
KANSAS CITY

MEDICAL SOCIETY

MEMBER CONNECTIONS

January 2020

Watch for this new KCMS communication in your inbox each month.

Welcoming Betty M. Drees, MD, FACP, as 2020 KCMS President



The Kansas City Medical Society welcomes **Betty M. Drees, MD, FACP**, as our 2020 president. An endocrinologist, Dr. Drees is Dean Emerita of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, where she served as dean from 2001 to 2014. Since 2018, she has been president of the Graduate School of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research. She also is the program director for the UMKC Fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism. Dr. Drees served as KCMS president-elect in 2019.

Thank you to **Mark Brady, MD**, from AdventHealth for your outstanding service as 2019 KCMS president!

[Learn more](#)

Legislative Action Alert: Kansas Medicaid Expansion

Bipartisan legislation to expand Medicaid in Kansas is moving quickly. On January 9, Gov. Laura Kelly and Senate Majority Leader Jim Denning announced a major compromise. Co-sponsored by 22 senators, the legislation will be heard starting January 23 in the Kansas Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee. Pending committee action, a full Senate vote could be held quickly. Last year, Medicaid expansion passed the House but was blocked in the Senate. **If you live or practice in Kansas, please call your state senator where you live and/or practice.** Help push Medicaid expansion over the finish line in Kansas! If you don't have the name or phone number of your state senator, you can look it up [here](#).

[More information about Medicaid expansion](#)

Leadership Council to Meet February 3rd

The KCMS Leadership Council, which provides strategic guidance for the Medical Society, will hold its next quarterly meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, February 3, at the Kauffman Conference Center, the Paseo Room, 4801 Rockhill Rd, Kansas City, MO 64110. The 42-member Leadership Council comprises broad representation of physicians from across Kansas City-area hospitals and independent practices. [Learn more](#)

North Kansas City Hospital Appoints Stephen L. Reintjes, Sr., MD, President and CEO



Congratulations to KCMS past president **Stephen L. Reintjes, Sr., MD**, on being appointed president and CEO of North Kansas City Hospital and its physician network subsidiary, Meritas Health. He will assume the CEO role in early April, succeeding Peggy Schmitt who is retiring. Dr. Reintjes is a neurosurgeon and shares a practice with his son, Stephen L. Reintjes, Jr., MD. North Kansas City Hospital has been a longtime partner of the Medical Society. [Learn more](#)

KCMS Foundation Receives Advocacy Grant

Thank you to the Health Forward Foundation for awarding the Kansas City Medical Society Foundation a grant under its 2020 Policy and Civic Engagement program. The funding will be used during 2020 to conduct education and advocacy activities toward increasing health care access for uninsured people in Kansas and Missouri. We will be working to elevate the physician voice to advance health care access in both states. [Learn More](#)

Jan. 22 Application Deadline for New Medicare Primary Care Program

Are you a primary care practice interested in increasing patient health through innovative Medicare payment models? The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are rolling out a new optional Primary Care First advanced primary care, value-based reimbursement model for Medicare. It will replace the Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) program introduced in 2017. Practices have until January 22, 2020 to apply for 2021 implementation. Primary Care First is available in only 26 regions of the United States including Kansas City—recognizing our community's success as a center of innovation. [Learn more](#)

Calendar

- Feb. 3 KCMS Leadership Council
- Feb. 8 KCMS Foundation Board of Directors Retreat
- Feb. 28 How the Opioid Crisis Impacts Employers presented by Spencer Fane
- Mar. 3 MSMA White Coat Day, Jefferson City [Learn more](#)

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