



New York County Medical Society

Attachments

[What we accomplished in the Budget](#)

NYS Budget passes - Our physician advocacy made a major impact on the outcome!

Physicians sent thousands of messages! Opposing the Physician Discipline due-process cuts: More than 9,230 emails and tweets. Fighting to retain the Excess Layer Program (without the 50% physician cost-sharing): More than 8,030 emails and tweets. Opposing Medicaid cuts, prior authorization hassles, the sale of flavored nicotine products, and more: Hundreds of additional communications. We achieved a great deal in this particularly difficult budget period - including qualified liability immunity for COVID care. For details, open **What we accomplished in the budget.**

Phone scammers are still out there!

Don't fall for a caller who poses as an investigator from OCR. As you know, OCR is the U.S. Office of Civil Rights, which enforces HIPAA. A self-styled "OCR Investigator" has been contacting HIPAA-covered entities, trying to get protected health information (PHI). The caller does not provide an OCR complaint transaction number or any other verifiable information relating to an OCR investigation. How to know whether a caller really is an OCR investigator? Ask for the email address (it will end in @hhs.gov), and also ask for a confirming email from the OCR investigator's [hhs.gov](https://www.hhs.gov) email address. Better yet, either ignore these callers or report them to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (See <https://www.ic3.gov/media/2020/200320.aspx>.)

Problems sending your 2019 MIPS data? CMS is helping - in two ways.

The "extreme and uncontrollable circumstances" policy has been reopened, and you can check to see if it's been automatically reapplied to YOU. The 2019 MIPS data submission deadline has been extended to April 30, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. ET, and the "extreme and uncontrollable circumstances" policy will automatically apply to MIPS-eligible clinicians who do not submit their MIPS data by the April 30 deadline. You need take no further action, but check this out! CMS has updated the [QPP Participation Status Tool](#) so you can see if the policy has been automatically applied. For more information, go to [Quality Payment Program COVID-19 Response Fact Sheet](#). You can also contact the Quality Payment program at (866) 288-8292, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET, or by e-mail at: QPP@cms.hhs.gov.

Hoylman and Rosenthal Town Meeting on COVID-19 with Society Board member Erick Eiting, MD: Check out the Town Hall Meeting New York State Legislators conducted with Society Assistant Treasurer Erick Eiting, MD, at <https://www.facebook.com/bradhoylman/videos/587642508761268/> Doctor Eiting is Vice Chair of Operations, Department of Emergency Medicine, Mount Sinai Downtown

The Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) has developed a free on-demand training program to help prepare those without a background in critical care who may want to provide care for COVID-19 and other ICU-related disasters. [See Preview: Critical Care for the Non-ICU Clinician - On Demand REGISTER HERE](#) - Free.

Check out this petition to form the COVID-19 First Responders Fund for all first responders including physicians, nurses, technicians, therapists, nursing aides, paramedics, housekeeping and all of the other members of the healthcare team treating Coronavirus patients in Emergency Departments, Inpatient Hospital beds and Intensive Care Unit. Go [HERE](#).

A group of Society members are busy raising funds for supplies for hospitals and community physicians. Thanks to CAIPA, the Chinese American IPA and newest Society members. To help, go to: [GoFundMeCharity](#)