the health of the population and moving beyond the pandemic. Achieving the goal that was set of having 70% of the population vaccinated, however, will be a much tougher task as vaccination rates have slowed considerably over the past month.

DECLINING DEMAND FOR VACCINATION

At the height of vaccination in Kent County on April 2, the 7-day average of vaccines administered stood at 8,200 doses. This average dropped considerably to just over 4,500 doses during the week of May 9, with nearly 80% of the doses being 2nd doses, indicating that far fewer individuals are deciding to become vaccinated through receipt of their first dose. An additional 108,000 Kent County individuals 16 and older will need to be fully vaccinated to achieve 70% vaccination in the population. Vaccine providers in Kent County will need to shift their approach to reaching those who have yet to be vaccinated in the coming months, and it will likely take much longer than five months to vaccinate the remaining 20% of the population necessary to achieve our goal.



VACCINATION GAPS

Vaccination efforts will need to focus on populations in Kent County where vaccine coverage has not yet achieved equity when compared to the overall population of these groups in the county. Of the vaccine doses administered in Kent County, only 5.6% have been administered to those identifying as Black/African American, whereas these individuals make up approximately 10% of the total population. Unfortunately, those who are younger have been even more difficult to reach with vaccination, with less than 5% of vaccines among the 16-19 and 30-49 age groups and less than 4% of vaccines among the 20-29 age group, respectively, being administered to Black/African Americans.

The Latinx community also makes up about 10% of the total population and while just over 6% of all vaccines have been administered to this community, there has been marked increase in monthly percentages, with over 11% of vaccines being administered to this population during the month of May.

In addition to the urban areas (Kentwood, Wyoming, Grand Rapids), vaccine coverage is also lagging in the outlying, rural areas of Kent County, including Lowell, Sparta, Cedar Springs and Kent City.

INNOVATIVE VACCINE OUTREACH STRATEGIES

Public health and health care partners involved in Kent County’s Community COVID-19 Vaccine Planning (CCVP) collaborative have focused efforts on delivering vaccine at community-based clinics through relationships with churches, schools, and community organizations. While these efforts have been successful and will continue moving forward, we must all adapt our efforts to make vaccination more convenient and accessible. Mobile vaccine units at neighborhood locations and expanding access in primary care offices are examples of some steps in that direction.

BUILDING VACCINE CONFIDENCE

Doctors, nurses, and other healthcare providers are the most trusted source of vaccine information. By talking with patients at visits, administering vaccines at your office, or referring patients to vaccination sites you continue to play an essential role in building vaccine confidence in our community.

You can stay informed about opportunities for community vaccination via the calendar available at vaccinatewestmi.com/events/categories/kent-county/. Every single vaccine counts in our drive to reach 70% and this goal can be achieved if we continue to work together. Let’s make it happen before publication of the Fall KCMS Bulletin!

RESOURCES TO INCREASE VACCINE ACCEPTANCE

- **CDC: Building Confidence in COVID-19 Vaccines**
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccinate-with-confidence.html>
- **deBeaumont Foundation Poll: The Language of Vaccine Acceptance**
<https://debeaumont.org/changing-the-covid-conversation/vaccineacceptance/>

**VARNUM’S
HEALTH CARE
LEGAL TEAM**



- 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



Notifiable Disease Report

Kent County Health Department
700 Fuller N.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
www.accesskent.com/health

Communicable Disease Section
Phone (616) 632-7228
Fax (616) 632-7085

April 2021
Notifiable diseases reported for Kent County residents through end of month listed above.

DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED		MEDIAN CUMULATIVE Through April 2016-2020
	This Month	Cumulative 2021	
AIDS	0	1	1
HIV	3	8	12
CAMPYLOBACTER	0	2	18
CHICKEN POX ^a	0	0	3
CHLAMYDIA	308	1275	1233
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	0	2	6
Shiga Toxin Producing E. Coli	1	1	4
GIARDIASIS	0	0	8
GONORRHEA	186	695	363
H. INFLUENZAE DISEASE, INV	0	0	2
HEPATITIS A	0	0	1
HEPATITIS B (Acute)	0	0	0
HEPATITIS C (Acute)	0	2	0
HEPATITIS C (Chronic/Unknown)	13	50	77
INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS ^b	0	4	22934
LEGIONELLOSIS	0	2	2
LYME DISEASE	0	0	1
MENINGITIS, ASEPTIC	0	1	1
MENINGITIS, BACTERIAL, OTHER ^c	0	0	4
MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE, INV	0	0	0
MUMPS	0	0	0
PERTUSSIS	0	0	1
SALMONELLOSIS	2	5	16
SHIGELLOSIS	0	0	3
STREP, GRP A, INV	0	0	9
STREP PNEUMO, INV	0	0	21
SYPHILIS (Primary & Secondary)	0	0	4
TUBERCULOSIS	2	3	3
WEST NILE VIRUS	0	0	0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY

DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED Cumulative 2021	DISEASE	NUMBER REPORTED Cumulative 2021
Kawasaki Syndrome	0	Toxic Shock	0
Streptococcal Toxic Shock	0	Cyclosporiasis	0
Carbapenemase Producing CRE	0	Malaria	0
Guillain-Barre Syndrome	0	Listeriosis	0
Vibrios-Non Cholera	0	Shingles	5

a. Chickenpox cases are reported primarily from schools. Confirmed and probable cases are included.
 b. Includes "Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)" and lab-confirmed influenza. ILI cases have flu-like symptoms and are reported primarily by schools.
 c. "Meningitis, Bacterial, Other" includes meningitis and bacteremia caused by bacteria OTHER THAN H. influenzae, N. meningitidis, or S. pneumoniae. **Except for Chickenpox, Campylobacter, Cryptosporidiosis, Shiga-Toxin Producing E. Coli, Salmonellosis, Shigellosis & Influenza-Like Illness**, only confirmed cases (as defined by National Surveillance Case Definitions: <http://www.cdc.gov/nndss/script/casedefDefault.aspx>) are included. Reports are considered provisional and subject to updating when more specific information becomes available.

KCHD



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

Class of 2021 Epitomizes Resiliency, Adaptability

On May 8, 2021, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine graduated the class of 2021 in person. There were no hugs, no hoodings, nor photos of faces, but it was in person, in the parking lot of the Breslin Center in East Lansing.

This student cohort endured numerous COVID-19 obstacles in order to successfully match and graduate. They were pulled from clinical duties the third week of March 2020, and had to immediately participate in “virtual clinical electives” including radiology, COVID-19 training, and pathology. They returned to clinical duties in the summer when they should have been studying for the USMLE Step 2 examination. Their exams were cancelled or postponed, away electives were cancelled, and all residency interviews were virtual. Yet there were no complaints from these amazing young physicians. They were resilient, adaptable and hard-working. The extra 51,000 hours of work that the MSU College of Human Medicine faculty and staff logged over the past year was well worth it to see this successful outcome.

One hundred fifty-two MSU College of Human Medicine students entered the Match in 2021.

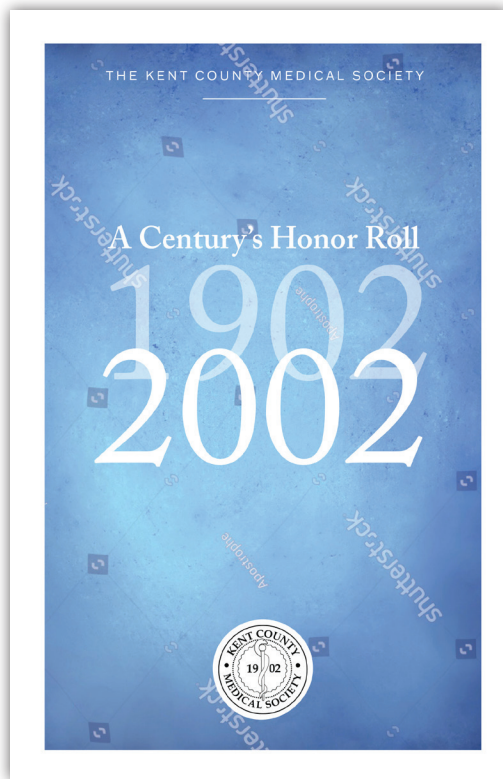
Of these students, 69 will be in Michigan for their residency programs, with 23 in Grand Rapids. The tradition of training great primary care physicians continues with more than 50% of the class entering a primary care field:

- Internal medicine: 26%
- Family medicine: 13%
- Pediatrics: 11%
- Ob-gyn: 3%

Twenty-two students (14%) are entering surgery or a surgical sub-specialty field and 11 (7%) matched into psychiatry. The remaining students matched into anesthesiology, emergency medicine, radiology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, pathology, and other fields.

Needless to say, we are all proud of this class and their successes. They will forever remember that they did their medical education clinical training during a pandemic, and will be better prepared physicians because of it.

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ATTENTION HISTORY FANS

Reserve Your Copy of 'A Century's Honor Roll'

In 2002, local author, Susan Lovell, produced a history of the KCMS entitled, "A Century's Honor Roll." The accounting of many highlights of the KCMS' first 100 years (1902-2002) reports what local physicians were experiencing in their practices and what issues the Board was addressing on behalf of the Society members.

A limited number of copies will be printed, in advance of the upcoming 2022 observance of the Society's 120th Anniversary. If you would like to pre-order a copy and be updated as to cost and production timeline, please contact Patricia at patricia@kcms.org or 616-458-4157.

We Want to Hear From You!

The KCMS Board is always interested in knowing what members would like to know more about in the coming year. The virtual Fireside Chats on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion and Business of Medicine discussions will resume in the fall of 2021. Your thoughts on specific discussion topics and/or speakers are appreciated. A calendar of topics will be produced and shared with members. Please share your thoughts, questions, suggestions with Patricia Dalton, Executive Director at patricia@kcms.org.

