



DOCTOR, WHY DO YOU NEED MSSNY?

Whether you're in independent practice or you work for a large group or institution, your future depends on a strong state medical society.

- MSSNY consistently quashes or modifies legislative proposals that would adversely impact your ability to deliver care to your patients.
- MSSNY consistently fights to assure that you, a trained physician – not insurance companies or government – determine the appropriate course of care for your patients' conditions and circumstances.
- MSSNY helps you negotiate employment contracts that don't leave you out on a limb after the initial honeymoon period ends.
- MSSNY provides information, education and insights to help you plan for the future and advance your career.

During this Corona virus crisis, among many other activities:

- MSSNY is **at the table** with our NYS Vaccine Distribution and Implementation Task Force as they work to ensure a seamless vaccine roll out.
- We worked with the New York Congressional Delegation, AMA and federation of medicine to establish and assist physicians in navigating various **stimulus programs** that have provided a lifeline to physician practices.
- Our advocacy resulted in actions by the New York DFS and DOH to greatly **expand coverage for telehealth** via video and audio-only, and in enactment of liability protections for the period of the Covid-19 emergency that have been a model for the nation.
- We have urged the commercial health industry in New York to establish **advance payment programs** that have been initiated by United, CDPHP, and Empire.
- Just when it's needed most, MSSNY's Physician Wellness and Resilience Committee's Peer to Peer Program has now been actualized. Please spread the word about our **confidential helpline phone number (1-844-P2P-PEER) and email address (p2p@mssny.org)**.

Valuable NEW Benefits:

- Premier Inc., one of the largest group purchasing companies, offers **savings** which can more than cover the cost of MSSNY membership. No fees and no minimums. Premier offers a portfolio featuring over 900 suppliers and 2,000 products and services. For details and sign up information, contact csouthard@mssny.org.
 - Add value to your practice, give your patients the care they deserve, and maximize billing through CareClix, MSSNY's telemedicine platform.
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In the last few legislative sessions, we have faced an onslaught of proposals which would have adversely impacted the practice of medicine, and we achieved real and substantial victories:

- **Reduced administrative hassles** by enacting legislation:
 - to reduce credentialing delays and enable override of insurer step therapy protocols
 - to reduce the need to obtain **prior authorization** when connected to services for which one was already granted
 - to reduce the time for claims to be paid
 - to require insurers to provide comprehensive data to demonstrate their compliance with mental health and substance abuse parity laws
 - Working together with affected specialty societies, our advocacy resulted in
 - the defeat of proposals that would have significantly curtailed **due process protections** for all physicians against whom a complaint is filed with OPMC
 - the defeat of proposals that would have imposed huge new costs on physicians who receive coverage through the Excess Medical Liability Insurance Program
 - Our advocacy resulted in important **public health achievements**, including
 - assuring that medical contraindications are the only valid exception to required immunizations
 - raising the legal tobacco purchase age to 21
 - preventing the sale of flavored vaping products
 - Our advocacy resulted in the defeat of proposals
 - that would have imposed significant new requirements on physicians prior to prescribing any opioid medication and other practice mandates
 - that would have expanded the **scope of practice** of numerous non-physician practitioners
 - that could have raised your liability costs through changing loss allocation rules in malpractice cases involving multiple defendants
 - that would have limited injured worker choice of physician in the Workers Compensation program
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