BENEFITS OF SCMS/MSMS MEMBERSHIP

Saginaw County MEDICAL SOCIETY SINCE 1902

MSMS MICHIGAN STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

118 Years of Caring for Saginaw County Residents

Joan M. Cramer, SCMS Executive Director

The Saginaw County Medical Society (SCMS) is the professional association of physicians in Saginaw County, and a component of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS). In order to be a member of one, you must be a member of both.

I have been asked many times by both members and non-members "Why should I belong to the SCMS and MSMS?" "What do you do for me?" Some have responded they "don't use their membership because they don't attend SCMS meetings." SCMS and MSMS membership is so much more than membership meetings. We are not only support for you, but for your office staff as well. I'm hoping the information below will help members who are on the fence about paying their dues decide to remain members, and also convince non-members why they should belong. We represent physicians in all specialties and in all types of practices – solo, group, employed, etc. Active membership is open to MDs and DOs.

- Active physician dues are $795 per year ($495/MSMS and $300/SCMS). ***One hundred percent of SCMS dues and 87 percent of MSMS dues are tax deductible as a business expense.***
- The SCMS offers a discount for first year physicians, and MSMS offers discounts for first, second and third year physicians, as well as, physician spouses when both are members.
- Resident and medical student memberships are also available.

What We Offer SCMS Members and Their Staff:

- Five ***Membership Meetings*** per year where our members have an opportunity to network and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow physicians who love the practice of medicine and want to see progress made in the Saginaw medical community. In addition, our meetings include interesting speakers and an opportunity to earn ***FREE CME credit***. A few recent and future program topics include:
  - Surviving Acts of Violence
  - Ethics
  - Human Trafficking
  - Implicit Bias
  - Opioids
  - Physician Resiliency
  - Suicide Awareness Training
  - Second Victim
  - What to do if a complaint has been filed against you
- ***Representation*** of physicians in all specialties and in all types of practices–solo, group, employed, etc.
- ***Communication*** and camaraderie with physicians of other specialties in a neutral setting.
- ***Liaison*** with MSMS for assistance on practice issues, billing and coding, health information technology, legal alerts, legislative issues, insurance and much more.
- ***An independent voice*** for physicians on issues they face at the hospitals.
- ***The Bulletin*** with articles and information pertinent to SCMS members and their staff.
- ***Pictorial Membership Directory*** is published annually and used by members and their staff on a regular basis. Our Private Directory provides information on your practice to other member physicians outside your specialty. In addition, a Public Directory that includes office address and phone (but not fax numbers or email) is printed and distributed to 1,000+ households in Saginaw County. The response from the public on this listing of SCMS physicians has been extremely positive.
- ***Website*** which is full of useful information and resources www.SaginawCountyMS.com.
- ***Referrals*** to patients seeking a physician.
- ***Contact with local, state and federal legislators*** regarding issues of importance in Saginaw County. The SCMS maintains contact with local legislators to provide issue education and help them understand the impact of healthcare legislation.
- ***A unified voice*** on medical issues to our legislators, our area hospitals, insurance companies, etc.
- ***Political activism*** in support of medicine-friendly candidates.
- ***Loans and scholarships*** to local medical students, residents and nursing students.
- ***Community service*** to actively and tangibly give back to the community where you live and work through SCMS sponsored projects, such as our annual Health Fair for the Saginaw community attended by 1,100+ offering free health screenings and information, plus the opportunity for residents to speak with our member physicians directly to answer questions and promote your practice.
- An active ***Peer Review Mediation Committee*** to provide a forum for patient complaints to be heard. Peer Review reduces the number of malpractice lawsuits.
- An active ***Peer Review Ethics Committee*** for physician to physician issues.
- ***Confidential assistance*** for members with substance abuse or personal issues affecting their practice of medicine.
- And more!

WHY PAY DUES?

- **Because all physicians need to "fund their voice."**
- National polls show physicians as one of the most **respected professions**. Sadly, they don't use their clout often enough to preserve their profession and protect their patients.
- There is strength in numbers. Together we are stronger.

If you or your office staff need assistance on an issue of any kind, please feel free to contact me at **jmcramer@sbcglobal.net**, (989) 790-3590 (office) or (989) 284-8884 (cell) and I will work with you to come up with a resolution for your problem through a variety of resources available to you as a SCMS/MSMS member.

SERVING ALL SPECIALTIES AND SOLO, GROUP AND HOSPITAL EMPLOYED PHYSICIANS SINCE 1902

Visit www.SaginawCountyMS.com for a Membership Application under the "Membership" tab