

Report from our President

Dr. Loralie Ma, MD

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society



Your Advocate.



Your Resource.



Your Profession.

First, thank you again!! It has been a wonderful year and I have been so proud to represent you!



MedChi Rose to the Challenge Of Modernization in a Post - Covid World

- Realizing how we can reach out with a combination of virtual and in person offerings, we have more virtual offerings on our Beacon Live platform and more Web Ex offerings
- We launched Figure One for our members, allowing HIPPA compliant communication
- We plan to have our House of Delegates Virtually in Spring and in person in the Fall, to hopefully allow everyone to participate

Continuing Medical Education

We have signed a Learning Management Contract and should be able to launch this year – That will allow members to track CME for no cost, including CME from MedChi and other organizations.

We are putting more CME online in order to improve access.

The Board of Physicians just named Medchi the determinate CME approving entity for physicians for the Maryland Implicit Bias CME requirement.

Telehealth

- During this pandemic we have realized the benefits of telehealth, especially in reaching patients who have difficulties in being able to see their physician in person.
- MedChi has supported legislation, which was passed, to continue telehealth parity, but as it does have a sunset, we will need to remain vigilant so patients have this important avenue to health care.

Continuing our Important work on the Opioid Crisis, Depression and other Mental Illness

- This year we supported legislation to create a Suicide Review Process, which is so important as understanding the root causes of this epidemic will help us to better battle this additional “epidemic”.
- Our incoming President, Dr. York will be working on this specific topic as a key feature of his Presidency.
- We have continued to be a leader in the Opioid Crisis with our Opioid Task Force, but there is so much more work to do.

Scope of Practice Issues

- We successfully battled numerous Scope of Practice Bills last session.
- We defeated the Podiatry Bill, protecting patients from non physicians wanted to be called “Physician”.
- We defeated the Physician Assistant Bill, which had broad ranging changes to their Scope of Practice.

I thank you again and look forward to continuing as Past President to help Dr. York in his important work for Maryland Physicians and their Patients!