

April 21, 2016

## From Ideas to Action: NY Chapter Resolution Becomes Official ACP Position Paper

On April 19, the Annals of Internal Medicine published a position paper from ACP's Ryan A. Crowley, entitled "Climate Change and Health: A Position Paper of the American College of Physicians." An excerpt:

"Addressing climate change could have substantial benefits to human health. In this position paper, the American College of Physicians (ACP) recommends that physicians and the broader health care community throughout the world engage in environmentally sustainable practices that reduce carbon emissions; support efforts to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change; and educate the public, their colleagues, their community, and lawmakers about the health risks posed by climate change. Tackling climate change is an opportunity to dramatically improve health and avert dire environmental outcomes, and ACP believes that physicians can play a role in achieving this goal."

**This is the power of the Chapter resolution process.** The call for an ACP position paper started as a NY Chapter resolution in 2014. It then passed through the Board of Regents, and now this policy paper has been created!

Resolutions can effect real change. Any resolution can be submitted online through the [Chapter's Resolution Portal](#).

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## *Practice Management*

### The Mental Health Service Corps: New Initiative Aims to Close Gaps in Behavioral Health to Support Primary Care Practices

If your practice is in New York City - behavioral health support is available to your practice at no cost!

Funded by the NYC Department of Health (DOH), the Mental Health Service Corps (MHSC) is an initiative to close the gaps in behavioral health services and facilitate the integration of behavioral health services into primary care. Primary care practices, substance use programs, and mental health clinics in high-need communities throughout the New York City (the five boroughs) can receive full-time fully-funded masters or doctoral-level clinicians and physicians to support their practice.

The Corps is committed to working in high need communities that have experienced barriers to access to mental health care. Corps members will have experience and interest to work in diverse cultures (e.g., ability to speak languages specific to the patient population, oriented to ensure highest standard of social service) and will be trained, coached, and supported in the use of evidence-based therapeutic interventions to screen and treat patients for depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders.

To be eligible to receive a Corps member, a primary care practice must have:

- Clinical leaders at the site dedicated to collaborative care
- Exam room with table and chairs for Corps members and patients
- Electronic Health Record access for Corps members
- Panel size of at least 1,500 unique patients per site
- Be located in high-need area and/or serve a high percentage of medically underserved population
- Be willing to participate in site trainings offered by MHSC program to facilitate integration of Corps member services

This effort will give special consideration to small and solo primary care practices that meet the above requirements. Apply now to change how health care is delivered in New York City and participate in MHSC by completing an application, [available here](#).

There are a limited number of Corps members, so submit your application early. Site selection for matching with Corp members begin May 1, 2016. Notification of Host Sites for placement of a Corps member will take place by June 1, 2016.

[You can also access this FAQ about the Medical Service Corps.](#)

For more information about MHSC, [click here](#).

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## April 30 is National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible way to dispose of prescription drugs and educate the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. [Learn how](#) patients can be advised to properly dispose of their unused medications.

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## Media Reports Growing Concerns Over New York's Medical Malpractice Market

*Excerpts from an article by MLMIC*



Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Company

Recently, there were two media stories related to the possibility of significant changes in New York's medical malpractice market. The first, "[Growing concern over shifts in N.Y. medical malpractice market](#)," appeared in *Politico New York*. The second, "New York medical malpractice insurer PRI struggles, but owner insulated," was published in the *Albany Times Union* (to access it click on the proper headline [here](#)). In tandem, they both tell about industry shifts in medical malpractice.

Standing apart in this environment, as noted in these articles, is MLMIC: **The Chapter's endorsed Medical Liability carrier**, a valued member benefit.

Certainly the kind of industry news that's in the spotlight right now affects the marketplace, and that's exactly why MLMIC has emphasized the importance of responsible fiscal policy ("[Why Insurer Financials Matter to Policyholders](#)"). There is no question that the medical malpractice insurance business is volatile, but MLMIC's record of service and stability within the medical professional liability insurance (MPLI) marketplace goes back more than four decades.

It is important for MLMIC policyholders to understand how the insurance industry works in New York State and how changes in the marketplace relate to your own insurance coverage and level of exposure. Recent media reports are helping to educate the public and healthcare professionals about how marketplace regulations impact everything from premiums to liability.

Questions about MLMIC and available coverage can be found [here](#).

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## MLMIC: Dealing with Patients Who Have Compromised Driving Ability

One of the most difficult decisions an individual faces is whether and when to surrender his/her driver's license and stop driving. In addition, physicians are often in a quandary regarding the extent to which they are obligated to report to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles when they believe a patient should not be operating a motor vehicle.

We recommend that you take a few minutes to read this important and informative article recently published in MLMIC's *Dateline: Spring 2016 / Volume 15 / Number 2* ([Read here on page 5](#)).

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## Advocacy

### 2016 Annual NYACP Legislative Day in Albany: A Recap



On Monday, April 11, 2016, the New York Chapter ACP held its Annual Legislative Day in Albany with physician members who participated in briefings and legislator appointments throughout the day.

Group visits were held with high ranking staff from the Governor's office and the Department of Health as well as with Senator Kemp Hannon (R), Chair of the Senate Health Committee, and Monica Miller, Senior Legislative Associate, from Assemblyman Richard Gottfried's (D) office (Mr. Gottfried is Chair of the Assembly Health Committee). Individual legislator appointments during the afternoon allowed physician attendees an opportunity to meet with their own elected NYS

representatives.

The day was filled with discussion about practice and patient care issues and experiences, covering the adequacy of the physician workforce, public health and insurance issues, and the many alternative payment models under development. Attendees felt the time spent in Albany was rewarding and beneficial.



We urge all members to become familiar with the legislators in their district and to meet with them in their local offices. Chapter staff are prepared to brief any member who would like to connect with their Legislator in their community.

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## Education

### NYACP 2016 Annual Scientific Meeting - *Space is still available!*

Saturday, June 4, 2016

Rye Town Hilton

699 Westchester Avenue • Rye Brook, NY



- Begin the day with our very popular poster competition which will display over 100 posters from the Chapter's Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Members
- Plenary talks from distinguished faculty such as Stephen Peterson, MD, MACP from NY Methodist Hospital and Louis Aledort, MD, MACP from Mount Sinai Hospital
- **Opportunities to receive up to 7.5 CME credits and 30 ABIM MOC points**
- **Plenary and Breakout sessions include:** Update in Malignancy Screening, Update in the Management and Diagnosis of Hepatitis C and A Combination Approach to Managing Hyperlipidemia *and many more!*

Use this link for the [full agenda and faculty bios](#).

Don't miss this day-long event of cutting edge education and networking. **Early bird registration ends on May 20<sup>th</sup>**. Overnight accommodations for the Westchester Hilton are still available. You can easily book your overnight room online: [Westchester Hilton Reservation \(NYACP Room Block cutoff is May 3\)](#).

[Register Online Today!](#)

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## 2016 Dates to Remember

### District Meetings

- **Rochester District Meeting: A RHEUMATOLOGIST'S APPROACH TO COMMON JOINT COMPLAINTS SEEN IN PRIMARY CARE**  
Wednesday, April 27, 2016  
Pomodoro Grill  
3400 Monroe Avenue • Rochester, NY  
*Registration 6:00 • Dinner and Educational Program: 6:30*  
[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)
- **Buffalo District Meeting: A PRIMARY CARE APPROACH TO CKD MANAGEMENT**  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016  
The Protocol Restaurant  
6766 Transit Road • Williamsville, NY 14221  
*Registration 6:00 • Dinner and Educational Program: 6:30*  
[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

