



Welcome to the Vermont Medical Society

As we continue to emerge out of the COVID pandemic, Vermont Medical Society (VMS) physician and physician assistant members have very little reserves, professionally, emotionally, or financially. While Vermont health care clinicians remain committed to their patients, many are burned out from an unsustainable workload, exacerbated by administrative burdens, capacity issues and severe workforce shortages. In July of 2022 the Vermont Medical Society surveyed our members about the pressing issues impacting them. *See the full survey results here: <https://vtmd.org/2022-vms-survey-results>.* Comments included:

“Too many work hours. Too much administrative work after a 50-hour clinical week. I am a director of a clinical service and have no administrative time. All I do is put out fires and do not improve anything.”

“The overall morale of physicians is as low as I ever seen it.”

What Can the Vermont Legislature Do?

Increase Practice Sustainability

- Fund adequate Medicaid, private payer, and Blueprint investment in primary care
- Ensure pay parity for audio-only telehealth services
- Update the Workers’ Compensation Fee Schedule

Reduce Administrative Burdens

- Reduce/streamline the prior authorization approval process

Ensure a Strong Workforce

- Provide ongoing funding for primary care scholarships, loan repayment, residency programs
- Reduce workplace violence against healthcare workers
- Meet statewide economic development needs like housing & childcare

Support Public Health

- Ensure adequate substance use prevention policies and funding
- Support legal protections for providers of reproductive health care services
- Increase pediatric and adult mental health care services

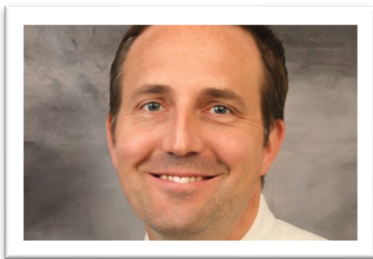
VMS Organization

VMS is made up of 2600 members, which represents 2/3 of practicing physicians & PAs in Vermont, along with 460 medical students. Our members include primary care, specialists, and all employer-types (hospital-employed, FQHC, independent practice). www.vtmd.org

VMS also operates the:

- [Vermont Specialty Societies](#): Pediatrics, Family Practice, Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Psychiatry, Anesthesiology, Surgeons, Orthopedics, Osteopathic Physicians, Addiction Medicine.
- [Vermont Practitioner Health Program](#): supports health care practitioners (MD, DO, PA, RA, AA) with impaired ability to practice medicine
- [VMS Education and Research Foundation](#): physician leadership training, student scholarship.

VMS Physician Leadership



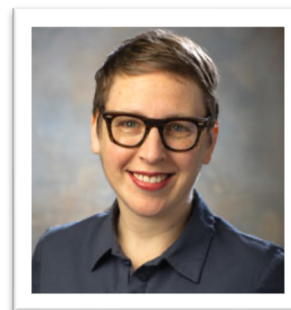
President
Ryan Sexton, MD
Emergency Medicine,
Northeastern VT
Regional Hospital



President-Elect
Becca Bell, MD,
Pediatric Intensivist,
University of Vermont
Medical Center



Vice-President
Katie Marvin, MD
Family Physician,
Lamoille Health
Partners



**Immediate Past-
President**
Simha Ravven, MD
Psychiatry,
Chief Medical Officer,
Howard Center

VMS Policy Staff

Jessa Barnard, Executive Director, jbarnard@vtmd.org

Stephanie Winters, Deputy Director, swinters@vtmd.org

Jill Sudhoff-Guerin, Policy & Communications Consultant, jsudhoffguerin@vtmd.org