April - May 2017

MESSENGER

Membership Newsletter of the Baltimore City Medical Society

Meet our President ~

James S. Novick, M.D., the 114th president of Baltimore City Medical Society, is a gastroenterologist and is affiliated with the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, MedStar Union Memorial Hospital, Mercy Medical Center and the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center. A native of New Jersey, he earned his Bachelor's Degree at The Johns Hopkins University in 1970 and his Medical Degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1976. He also completed an internship and residency at the University of Maryland. He has held academic positions at both schools in their departments of Internal Medicine/ Gastroenterology. He is currently in active clinical practice at the University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center.

Dr. Novick joined BCMS and MedChi in 1989 and served as an alternate delegate to MedChi's House of Delegates and on several committees of both BCMS and MedChi. He was elected BCMS secretary and vice president prior to his election as president.

Dr. Novick is the president of Charm City Research and was involved in the studies that showed the effectiveness of immune suppressant biological agents on inflammatory bowel disease. He has travelled the world presenting the study data in the Americas, Europe, Southeast Asia and China.

An avid skier, Dr. Novick entertained thoughts of moving his practice to Colorado a few years ago, however friends and patients always have drawn him back to Baltimore. He is married to Eve Reider, PhD and lives in Roland Park Baltimore City.

Last year, Dr. Novick developed "Medical Career Pathways," an annual program focusing on what is needed to prepare to seek admission to medical school, to do well in medical school and to select an area of career interest in the medical community. Though BCMS has a long tradition of providing resources to medical students and residents, and supporting *(continued on page 6)*

Medical Career Pathways

Baltimore City Medical Society Presidents Gala Brunch
"Beyond Healthcare: Caring for the Community"
Sunday, May 7, 2017
See page 4 for more details!

Baltimore City Medical Society 2017 Leadership

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Membership News ~

BCMS members, **Willarda Edwards, M.D**., and **Mort Rapoport, M.D.**, will receive the 2017 Honor Award & Gold Key for outstanding contributions to medicine and distinguished service to mankind and the 2017 Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contrtibutions to the medical school and alumni association, respectively. The Awards will be presented on April 28 at a special recognition luncheon.

Special Thanks to our 40-Year and Emeritus Members for their contributions to our 2017 Special Donor Campaign

Rolando B. Alegado, M.D.
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Lex B. Smith, M.D.
Henry H. Startzman, M.D.

Practice Updates~

Amendments to the HIE Regulation

The Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) is seeking public comment on proposed amendments to the health information exchange (HIE) regulation. The amendments pertain to the privacy and security of protected health information obtained or released through an HIE to facilitate consumer electronic access to their health information, among other things.

The MHCC was given the authority under Md. Code Ann., Health-Gen. §§4-301 and 4-302, signed into law on May 19, 2011, to adopt regulations for the privacy and security of protected health information obtained or released through a health information exchange. The regulation, COMAR 10.25.18, Health Information Exchanges: Privacy and Security of Protected Health Information, went into effect in March 2014. In general, the regulation facilitates information sharing and create safeguards for consumer's health information.

The MHCC asks that commenters limit their suggestions to only the proposed amendments. Please note, proposed amendments *(continued on page 3)*

Thank you BCMS Foundation Donors! (November 2015 - December 2016)

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Jos W. Zebley, III, M.D.

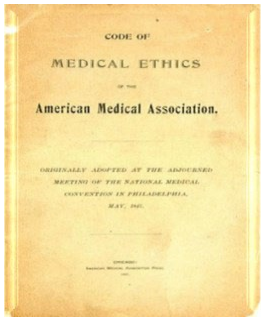
Note: We are grateful to all BCMS members and friends who support BCMS and BCMS Foundation programs. We endeavor to present accurate lists, however, if we erred in listing or not listing your name, please let us know immediately.

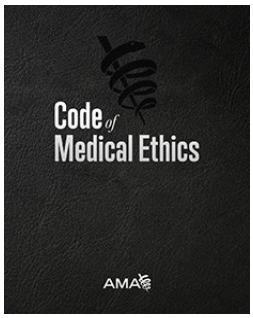
(continued from page 2)
are either added language in italics, or deletions in brackets. In an effort to facilitate the review process, MHCC requests that comments specifically note the subsection of the regulations where the comment applies.

View the published proposed permanent regulation in the Maryland Register, Volume 44, Issue 6, Friday, March 17, 2017, pages 332-335. Please submit written comments by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2017 to MHCC, Attn: Angela Evatt, Maryland Health Care Commission, 4160 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215. Commenters are also invited to send their letters via fax to 410-358-1236 or email, to angela.evatt@maryland.gov.

AMA News

In 1847, the American Medical Association created the world's first national code of ethics for physicians. The newest edition of the AMA Code of Medical Ethics represents the first comprehensive review and update of the AMA Code in more than half a century. After much discussion and debate in the AMA House of Delegates, this 8-year effort to "modernize" the AMA Code finally culminated with its adoption last June.





Merger Blocked

In a landmark win for organized medicine and the nation's patients, federal judge John D. Bates blocked the proposed Aetna-Humana merger. The judge found that the merger would have substantially lessened competition in Medicare Advantage and commercial health insurance markets. This is an extraordinarily well documented, comprehensive, fact-based ruling by U.S. District Judge John D. Bates, which acknowledges that meaningful action was needed to preserve competition and protect high-quality medical care from unprecedented market power that Aetna would acquire from the merger deal. The decision is a historic, stunning affirmation of the position urged by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the 17-state medical association antitrust coalition members. The court's ruling sets a notable legal precedent by recognizing Medicare Advantage as a separate and distinct market that does not compete with traditional Medicare. This was a view advocated by the AMA, as well as leading economists.

The AMA and its coalition partners worked tirelessly to oppose this merger: sending comprehensive, evidence-based advocacy letters to the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and and state regulators after the merger was announced in July 2015; engaging like-minded stakeholders like the American Hospital Association and various patient coalitions, as well as the National Association of Attorneys General; conducting extensive physician surveys to gauge physician concern about the merger and presenting the DOJ and state regulators with compelling survey results; testifying in or submitting memoranda in various state insurance department hearings and/or attorney general investigations, and making that, and other evidence and testimony, available to the DOJ and state regulators; securing outside experts to buttress our arguments and strip down those of the insurers -- all demonstrating how the merger would harm patients and physicians.

The AMA extends thanks to all coalition partners for helping achieve this historic victory on behalf of our physician members and their patients. Our collective work on these mergers is, without a doubt, a model for future advocacy success. (*Terri Marchiori, Director, Federation Relations, AMA*)

2017 NHMA 21st Annual Conference
May 4-7, 2017
Gaylord National Harbor Hotel—Washington, DC
Trabajando Juntos: Integrated Healthcare for Hispanics
Contact the National Hispanic Medical Association 2017 Conference Team, 202-628-5895.

Baltimore City Medical Society Presidents Gala Brunch

"Beyond Healthcare: Caring for the Community"

Sunday, May 7, 2017

11:00 am ~ 2:00 p.m.

The Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys

Village of Cross Keys
5100 Falls Road
Baltimore, MD 21210

Keynote Speaker:

Josh M. Sharfstein, M.D.

Inaugural Director
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Associate Dean for Public Health Practice and Training
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

~ Annual Community Service Award ~

~ Silent Auction to benefit the BCMS Foundation ~

~ Sponsorship Opportunities Available~

$75 per person
$575 per table (8)
RSVP by April 21

_____ **I will attend the *Presidents Gala* Brunch on Sunday, May 7, 2017.**

_____ **I cannot attend but wish to make a tax–deductible donation to the *BCMS Foundation*.**

_____ **I have enclosed a check in the amount of $ _____.**

Make/mail check payable to:

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BCMS
Baltimore City Medical Society

Baltimore City Medical Society

presents

Medicine and Marijuana

Speakers:

Shad B. Ewart
Department Chairman and Assistant Professor of Business
Anne Arundel Community College

Mary Ellen Leuver
Doctoral Candidate, History of Science and Medicine, Yale University
Consultant on Medical History, University of Maryland School of Medicine

Brendan Sloaner, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:30 ~ 2:00 p.m.

MedChi Building / Osler Hall
1211 Cathedral Street / Baltimore, Maryland

At the conclusion of this activity, physician attendees will be able to:

- **outline the history of medicine and marijuana;**
- **describe ways in which expanded marijuana access could mitigate opioid-related harms;**
- **review business opportunities associated with marijuana; and**
- **understand how the Maryland medical cannabis process will function and the current status of the program.**

Accreditation Statement: This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society. Baltimore City Medical Society is accredited by MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

Designation Statement: BCMS designates this educational activity for a maximum of 3.5 *AMA PRA Category I Credits™*. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

RESERVATION FORM

	Registration Fee
_____ **MedChi Members**	$55.00
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_____ **Residents** (in training)	$40.00
_____ **Students**	No Fee

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Guest(s): _____

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Baltimore City Medical Society

Medical Career Pathways

(continued from page 1)

physicians, this program was designed to reach all aspects of the medical profession and targets high school, college and graduate students, nurse practitioners, public health administrators, physician assistants, academic advisors and more.

Leslie Clay ~ November 2016 Participant

Since living in downtown Baltimore in the historical Mount Vernon area, I often passed by the Baltimore City Medical Society. I always wondered what the building held. I never thought that I would step foot in that building or be amongst great minds who walk in the shoes that I want to be in some day. I novel at the opportunity to converse and learn as I pursue this life of health care. On two separate occasions, I was invited to the MedChi building. One time, I attended a newly founded event that will take place annually, "Medical Careers Pathway".

This event set infrastructure to attend the CME "Primary Care for the Non-primary Care Physicians" presented by Dr. Yvette L. Rooks, Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Maryland Medical Center. With Dr. Rooks' enthusiasm and relevant experience of over 20 years, she offered a compelling and informative presentation on various topics that all correlated with one another. For example, the interpersonal skills that she elaborated on; having a great interpersonal doctor- patient relationship is a key component in the trust that patients put in their doctors. Sometimes, education can overshadow that relationship component. It opened my eyes about how physicians can fall victim to a routine without realizing that the level of medical knowledge may not be on the same level as those who went to medical school or practice medicine for well over a decade, or the education of the patient may not come close to understanding anything that is significant to a physician that sparks concern, such as a hemoglobin level. I loved a statement that she made that and it stuck with me: "telling your patient that their hemoglobin level is 13 means a lot to the doctors, but to the patient it's just a number". Explaining the depths of significance generates a rapport with each patient. Physicians who are specialists-- those in cardiac surgery, bariatrics, etc. are focused on the specific area of their expertise and may not take into consideration the basic component of being a physician, "primary care".

Throughout life, foundation has been built on the basic components and can often be forgotten in specialty care. However, I applaud Dr. Rooks for her altruistic and commendable thoughts concerning patient care for all aspects in the field that various doctors aggregate towards. Her state of mind conveys the "perfect doctor"; one who encourages and challenges other physicians to go beyond the scope of a mind-numbing characteristic that many physicians can find themselves in. Even at the scope of bringing the necessities to people who are at a low socioeconomic scale, as in the case of those who live on Pennsylvania Avenue. The home of the 2015 Baltimore riot on Pennsylvania Avenue due to Freddy Gray's unforeseen death; as Dr. Rooks points out, is home to many who are at a low socioeconomic scale (SES), and do not have the benefits of those who live and thrive in a high SES. This does not only bring attention to the statistics of race and income, it also brings into account physician attainability. The means of transportation and also the monetary value of the expenses, whether it be of out of pocket expenses or health insurance, the strain of these aspects diminishes the ability to be seen and treated by a physician. In order to limit the strain of people with a low SES status, Dr. Rooks recommended and is highly in favor of bringing healthcare to communities with problematic ways of obtaining it.

Dr. Rooks is and should be a reflection on all physicians for such reasons stated above. It is the enlightenment that she brings that can and should make healthcare more focused on conveying primary care practices to the extent of those in specialty care as well. I am fully in agreement with Dr. Rooks' mentality on the level of insuring that each individual patient is receiving the utmost care that any physician can provide in the daily changing world of medicine, including, bringing care to an underprivileged community.

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2016 Necrology

Nino Ascoli, M.D.	*July 8, 2011 (notified 1/20/16)*
James E. Smith, M.D.	*December 24, 2012 (notified 1/8/16)*
Allan R. McClary, M.D.	*January 17, 2013 (notified 3/21/16)*
John P. Witt, M.D.	*January 4, 2016*
William B. Howard, M.D.	*January 10, 2016*
Hazen G. Kniffin, M.D.	*January 27, 2016*
David I. Miller, M.D.	*February 15, 2016*
Irvin P. Pollack, M.D.	*March 1, 2016*
Waldron M. Sennott, M.D.	*March 3, 2016*
Joseph A. Mead, M.D.	*March 8, 2016*
Theodore T. Niznik, M.D.	*March 11, 2016*
Suhayl Kalash, M.D.	*April 17, 2016*
Anthony Perlman, M.D.	*June 1, 2016*
Thomas Lynch, M.D.	*October 12, 2016*
Donald W. Stewart, M.D.	*October 16, 2016*
Leeds E. Katzen, M.D.	*March 6, 2016*
Bernard Tabatznik, M.D.	*August 14, 2016*
Robert T. Singleton, M.D.	*September 12, 2016*

Remembering Alliance Members:
Minnie Smoot - February 26, 2017
Adriana Zarbin - March 17, 2017