



NASSAU COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

The Pulse Point

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BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCES

This fall, school is back in session. While many parents and educators have helped students regain their mental and emotional footing in the ever-changing educational landscape since COVID-19, they do not have to do it alone. Below, we have listed some important resources that you can access for free to help your children or students adjust to the beginning of the school year and thrive for the rest of their days.

Child Mind Institute: [Back to School Tips](#)

NYS Department of Health and Education Department: [Health and Safety Guide for the 2022-23 School Year](#)

PBS Kids: [Back to School Resources for Parents](#)

The Youth Mental Health Project: [Mental Health Resources](#)



LET'S CONNECT

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter using the handle @MedicalNassau to stay up to date on NCMS news and health awareness days that are important to our community. Subscribe to our YouTube channel to view our growing library of webinars, in case you might have missed any!

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Is there a member of NCMS who has done outstanding work in their medical practice and deserves recognition? Send us an email to nominate the next Member of the Month.

June: [Dev Master, MD, and Sutapa Maiti, MD](#)

September: [David Tuckman, MD](#)

VIRTUAL EVENTS

Upcoming Events: [CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

September 20th: [Military Culture: Everything](#)

[Physicians Need to Know about Veterans as Patients](#)

MONKEYPOX

**BY
GERALD ENTE,
MD, FAAP**

Another “new” disease has come to our shores. **Monkeypox**, endemic in the tropical rainforest areas of central and west Africa was first diagnosed in Europe and in the US in May 2022. Monkeypox has always been known as an uncommon zoonotic viral disease, not at all related to Chicken Pox but in the same family as Smallpox [genus Orthopoxvirus, family Poxviridae, which also includes camelpox, cowpox, and horsepox]. This disease was first discovered in 1958 in Denmark by an infected laboratory monkey. The first human monkeypox case dates back to 1970 when a 9-year-old boy in a remote part of the Congo was diagnosed.

In September 2017, an 11-year-old boy was treated in Nigeria for “a strange rash and sores in his mouth.” This was finally diagnosed as monkeypox and was the **first known case** of this international outbreak. Up to then, local outbreaks were small, mild, self-limited, and mostly occurred in children in Africa who played with monkeys or other small wild animals. Then the disease spread exponentially mostly affecting 20 to 40-year-old men, who had extensive genital lesions. (continued on page 2).

JOIN AND PARTICIPATE IN OUR PRE-EXISTING AND NEW COMMITTEES!



Legislative Committee

Let's review and evaluate existing legislature and recommend courses of action where change is needed. Please join this committee to play a role in providing justice to physicians and ensuring ethical goodness in the medical field.



Equity and Inclusivity Committee

Let's use this present moment to create a more inclusive future in medicine for doctors, patients, and everyone in between. Are you dedicated to positive change and empowering others from all walks of life? Join this committee today.



Public Health Committee

Let's analyze, discuss, and promote the issues that matter. If you have a passion for public facing issues regarding healthcare, and you would like to meet with like-minded people, this is the committee for you.

MONKEYPOX BY GERALD ENTE, MD, FAAP (CONTINUED)



Further assessment showed that these men had high-risk sexual behaviors including sex with multiple partners and prostitutes. Genetic data has proven that this outbreak is ongoing and likely to become worse.

Monkeypox has an **incubation period** of 5 to 21 days (median 7-10 days) and usually has symptoms lasting from 2 to 4 weeks. Severe disease is rare and the fatality rate has been between 1% to 10%. There are 2 varieties of this virus: one from the Congo Basin or Central Africa which kills 1 in 10 patients; the other from West Africa which has a mortality rate under 1%. Luckily this second virus is the virus causing this epidemic. Human-to-human transmission is by close skin-to-skin contact.

Monkeypox has sickened more than **52,700 people in 93 non-endemic countries** with over 20,000 cases from all 50 states reported in the US as of 9/5/22. Globally, 10 people have died of this disease. The question is: how has the **infectiousness of this virus suddenly changed** from infecting occasional travelers coming out of Africa to becoming a major worldwide epidemic? The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine supports the idea that this virus entered several networks of men having sex with men [MSM], many of whom had multiple partners, and morphed into an easily spreading virus via sexual close prolonged skin contact. Ninety-eight percent of reported cases have been in MSM but anyone can become infected with this virus. Asymptomatic cases have been reported. This disease has raised stigma in the MSM community since sexual encounters do play a role in transmission. One reason why this number may be so high is that there is a positive health-seeking behavior in this population. It is important to point out to the MSM population that **it is not who you are, but how you are doing what you are doing**. This virus, as well as viral DNA, have been found in semen but it is not certain that this is as important in transmission as close skin-to-skin contact (click [here](#) to read the full article).



The Nassau County Medical Society and the Nassau Academy of Medicine extend our warmest congratulations to RMF Attorney and our legal counsel Jay Silverman, recipient of the 2022 Top Lawyer of Long Island award!

RMF ATTORNEY JAY SILVERMAN TO BE HONORED AT LI HERALD'S TOP LAWYERS AWARDS GALA



Uniondale, NY - August 15, 2022 -Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C., announced today that Partner, Jay Silverman, will be an honoree at the LI Herald's Top Lawyers Gala. The honorees are nominated by members of their community based on their proficiency in a variety of different practices, including banking and finance, corporate, bankruptcy, civil rights, divorce mediation and matrimony, criminal, debt, education, emerging companies and capital, elder law, family law, health care, labor and employment, land use and zoning, mass torts, litigation, medical malpractice, personal injury, tax, real estate, tax certiorari and trust and estates. Mr. Silverman is

receiving the 2022 Top Lawyer of Long Island award. The event will be held on September 13th, 2022.

“I am honored to receive this recognition. It is always a pleasure to be recognized by own peers and I am beyond proud to reach the high standards set forth by Top Lawyers,” said Silverman.

Mr. Silverman was the Assistant General Counsel in the Medical Society of the State of New York's ("MSSNY") Office of General Counsel where he handled all of the organizations legal matters and advised MSSNY members on a variety of medical-legal issues. After leaving MSSNY, Mr. Silverman entered private practice and since then has devoted his full efforts to the practice of Health Law.

Mr. Silverman has extensive experience in representing individual physicians, large single and multi-specialty physician groups, independent practice associations, licensed health care professionals, ambulatory surgery centers, diagnostic and treatment facilities, renal dialysis facilities, clinical laboratories, management services organizations, county medical societies and academies of medicine, hospital medical staffs, not for profit organizations, licensed health care facilities and health care businesses. (click [here](#) to read the full article).

WHAT PHYSICIANS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE HEALTHCARE WORKER BONUS PROGRAM (AS OF TODAY)

BY

MORRIS M. AUSTER, ESQ.

MSSNY has been working closely with county society executives across the State to answer questions from physicians and their staffs regarding the State's Health care worker bonus program enacted in the State Budget earlier this year.

Following lots of e-mail discussions with DOH staff, and reviewing the frequently updated DOH FAQs [Frequently Asked Questions \(ny.gov\)](#) for changing information, here is a "Top 10" of what physicians need to know about this program:

1) Physician practices with at least 20% Medicaid patient population are eligible to submit for the bonuses on behalf of eligible employees (listed in the FAQ).

2) 20% Medicaid includes patients enrolled in Medicaid fee for service, Medicaid Managed Care and where Medicaid is secondary.

3) Based upon an e-mail from DOH, the 20% does not include non-Medicaid Child Health Plus, the Essential Plan or Medicare (or other public-supported coverage)

4) The state has not defined what period of time should include the 20%. I think they have left up to the various providers to justify through documentation over some period of time (i.e., 6 months, 1 year, 2 years, etc.)

5) If you can't complete the documentation for vesting period 1 (employees from 10/1/21 - 3/31/22), for which the submission deadline is today, September 2, you will have another chance to submit for eligible employees in October for Vesting Period 1, in addition to employees for Vesting Period 2 (employees from 4/1/22 - 9/30/22)

6) There are 3 additional employee 6-month vesting periods (5 total) running through March 31, 2024

7) There is a defined formula in the statute for the bonus level for the eligible employees, based upon the number of average hours worked during a 6- month vesting period.

- a. 20-30 hours = \$500 bonus/vesting period
- b. 30-35 hours = \$1,000 bonus/vesting period
- c. 35 hours or more = \$1,500 bonus/vesting period

8) An eligible employee may not receive a bonus for more than 2 vesting periods, with a maximum bonus of \$3,000 cumulatively

9) With very limited exceptions, an eligible employee cannot have earned more than \$62,500 for a particular vesting period

10) Medical residents and fellows are eligible to receive the bonuses. With some limited exceptions, they remain eligible even if they shifted facilities during a particular vesting period.

For more information, folks may want to watch this informative webinar from the Monroe County Medical Society, with participating from MSSNY staff, to answer questions regarding the program from physicians and their staffs. [Passcode Required - Zoom](#), passcode - Q2wTV*7S

You also may want to review this DOH power point for more information: [HWB Program Townhall Series \(ny.gov\)](#)

Physicians may also want to consult the frequently updated state [FAQ Frequently Asked Questions \(ny.gov\)](#).

(Please click [here](#) for the full article.)



MSSNYPAC RELEASES COUNTY BY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE SCORECARDS

With the summer primaries behind us and the midterm elections just eight weeks away, MSSNYPAC has developed specialized, county by county versions of its legislator scorecard.

For those not familiar, the scorecard is a valuable tool for physicians that contains the voting and co-sponsorship records of each state legislator on issues important to New York physicians, their patients, and our health care system.



Now that the scorecard has been organized by county, you will be able to see how the legislators that represent your community are voting on issues that matter to physicians and their patients. There are currently 20 county scorecards available, and we encourage you to download and share them. To request a scorecard from a county not listed, please contact mssnypac@mssny.org or call 518-465-8085.

You can view all of the county scorecards [here](#).

Physicians should be aware that there are a variety of factors relevant to contribution decisions which are not reflected in a scorecard. These include such things as: whether a legislator is in the majority or minority; the margin between majority and minority in a particular house; whether a legislator chairs a particularly relevant committee; and whether a member holds a leadership position in their legislative body.

It is also important to consider such things as: how a legislator is regarded by their colleagues; debate participation; and the negotiating role of a particular legislator. Furthermore, in New York State, many political decisions take place behind the scenes. There are many instances in which a legislator helps MSSNY by making sure a bad bill never reaches a floor vote, or amends a bill to address the concerns of physicians. Scorecards do not reflect that "value" element.

As always, we thank you for all that you do. If possible, please offer your support to MSSNYPAC, which strives to make New York a more physician-friendly state! Contribute [here](#).



Nassau County Medical Society Fall Social

Hey NCMS community!
Please join us for an evening to connect, unwind, and celebrate the hard work that you put in to the advancement of the art and science of medicine. **Guests are welcome to bring a plus-one.** We look forward to seeing you there!



Connection



Community



Memories

Call or email the office to RSVP

516-832-2300

information@nassaucountymedicalsociety.org

RSVP via our website [here](#).

6:30 PM - 9 PM
September 21st, 2022

KPACHO
1270 Union Tpke
New Hyde Park, NY 11040



NCMS FALL LEGISLATIVE VIRTUAL BREAKFAST: OCTOBER 12TH, 2022 10AM-1PM

While we are able to address some of the obstacles that physicians must overcome on Advocacy Day, meeting once a year does not give us enough time to fully resolve the ongoing issues in the medical field. We would like to present this opportunity for our members to touch base with legislators on the work that still needs to be done. Please call or email the office to RSVP and reserve a time slot with the Nassau County Medical Society for this virtual event. See you there!

516-832-2300 information@nassaucountymedicalsociety.org

RSVP via our website [here](#).





2022 NCMS Fall Membership Meeting

Please join the Nassau County Medical Society in celebration of our Immediate Past President, Dr. Ronald B. Menzin, at our 2022 Fall Membership Meeting. We're grateful to have members like you, and we hope that you'll join us for this momentous occasion. **Guests are welcome to spread gratitude and bring a plus-one.**

RSVP via phone or email:

516-832-2300

information@nassaucountymedicalsociety.org

RSVP via our website [here](#).



▶ November 19, 2022 ▶ @ 5:00 PM ▶ Mill River Club:
103 Mill River Rd,
Oyster Bay, NY 11771



You won't want to miss our fantastic keynote speaker,

Former United States Surgeon General,

Dr. Jerome Adams,

in conversation with our current

NCMS president, Dr. David Podwall.

Hope to see you there!