



*The Maryland State Medical Society*

**News: For Immediate Release**

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## **MEDCHI TO HOST LUNCH AND LEARN ON BIOSIMILARS**

BALTIMORE, July 19, 2016 — MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is partnering with the Alliance for Safe Biologic Medicines for a new Lunch & Learn event, Biosimilars: New Choices, New Challenges. Join MedChi for lunch on Friday, July 22, noon to 2:00 p.m., and hear experts from the physician, pharmacist, and patient communities discuss the science of biosimilars, as what healthcare practitioners and policymakers are doing to safely bring their benefits to patients.

Biologic medicines are among the most powerful therapies in use today for patients suffering from cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, and other serious conditions. Copies of these medicines, known as biosimilars, are now becoming available to U.S. patients, offering them the possibility of new therapeutic choices at reduced cost. Gene Ransom, MedChi CEO, explained “Unlike generic versions of chemical drugs, biosimilars are not exact copies of their reference products.” These inherent differences create new safety and regulatory challenges for patients, practitioners, and policymakers. For example, while highly similar to their reference products, biosimilars are unique medicines which may or not have been tested in or approved for all indications of the originator medicines. MedChi’s Lunch & Learn event will discuss these aspects of biosimilars to help physicians navigate these new waters and understand the policy choices involved.

Presenters at this event will include Gene M. Ransom, III, CEO of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society; Harry Gewanter, MD, FAAP, FACR, Chairman, Alliance for Safe Biologic Medicines; and Andrew Spiegel, Esq., Executive Director, Global Colon Cancer Association. For more information, or to register for this event, please visit <http://www.medchi.org/lunchandlearn>.

### 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 [www.medchi.org](http://www.medchi.org).

### About the Center

The Center for a Healthy Maryland (formerly MedChi Foundation) is an affiliate of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society. It was established in 1976 as a 501(c)(3) corporation to support the charitable, educational and scientific purposes and functions of MedChi. These include education, quality improvement, health promotion, community outreach, preservation of MedChi history, and public health. For more information, please visit [www.healthymaryland.org](http://www.healthymaryland.org).