



Welcome to the Vermont Medical Society

2023 Legislative Agenda

Practice Sustainability

- Significant investment in primary care, including increased:
 - Medicaid payments for primary care;
 - Percent of commercial and Medicare spending on primary care;
 - Blueprint for Health/practice transformation support
- Pay parity for audio-only telehealth services
- Updated Workers' Compensation Fee Schedule
- Clinician voice in future All-Payer Model & Hospital Global Budget Design

Reducing Administrative Burden

- Expanding "gold card" programs
- Increased prior authorization auto approvals/tools embedded into EHRs

Ensuring a Strong Workforce

- Ongoing funding for primary care scholarships
- Increased loan repayment and residency training programs
- Meeting statewide economic development needs like housing & childcare

Supporting Public Health

- Urging adequate prevention funding, limited advertising, potency limits in cannabis sales
- Supporting legal protections for reproductive rights, including laws to protect health care professionals and patients who provide/seek services across state lines
- Allowing minors to consent to STI prevention services
- Increasing pediatric and adult mental health care capacity
- Ensuring 12 weeks of universal paid leave for all parents
- Guaranteeing access to health care during arrest or while in custody

What is the Vermont Medical Society (VMS)?

VMS is the largest physician membership organization in the state, representing over 2600 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 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)

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
Becca Bell, MD,
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