Executive Board
January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Dr. George Liakeas
President

Dr. Stella Lymberis
1st Vice President

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2nd Vice President

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Secretary

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Dr. Nicholas H. E. Mezitis
Immediate Past President
Ex Officio

Dr. George John Tsioulias
Past President
Ex Officio

Evangelia Tsavaris
Administrator

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.
— Winston S. Churchill

Despite the many economic, political and social challenges the world is facing and the continued pressures confronting medical professionals, The Hellenic Medical Society continues to operate in a spirit of optimism. The society has been fortunate with the achievements of the past year. Our programs have been well attended and regarded, students of the highest caliber have received awards and scholarships, and we continue to work harmoniously with other professional Hellenic organizations.

Following in the theme of unity articulated at this year’s Vasilopita event, we move forward with renewed vigor to broaden the scope of our involvement with other societies. The Society has been asked by various social groups to address issues within the elderly population. The Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos Society has asked us to organize a podcast series on general medical topics. Our younger members need role models as they begin their careers. Institutes of education in the area look to us to influence future medical professionals and scientists through teaching. Philanthropic organizations involved with aid to Greece have approach us to support their efforts.

Our members are uniquely qualified to respond to these requests. However, these efforts cannot be accomplished by a handful of members alone. We need greater involvement and interest. We need more of our members to transition from being passive to taking a more active role and to contribute to the community. These efforts will serve to bring individual members prominence and visibility but we have had a difficult time identifying member’s interest. To help us get these programs underway please contact Evangelia Tsavaris, the society administrator to express what level of involvement you would like to offer.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Apokries Glendi which was hosted in collaboration with other Hellenic professional societies. Attendees were given access to a premier screening of My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 which Nia Vardalos and John Corbett were so gracious to attend. On April 8, at the Stathakeion Hellenic Community Center in Astoria, please join us to discuss the refugee crisis in Greece and then come march side by side NYC Greek Independence Day Parade that Sunday.

Many of us have experienced the turmoil around us. The Society has chosen to remain optimistic and see opportunity during these difficult times. Join us in this effort.

George P. Liakeas, M.D.
Dr. Mary Kalopothakes
2016 Distinguished Female Physician of The Year Symposium

Wednesday, April 6, 2016 - 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Lenox Hill Hospital – Bruno Conference Room, 1st Floor
130 East 77th Street, Black Hall Entrance New York, NY 10075

R.S.V.P by April 4th, 2016 at: 718-398-2440

Honoring
Anastasia Anagnostopoulos, M.D.
Chair Department of Pathology and Medical Director of Laboratories at Saint Francis Hospital, The Heart Center in Roslyn, NY. Medical Director of Laboratories at the Infusion center of Saint Francis Hospital in East Hills, NY

Dr. Mary Kalopothakes Distinguished Female Physician Award

Introduction
Stella Lymberis, M.D., Chair
1st Vice President, The Hellenic Medical Society of New York
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, NY University

Greeting
George Liakeas, M.D.
President, The Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Scientific Program
“Lung Cancer: Risk factors, early detection, screening guidelines, classification, staging and predictive and prognostic molecular studies”

Anastasia Anagnostopoulos, M.D., F.C.A.P., F.A.S.C.P.
Keynote Lecture
“The importance of screening patients for atypical cancer family histories and offering a genetic blood test to rule out the possibility of a genetic mutation. Management of these patients varies greatly depending on the result of the test”

Julia A. Smith, M.D., Ph.D.
Clinical Director, Cancer Screening Program Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center Director, NYU and Bellevue Lynne Cohen Foundation & Caring Together Project for Women with Increased Risk for Cancer

2 CME Accredited Program
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and Policies of the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY), through the joint provideship of St. Francis Hospital The Heart Center and the Hellenic Medical Society of New York. St. Francis Hospital The Heart Center is accredited by the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. St. Francis Hospital The Heart Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in this activity

Dr. George N. Papanicolaou
2016 Award Symposium

May 17th 2016

Dr. George N. Papanicolaou
Weill Cornell Medical College
Greek Independence Day Parade

Celebrating the 195th Anniversary of Hellenic Independence on Fifth Avenue NYC

April 10th 2016

1:30 pm

From 64th to 79th Street

Organized by the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater NY
22-51 29th Street Astoria NY 11105
718-204-6590
www.hellenicsocieties.org

Miss Greek Independence Pageant
March 19, 2016

Terrace on the Park Gala
April 2, 2016

Raising of the Flag at Bowling Green NYC
April 8, 2016

Raising of the Flag at Athens Square
April 9, 2016

Greek Independence Gala
April 9, 2016

Specialty Areas

Media & News Bulletin
Dr. Stella Lymberis (E)
Dr. Nicholas Mezitis (E)
Evangelia Tsavaris

Legal
Dr. George Tsioulias (E)
Thomas Gazianis, Esq
Catherine Patsos, Esq

By-Laws
Dr. Marinos Petratos
Dr. George Dangas

Professional Representation
Dr. George Tsioulias (E)
Dr. Alexander Sotiropoulos
Dr. Demetrios Markouizos
Dr. Spyros Mezitis
Dr. Despina Komninou
Dr. Frixos Goussis
Dr. George Dangas

Partners in Medical Practice
Gus Lambropoulos

(E)= Executive Board Member

Tech Consultant
technology, computer, web design

Steven Wang
917.417.9154    steve@greencityny.com
Greek Mardi Gras Party!

Live Greek Music by Lefteris Bournias & Apollo Orchestra

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York,
The Hellenic American Bankers Association,
The Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce,
The Hellenic Lawyers Association,
The Cyprus-US Chamber of Commerce,
and The Hellenic Professional Women

Friday, March 11, 2016

www.hmsny.org/mardigras2016
Greek Mardi Gras Party!

Friday, March 11, 2016

www.hmsny.org/mardigras2016
Greek Mardi Gras Party!

Friday, March 11, 2016

www.hmsny.org/mardigras2016
The Hellenic Medical Society of New York

79th Annual Awards Gala

December 4th, 2015

DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIAN

Jack Soterakis, M.D.
Vice President
Physician Clinical Services and Quality Improvement
Catholic Health Services of Long Island

DISTINGUISHED HELLENE

Michael Jaharis

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE

Antoine C Harovas, M.D.
Cardiologist
Past President of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Dr. Theodore Diktaban, Ms. Susan McCarthy, Mrs. P. Harovas, Dr. John Bendo,
Dr. Jack Soterakis, Mrs. Ethel Soterakis, Mrs. Nicole Contos Liakeas and Dr. George Liakeas
Archonship Demetrios
Mrs. Mary Jaharis
Mrs. P. Harovas

Dr. Jack Soterakis and Dr. George Liakeas

Mrs. Mary Jaharis, Mrs. Nicole Contos Liakeas and Dr. George Liakeas

www.hmsny.org/gala2015
Scholarship Award Ceremony 2015
2015-12-03

Sotirios Stergiopoulos, M.D.
Scholarship Chair of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Join the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Member in the Society is a title of distinction for physicians and other health care professionals and confers many benefits.

Scientific / Scholarship Symposium
‘Transitions in Medicine’

Greeting
George Liakeas, M.D.
President of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York

Scientific Lectures
‘The Transition in Healthcare from Volume-based to Value-Based Care’
Jack Soterakis, M.D., FACP, FACP
Vice President, Physician Clinical Services
Quality Improvement, CHSLI

‘The gastroenterologist as surgeon. The new era of endoscopic surgery’
Stavros N. Stavropoulos, M.D., FASGE
Chief of Endoscopy
Director, Program in Advanced GI Endoscopy (P.A.G.E.), Winthrop University Hospital
Adjunct Professor of Clinical Medicine, Columbia University
Adjunct Clinical Professor of Medicine, Temple University

‘Current Legal Issues in Medical Practice – What You Need to Know Now’
Catherine G. Patsos, Esq.
Founder and Managing Member of the Law Office of Catherine G. Patsos, LLC
Traditional Cutting of the Vasilopita

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York™
The Hellenic-American Chamber of Commerce
The Hellenic American Bankers Association
The Cyprus-U.S. Chamber of Commerce
The Hellenic Lawyers Association

Consul General of Greece Mr. Kambourakis, Dr. George Liakeas,
Consul General of Greece Mr. Iliopoulos winner of the “Flour” and Dr. Stella Lymberis

contact us

GAEPIS
23-18 29th Street
Astoria, NY 11105
Tel: 718 204 8900
Fax: 718 204 8931

Email Contact:
Director of Operations
Ioanna Giannopoulos

General Info:
cosmosfm@gaepis.org
5th Annual Memorial Service
Holy Trinity Cathedral

Commemorating our departed Past Presidents and Members that contributed to excel our Society.
Dr. Lorraine Chrisomalis-Valasiadis celebrated Go Red Day and was the speaker at Kimisis tis Theotokou on Sunday, February 7th. She spoke about “Guidelines for Wellness in 2016”. Because February is Heart Awareness Month and also Cancer Prevention month, she discussed symptoms of heart disease in both men and women, risk factors for heart disease and prevention. She also discussed the importance of gynecological screening exams for cervix and breast as well as colorectal screening.

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York cordially invites all current & prospective members to reach the community and promote themselves.

RADIO | TV | PRINT
any topic
no prep required
panel opportunities

Please contact us for more details:
718-398-2440
Hellenicmed@gmail.com

“Go Red Day”

Dr. Lorraine Chrisomalis-Valasiadis celebrated Go Red Day and was the speaker at Kimisis tis Theotokou on Sunday, February 7th. She spoke about “Guidelines for Wellness in 2016”. Because February is Heart Awareness Month and also Cancer Prevention month, she discussed symptoms of heart disease in both men and women, risk factors for heart disease and prevention. She also discussed the importance of gynecological screening exams for cervix and breast as well as colorectal screening.

Emmanouil P. Pappou, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Colon and Rectal Surgery
Columbia University Medical Center

White Coat Talks

Dr. Emmanouil Pappou Presented information on Prevention, Diagnosis and Management of colon cancer at the Pan-Macedonian Society on Sunday, February 28th.
On February 5, 2016, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued its long-awaited final rule on returning self-identified overpayments. The final rule was published in the Federal Register on February 12, 2016, and is effective March 14, 2016. It applies to Medicare Part A and Part B only, as a separate rule was previously published for Parts C and D. The final rule provides some much-needed clarity regarding the identification and timing of the requirement to return overpayments to the Medicare program.

Often referred to as the 60-day rule, §1128J(d) of the Social Security Act (the Act) was enacted by section 6402(a) of the Affordable Care Act. The rule requires providers and suppliers to return any Medicare or Medicaid overpayment they receive within 60 days of identifying such overpayment. Prior to CMS issuing the final rule, it was unclear what it meant to have “identified” an overpayment. According to the final rule, however, a provider or supplier has “identified an overpayment when the [provider or supplier] has or should have, through the exercise of reasonable diligence, determined that the [provider or supplier] has received an overpayment and quantified the amount of the overpayment.” 81 Fed. Reg. 7654, 7654 (Feb. 12, 2016). According to the final rule "reasonable diligence" includes both proactive compliance activities and timely investigations conducted in response to obtaining credible information of a potential overpayment. Therefore, CMS has clarified that identifying an overpayment includes actually quantifying the amount of the overpayment.

The definition of identify provides much-needed clarity, since without it, providers and suppliers were left wondering whether knowledge that an unknown amount of overpayment existed started the 60-day clock running on returning such overpayment. This would require providers and suppliers who had knowledge of an undetermined amount of overpayment to determine the exact amount of the overpayment and return it all within the 60 day time-frame, which would be a substantial burden on many of them. In addition, CMS clarified that quantifying the amount of the overpayment can be determined using statistical sampling, extrapolation methodologies, and other methodologies as appropriate.

According to the final rule, the 60-day time period begins either when the provider or supplier completes its reasonable diligence and an overpayment is identified, or on the day the provider or supplier received credible information of a potential overpayment, if such provider or supplier failed to conduct reasonable diligence and did in fact receive an overpayment.
In the proposed rule, published in the Federal Register on February 16, 2012, CMS proposed to require a 10 year look-back period, meaning that providers and suppliers would be required to report and return overpayments within 10 years of the date that the overpayment was received. Based on the numerous comments CMS received, however, it revised the look-back period in the final rule to six years. Accordingly, providers and suppliers only need to look back six years to determine whether an overpayment was received.

The final rule also confirms that §1128J(d) of the Act is not retroactive; therefore, failure to comply with the requirements of that section prior to March 23, 2010, when the Affordable Care Act was enacted, is not a violation of the 60-day rule. CMS notes, however, that other statutes governed the disposition of overpayments prior to the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, and those statutes must nonetheless be complied with. With regard to overpayments identified during the period between March 23, 2010 and the effective date of the final rule, providers and suppliers are allowed to rely on their good-faith and reasonable interpretation of section 1128J(d) of the Act.

Finally, CMS declined to adopt a minimum monetary threshold of overpayments. Therefore, even the smallest overpayment must be returned to the Medicare program within 60 days of its identification, or the statute has been violated. CMS, also reminds providers and suppliers that even in the absence of the final rule, they “are subject to the statutory requirements found in section 1128J(d) of the Act and could face potential False Claims Act (FCA) liability, Civil Monetary Penalties Law (CMPL) liability, and exclusion from [the Medicare program] if applicable.” Id.

For further information, please contact Catherine Patsos at (212) 803-8193, or at cgpatsos@healthcarelawllc.com.

Catherine Patsos is a health care attorney with extensive experience in representing physicians and other health care providers. She concentrates her practice in health care reimbursement, regulatory and compliance matters, physician employment, HIPAA, and fraud and abuse issues. For more information, visit www.healthcarelawllc.com.
Dr. Georgios Nicholas Papanicolaou (1883 - 1962)

Born in 1883 in Kymi, Greece, Dr. George Papanicolaou attended school in Greece and at the age of 21 obtained the Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Athens. In an effort to further his studies, he went to Germany to study the philosophy of biologic sciences. After a brief period of study with August Weismann, Papanicolaou went to Munich. There he earned his PhD degree in Zoology. He then returned to Greece where he met Andromache Mavroyeni, his future wife. She became his lifelong companion and a great source of support for him.

Dr. and Mrs. Papanicolaou then went to France where he worked as a physiologist. The couple returned to Greece so that Dr. Papanicolaou could serve in the Greek Army during the Balkan War. During his period of service, Dr. Papanicolaou met compatriots from the United States who informed him of opportunities in America. In 1913 he was able to secure a position in the Cornell Medical School, Department of Anatomy in New York. His wife, Mary, also worked there as his technician.

The work at Cornell was rich in discovery. It was at Cornell where Dr. Papanicolaou worked examining vaginal smears of guinea pigs to determine the existence of a menstrual cycle. Using a small ear speculum, Dr. Papanicolaou observed the changes in the female genital tract of a guinea pig and added much to the basic understanding of endocrinology of reproductive organs. Eventually, Dr. Papanicolaou became interested in the menstrual cycle of women. In 1923 he published a monograph “The Sexual Cycle of the Human Female as Revealed by the Vaginal Smear”. It was doing this work that he noticed cancer cells coming from the cervix.

Dr. Herbert Traut from the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cornell collaborated with Dr. Papanicolaou to validate the diagnostic potential of the vaginal smear. In 1943, they published their findings and conclusions in the famous monograph, “Diagnosis of Uterine Cancer by the Vaginal Smear.” This diagnostic procedure was named the “Pap test”. In 1954, Dr. Papanicolaou’s comprehensive scientific treatise was published. It was entitled, “Atlas of Exfoliative Cytology,” which contained a compendium of cytological findings in health and disease involving multiple organ systems of the human body.

Dr. Papanicolaou authored over 150 publications, and throughout his life received many honors and awards. He is recognized as a co-founder of the Hellenic Medical Society of New York. Dr. Papanicolaou died on February 18, 1962 and was buried in New Jersey. Millions of women have received the “Pap test” and deaths from cancer of the uterus have been greatly reduced. Dr. Papanicolaou is memorialized as the father of Diagnostic Cytology.

**PRESS RELEASE**

Memorial to the great Greek scientist George Papanicolaou

The event which was organised by the University of Athens on February 19th, to commemorate Dr George Papanicolaou, was a great success. Mr. Procopis Pavlopoulos, the President of the Republic attended the whole event along with four ministers of the government, the Mayor of Kymi (Papanicolaou’s birthplace), the Archbishop of Karystia and many professors of the Medical School of Athens. The central University hall was also full of people who came from Kymi to honour the prominent Cytologist.

2016 Summer Youth Camp in Greece

Thank you to those who have served on the medical team in the past and those who have shown interest in serving in the future.

The dates are set for the 2 sessions this summer:
Summer Travel Camp June 19 - July 8,
Byzantine Venture July 17 – August 5, 2016.

Applications are now available on line for physicians this coming summer, 2016. Please know, it is a terrific way to "serve the church," and your children will have a great experience! To be "camp doctor" is a very rewarding experience! These opportunities are uncommon, please consider it!

Some benefits to keep in mind:

· All expenses are paid for you and your spouse for 2 ½ weeks in Greece
· Tour throughout Greece under the "wings" of the church.
    A wonderful way to see and travel in Greece
· Spend quality time with your spouse and your children
· Enrich existing and build new friendships, that will last a lifetime!
· Your children's registration fee is reduced 50%
· Have your children see and help their parent practice medicine
· Can remain in Greece longer, if so desire

Please visit the camp's website for additional information.  www.ionianvillage.org

If you have someone you would like me to add to our distribution list, please send their name and email address!
If you are considering going and have questions, please let me know!

Best Regards from the "Mile High City - Denver!"

Dr. Gregory G. Papadeas, D.O., F.A.O.C.D.
Advanced Dermatology
Skin Cancer & Laser Surgery Center, P.C.
Phone: 303-368-8611  Fax: 303-368-9791
Email: my3kouklas@frii.com  WebSite: www.advaderm.com

St. George's University Medical School

St. George University of London allows us to share news, views and ideas; something that will enhance the existing internal communication channels of our Medical School.

· Launching of MedNews
· St George’s rises into the Top 200 best universities in the world
· Medical School academic secures European funding under the Human Brain Project
· The Newly elected Medical Student Society (MSS)
· Medical Training opportunities in Wales
· Delphic Prize for outstanding contribution to Psychiatry

This is a milestone year in the life of the Medical School.
· We have graduated the first class last May.
· This year we have 110 students in the 4 year Program and 45 in the 6 year Program.
· Our students come from about 25 countries.
· St George University of London is included in the 200 best Universities in the World.
· We are using as clinical practice sites at the Nicosia General Hospital, Limassol General Hospital, Scebe Medical Center in Israel, Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago and Ponce Medical Center in P Rico.

The web site for the Medical School is www.nicosia.sgul.ac.cy

Thanks

Paul Kymissis, M.D.
**Obituaries**

George Bousvaros  
1929 - 2016  
Dr. George Bousvaros, passed away after a brief illness. He was 86 years old. During his illustrious career as a physician, he was Chief of the divisions of cardiology at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Albany and Metropolitan Hospital in Manhattan, and Professor of Medicine at Albany Medical School and the New York Medical College. After giving up his administrative duties, he continued to serve the people of New York as a cardiologist at Lincoln Hospital until he became ill.  
Our deepest sympathy to his wife Olga, two children Dr. Athos Bousvaros and Maria Tollefson, their spouses Dr. Margaret Lotz and Dr. Terry Tollefson and three grandchildren Sophia, George and Byron.

Michael Jaharis  
1928 - 2016  
Michael Jaharis, he was 87 years old, Michael was an extraordinary human being endowed by God with inexhaustible energy, amazing creativity and impressive care and love for the people, especially those in sickness, distress and suffering  
We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his beloved wife Mary Jaharis, his son Dr. Steven Jaharis (Elaine) and his daughter Kathryn Jaharis and their five grandchildren.

Mary Douros  
1933 - 2016  
Mary Douros, passed away at the age of 85, Mother of Dr. Stella Douros  
Our condolence to Dr. Douros and Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Erica Papageorge  
1920 - 2016  
Erica Papageorge passed away at 96, Mother of Dr. Ariadna Papageorge  
Our condolence to Dr. Ariadna Pagageorge and Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

**TOP 10 BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

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<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>PRI (Physician Reciprocal Insurers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inclusion in Referral</td>
<td>Travel discounts to Greece</td>
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<td>Directory DocFinder</td>
<td>Feature articles in NEO magazine</td>
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<td>CME Credits</td>
<td>Hellenic Public Radio interview opportunities</td>
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<tr>
<td>MGTV-USA Video Services</td>
<td>Subscription Discounts</td>
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<td>Quarterly e-News Bulletin</td>
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Please renew your membership and update your professional information in order to maintain your status on our website.  
GET THE APPLICATION