

News: For Immediate Release Additional Information Contact: Gene M. Ransom, CEO Office: 410-539-0872 x 3305

BALTIMORE COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION TO HOLD INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE PROGRAM

BALTIMORE, October 13, 2014 — October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and this month is used to bring attention to an issue that affects our community in a profound way. Baltimore County Medical Association and MedChi are taking this month to offer support and connect with the community.

In 2003, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that nearly 5.3 million intimate partner victimizations occur each year among US women ages 18 and older, resulting in nearly 2 million injuries and 1,300 deaths. The CDC further found that 324,000 women each year experienced intimate partner violence during their pregnancy. Other published research has found that homicide, usually by an intimate partner, is one of the leading causes of death in pregnancy. The CDC also noted that 44 percent of women murdered by their intimate partner had visited an emergency department within two years of the homicide, 93 percent of whom had at least one injury visit.

The Baltimore County Medical Association will be hosting a program on Wednesday, October 15, on Intimate Partner Violence. Diana Cheng, M.D., from the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and Colleen Moore, SAFE Domestic Violence Program Coordinator at Greater Baltimore Medical Center will be the speakers for the evening.

This program will be held at Sheppard Pratt Health System in the Conference Center Dining Room at 6:00 p.m. For more information, please visit <u>www.medchi.org</u> or email <u>bcma@medchi.org</u>.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit <u>www.medchi.org</u>.