

Welcome to the Vermont Medical Society

Vermont
Medical
Society



2022 Legislative Agenda

COVID-19 Response

- Supporting adequate school and community mitigation measures, including masking & access to testing, vaccination

Prioritizing Primary Care

- Significant investment in primary care, including increased:
 - Medicaid payments for primary care;
 - Percent of commercial and Medicare spending on primary care; and
 - Support for practices to engage in payment reform
- A Chief Medical Officer of Primary Care at the Green Mountain Care Board
- Pay parity for audio-only telehealth services

Reduced Administrative Burdens

- Implementation of Act 140 gold card process, reports on aligning prior authorization, embedding tools into EHRs.

Ensuring a Strong Workforce

- Ongoing funding for primary care scholarships in return for service in Vermont
- Increased support for loan repayment and opportunities for residency training programs

Supporting Public Health

- Urging adequate prevention funding, limited advertising, strong labeling in marijuana sales.
- Supporting legal protections for women's reproductive rights, minor consent to STI prevention services.
- Supporting adequate pediatric mental health capacity.
- Supporting tobacco control and substance use prevention initiatives.
- Supporting 12 weeks of universal paid leave for all parents.
- Banning the sale of crib bumpers.

VMS Policy Staff



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What is the Vermont Medical Society (VMS)?

VMS is the largest physician membership organization in the state, representing over 2400 physicians, physician assistants and medical students across all specialties and geographic locations. VMS is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit founded in 1784, dedicated to protecting the health of all Vermonters and improving the environment in which Vermont physicians and physician assistants practice medicine. See our brochure at: <https://vtmd.org/join-vms>.

VMS Organization

VMS is made up of 2400 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)

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* under contract with Board of Medical Practice to serve licensees with an impaired ability to practice medicine.
- *VMS Education and Research Foundation*: independent 501(c)(3) that supports educational and charitable activities –offering physician leadership training course, student scholarship.

VMS Physician Leadership

*President: **Simha Ravven, MD** (Psychiatry, Chief Medical Officer, Howard Center)*

*President-elect: **Ryan Sexton, MD** (Emergency Medicine, Northeastern VT Regional Hospital)*

Vice President: (vacant at this time)

*Immediate Past-President: **Catherine Schneider, MD** (General Surgery, Mt. Ascutney Hospital)*