

# MPS NEWS

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Editor: Meagan Floyd

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Deadline for articles is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Please email [jhritz@mdpsych.org](mailto:jhritz@mdpsych.org).  
MPS News Design & Layout  
Jora Hritz

**The MPS Council  
will meet via Zoom on  
September 9 at 7:30 PM.  
All members welcome!**

## President's Column

### The Impact of Sports on Clinical Care

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, the MPS is hosting its annual "[Day at the Ballpark](#)" for MPS members, friends and family. In response to member requests, MPS strives to create opportunities for members to connect informally to build bridges and strengthen the membership. A late summer day watching the Orioles provides a fantastic opportunity to achieve these goals.

With the summer ending and school starting, an intensified focus on athletics also returns. On the professional level in the US, as the baseball season begins to wind down, football takes center stage, followed by basketball and hockey. College athletics also become prominent, and many of us will begin to weigh the cost and benefits of youth athletics for our patients or own children.

The news cycle will return to discussions about the pros and cons of sports involvement. As mental health clinicians, we will take on the task of guiding our patients on a variety of sport-related issues. We might provide guidance about the benefits of sports participation, including socialization, exercise, leadership development and engagement in a pro-social group as an alternative to negative peer influence. We might also provide warnings about the negative aspects of sports involvement including the potentially excessive demands of high-level youth sports, risks of chronic traumatic encephalopathy or the perils of sports betting.

Awareness of the impact of sports is an important aspect to our clinical care.

During these times, we can also rely upon our experts in Sports Psychiatry for guidance. This rapidly growing subspecialty is focused on the mental health of athletes, including helping them overcome any challenges that are limiting their performance. In addition to providing psychiatric care for athletes, sports psychiatrists work to de-stigmatize mental illness in sports and advocate for mental health in sports throughout the lifespan. This month's vlog highlights the field of sports psychiatry even further with an interview of MPS member Arman Taghizadeh, MD, a prominent sport psychiatrist. Our discussion will hopefully provide some guidance on when to consider referring your patient to a sports psychiatrist and what to expect when you do. [Click here](#) to watch the interview. Hope to see you at the game, and may everyone have a great start to the school year!

Ronald F. Means, M.D.  
*MPS President*

## MPS Membership Directory

Thank you to members who updated their practice information! The annual MPS directory is going to print, and we expect copies to arrive in members' mailboxes this month. The directory contains information on all MPS members, including a referral index, while the online [Find a Psychiatrist](#) lists only members who have opted in. Members can also access an online member directory after [logging in](#) via their MPS member account. Members can update their profiles via the same account. For assistance, please email [mps@mdpsych.org](mailto:mps@mdpsych.org).

## MPS Endorses Housing Statement

In August, the MPS endorsed the following statement regarding the current housing crisis facing many psychiatric patients:

*People without housing are our fellow humans with basic human rights. They are often in their current situations through no fault of their own. They are far more likely to be the victims of violent crimes than the perpetrators. The behaviors of these individuals should not be criminalized. We as psychiatrists and particularly community and public sector psychiatrists are deeply committed to providing unhoused persons with psychiatric services and other supports which they need to survive and move forward in a complex and often hostile world.*

## Ikwunga Wonodi Award Application Now Open!

The [Ikwunga Wonodi Social Justice and Health Equity in Psychiatry Award](#) is now open for application submissions. The Wonodi Award honors a Resident, Fellow, or Early-Career Psychiatrist who has demonstrated distinction in advocating for human rights and equity in psychiatric care for people with severe mental illness from historically marginalized and underserved communities through teaching, research, clinical work, and/or public health advocacy. For more information on the award and application guidelines, [click here](#) or [visit the MPS website](#). The deadline to apply is December 14, 2025. A winner will be announced prior to the Annual Meeting in April 2026. Any questions can be directed to [jhriz@mdpsych.org](mailto:jhriz@mdpsych.org).

## Attention Graduating Residents!

Congratulations! As you prepare to move on from your residency training program, please complete the [APA membership advancement form](#). This lets us know if you are continuing in a fellowship or advancing to practice. As a General Member, you can access additional benefits, including [resources](#) for early career psychiatrists. Your MPS dues will remain the same! The [form](#) takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

## Support for Medical Students

The MPS offers a free category of membership for medical students to help them learn more about psychiatry and connect to potential mentors. This includes access to MPS communications, interest groups, committees, and listserv. MPS membership is an invaluable opportunity for students looking to enter psychiatry. Email [mfloyd@mdpsych.org](mailto:mfloyd@mdpsych.org) to volunteer to serve as a resource to medical students.

# SAVE THE DATE

# 2026

Southern Psychiatric Association & Maryland Psychiatric Society Annual Conference

September 16 – 19, 2026

Royal Sonesta Harbor Court Hotel, Baltimore, MD



## Early-Career Psychiatrist WhatsApp

**The MPS ECP WhatsApp Group is a way for members who are within 7 years of completing their training to communicate and collaborate with each other. This group is similar to our MPS Listserv but dedicated to *only* our ECP members.**

The purpose of the WhatsApp group includes:

- **Peer Support:** Provide a safe space for members to share experiences, challenges, and successes, and fostering camaraderie.
- **Resource Sharing:** Facilitate the exchange of valuable resources, including articles, tools, and strategies for clinical practice and professional development.
- **Case Discussions:** Create a platform for discussing clinical cases, ethical dilemmas, and treatment approaches, encouraging collaborative problem-solving and learning.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Build connections that may lead to collaborations, referrals, and job opportunities within the psychiatric community.

[Fill out this form to join](#) and, once approved, we will send an invite link for access to the group.

## National Suicide Prevention Month

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. All month, mental health advocates, prevention organizations, survivors, allies, and community members unite to promote suicide prevention awareness. **World Suicide Prevention Day is September 10.** It's a time to remember those affected by suicide, to raise awareness, and to focus efforts on directing treatment to those who need it most. Visit [988 Suicide Crisis and Lifeline](#) for resources to share and to help spread information about actions that can be taken to prevent suicide.

## National Recovery Month Events and Observances:

- September 10 – [World Suicide Prevention Day](#)
- September 7-13 – National Suicide Prevention Week
- September – National Addiction Professionals Day
- September 30 – [International Recovery Day](#)

[Use this Toolkit](#) to share what SAMHSA is doing to support people in recovery. [Click here](#) for resources from NAMI.

## National Physician Suicide Awareness Day

September 17th is the sixth annual National Physician Suicide Awareness Day which is a day to commemorate colleagues lost to suicide and to raise awareness about the issue internally and externally by shedding a light on it. The goal is to lessen the stigma for physicians and all other clinicians to speak about their struggles either privately or openly - and seek help. [Click here](#) for more information and resources to share with others and on social media.

## New Behavioral Health Workforce Self-Care Fact Sheet

SAMHSA has released a fact sheet, Taking Care: Promoting Well-being for Recovery and Behavioral Health Care Providers, offering tips and resources for better health and wellbeing among the behavioral health workforce. The fact sheet elevates the importance of organizational support for effective self-care practices for individuals and teams to support

## Talk Feel Heal Podcast

On September 8, communities across the U.S. will come together to spread awareness about the 988 Helpline and the importance of ensuring that everyone can access compassionate, nonjudgemental emotional support whenever they need it. To mark the day, the CALL 988 campaign is launching [the "Talk, Feel, Heal" podcast](#). Over six episodes, you'll hear from advocates, 988 specialists, providers and others working to provide care and support to people with mental health and substance use disorders across the Baltimore area.

## SAMHSA Announces Funding to Strengthen Housing Capacity

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is awarding [\\$19 million in new supplemental funding](#) to states through the [Community Mental Health Services Block Grant](#) (MHBG) for efforts to address the intersection of homelessness and serious mental illness (SMI). This funding advances the President's Executive Order, [Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets](#).

## Join the MPS Listserv

MPS members are encouraged to join the listserv to easily share information with colleagues. An email message sent to the listserv goes to all members who have joined. Posts can be questions, information, thought-provoking articles and more. To join the listserv, please go to: <http://groups.google.com/group/mpslist> or email [mps@mdpsych.org](mailto:mps@mdpsych.org). The listserv is open to members only so you will have to wait for membership approval and will be notified by email. If you have any trouble, please call or text the MPS office at 410-625-0232.

[Curbside Conversations](#) is a listing of MPS members with expertise in specific areas who facilitate informal chats with fellow members seeking information. These are not formal consultations but a collegial resource offered voluntarily to the MPS community. Contact information for experts is available to MPS **members only** via email to [mps@mdpsych.org](mailto:mps@mdpsych.org).





Join us for the 2025  
Maryland Psychiatric Society's

**DAY AT THE BALLPARK!**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 7**  
**@1:35 PM**

Orioles Park at Camden Yards

CLICK HERE  
FOR \$15  
RFM AND ECP  
TICKETS!

ALL OTHER  
MEMBERS CLICK  
HERE FOR  
DISCOUNTED  
TICKETS AT JUST  
\$45!

All tickets include a \$15 food and drink voucher



Limited tickets available!

email [JHritz@mdpsych.org](mailto:JHritz@mdpsych.org) with any  
questions





**2 CME  
CREDITS**

# CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH

*An MPS program hosted by  
the Community Psychiatry &  
Diversity Coalition*

via Zoom from 6:30pm until 8:30pm



*Lise Van Susteren, M.D.*

Presenting on what environmental factors affect climate change and how fossil fuel pollutants and other man-made changes affect mental health and how to address and mitigate those risks for our patients in the clinical setting.



*Gwen DuBois, M.D., MPH*

Presenting on the fossil fuel industry's role in causing and covering up the climate crisis and pollution related morbidity and mortality; that nuclear power is not the answer; and how one Baltimore community has organized to no longer be victims of environmental injustice but to fight for their right to a healthy environment.



*Cheryl Holder, M.D.*

Presenting on factors that affect climate change and health around the world and how to mitigate those risks for our patients in the clinical setting.

Thursday  
**SEPT  
11<sup>TH</sup>**

**This Program  
is Sponsored by**



#### Accreditation and Designation Statement

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by American Psychiatric Association (APA) and The Maryland Psychiatric Society (MPS). APA is jointly accredited by the American Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

The APA designates this live activity for a maximum of 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



# Maryland News

## 2025 License Renewal Reminders

**Last names M-Z and whose license expires on September 30, 2025 must renew by the end of this month.** [Click here](#) to log in for apply for renewal and pay the fee.

**Implicit Bias Training is required for renewal.** This is a one-time requirement. You must attest on the renewal application that you have completed training. If you need to find a course, [click here](#) for a list of approved courses provided by the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities. The Board of Physicians will accept any implicit bias training accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) completed since your last license renewal.

If renewal is not completed by September 30, your license will expire and you will need to apply for reinstatement, which includes applying for a new criminal history records check. Physicians who fail to renew their medical licenses are not authorized to practice medicine.

**Emeritus Status is available beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> to retired physicians who meet certain criteria.** [Click here](#) for details or to apply.

[Click here for more 2025 renewal info.](#)

## New Fee Schedules Released Effective August 1

The Maryland Department of Health released two updated FY 2026 fee schedules effective August 1, 2025:

[FY2026 PBHS Fee Schedule – Individual Practitioner and OMHC 8.1.2025](#)

- Includes updated E&M rates for psychiatrists, psychiatric nurse practitioners (CRNP-PMH), and nurse psychotherapists (APRN-PMH).

[FY2026 PBHS Fee Schedule – BH Crisis Services 8.1.2025](#)

- Includes updated E&M rates for psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse practitioners (CRNP-PMH).

For more information regarding these changes, please reference the [PT 88-25 Primary Care Investment: E&M Increases](#) transmittal. As a reminder, all fee schedules can be found on the Carelon website under [Fee Schedules](#).

## Conduit Street Podcast: Medicaid, Maryland, and the Future of Healthcare

In a [recent episode](#) of the *Conduit Street Podcast*, Michael Sanderson and Karrington Anderson sat down with Gene Ransom, Executive Director of MedChi to break down how federal legislation and Medicaid changes could affect health care delivery across Maryland. From work requirements and uncompensated care to rural hospital challenges and the state's unique Medicaid waiver, Gene shared insights that every county leader should know. [Tune in](#) to understand how these federal shifts could affect local services, budgets, and residents as our hosts break down what counties should be watching next.

## New Baltimore Affordable Housing Development

The Residences at Irvington Woods, a newly renovated 71-unit affordable housing complex aimed at supporting homeless families, veterans and individuals with mental health needs, opened in August. Residents can participate in the Housing and Homeless Services Program, where onsite staff will provide household support and referrals to other agencies and community organizations. Read more about the new housing development and the city's push to address a long-standing shortage of quality affordable housing and reduce homelessness [here](#).

## Carelon Authorization Grace Period Ends

Beginning September 1, 2025, Carelon will reinstate the prior authorization rules for the Maryland Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS). Claims will be denied if they require authorization and none is on file. For guidance, refer to [Authorization Parameters](#), [Authorization Spans and Codes](#), and the [PBHS Provider Manual](#). If you have existing authorization issues and have already contacted Carelon, you will not be penalized. For more information, please reference the [Provider Alert from July 31](#).

## Maryland Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Alert

Dispensers are required to begin reporting Non-CDS prescriptions to CRISP by September 1, 2025, in accordance with COMAR 10.25.18.13. Questions about Non-CDS reporting may be directed to [MHCC.noncds@maryland.gov](mailto:MHCC.noncds@maryland.gov). A list of frequently asked questions compiled by the MHCC is available [here](#).



# Maryland News

## MORAC Accepting for Advisory Committee

About the Citizen Advisory Committee: Direct input from community members who have been impacted by substance use and overdose is an essential component of Maryland's overdose response strategy. To help facilitate public input, Lt. Governor Aruna Miller is impaneling a Citizen Advisory Committee to provide recommendations to the MORAC from the perspective of individuals in Maryland who currently or have previously provided and/or utilized substance use disorder services in Maryland.

If you are a provider with substance use experience who is interested in participating in the MORAC's Citizen Advisory Committee, please complete the form by October 1st, 2025. [Citizen Advisory Committee Application Form](#)

The Maryland Overdose Response Advisory Council (MORAC) is chaired by Lt. Governor Aruna Miller and includes representatives from 18 state agencies working to reduce overdose morbidity and mortality in Maryland. The advisory council shares data related to the overdose crisis across agencies and provides strategic guidance for increasing access to substance use care and addressing disparities in overdose outcomes. Please contact [StopOverdose@maryland.gov](mailto:StopOverdose@maryland.gov) with any questions

## OPT Program Inventory Update

Maryland's Office of Overdose Response is pleased to share the latest update to their [Overdose Prevention Team](#) (OPT) Program Inventory. The program inventory tracks the implementation of programs related to substance use and overdose across Maryland's 24 local jurisdictions. It is now current through the second calendar quarter of 2025. You can find a copy of the program inventory attached to this email and on their website, [StopOverdose.maryland.gov/resources](https://stopoverdose.maryland.gov/resources).

## Public Survey for Prescription Opioid Settlement Funds

The [Opioid Restitution Fund Advisory Council](#) provides recommendations annually for using prescription opioid settlement funds in Maryland. As the council works to finalize its recommendations for 2025, they are requesting input from the public on how they would like to see settlement funds be used to address the harm of the opioid and overdose crisis. Members are invited to share their thoughts using this [survey](#) by **September 5th, 2025**. Submissions will be shared with the Advisory Council ahead of their upcoming meeting on September 15th.

## DOSE Annual Report Released

The Maryland Department of Health has released the [Drug Overdose Surveillance and Epidemiology \(DOSE\) Annual Report](#) for 2023. The report analyzes suspected non-fatal overdose trends in Maryland, utilizing emergency medical services (EMS) and emergency department (ED) data. While recent state non-fatal suspected overdose rates saw a 15% decrease last year, this report includes a deep dive into 2023 overdose data. The 2024 comprehensive report is expected to be available in the coming months, and non-fatal, opioid-related overdose data is currently available through June 2025 on the [Overdose Data Dashboard](#).

Highlights for 2023 include:

- There were over 25,000 ED visits for suspected non-fatal drug overdose
- ED visit counts for suspected non-fatal drug overdose in 2023 were at their highest since 2019
- The highest EMS call rates were observed in Baltimore City (107.7 per 10,000) and Washington County (52.4 per 10,000).
- Rates for Black individuals in these jurisdictions were significantly higher than those among white individuals.

## MDH SUDORS Trend Report

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) released a State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS) 2018–2024 Trend Report analyzing key circumstances surrounding unintentional fatal overdoses. View the [summary with key messages](#), access the [report](#), or [learn more about Maryland SUDORS](#), including state and county data on circumstances of opioid overdose deaths. [Read more here](#).

## Grant Expands Student Health & Wellness

The Maryland Community Health Resource Commission (CHRC) and Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports recently approved \$9,000,000 in grant funding to support coordinated access to [youth behavioral health and wellness services in Anne Arundel County](#) for the 2025–2026 school year. Funding was provided by the Maryland General Assembly through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. Services will be delivered by community providers and coordinated by the Anne Arundel County Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA), in partnership with Anne Arundel County Public Schools. The second year of the grant initiative provides for enhanced cross-agency collaboration aimed at addressing the student mental health crisis, concerns around school attendance, and enhancing community and school engagement.

## APA News & Information

### APA Advocacy Update

The last few months have seen significant movement across a broad array of issues. Learn more by reading the full [August 2025 Advocacy Update](#).

- **APA Responds to FDA Panel on SSRIs and Pregnancy:** APA sent a [letter](#) to FDA Commissioner, Dr. Makary on July 25 in response to a panel on Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) and Pregnancy that was held on July 21. [Click here to read more](#)
- **APA Provides Policy Recommendations for the MAHA Final Report:** On July 15, APA sent a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Kennedy in response to the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission Assessment: Make Our Children Healthy Again. [Click here to read more](#).
- **Proposed Rule on the 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule is Released:** APA staff are in the process of reviewing CMS' proposed changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. [Click here to read more](#).
- **APA Supports United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF):** APA wrote a [letter](#) to Congress, urging them to protect the integrity of this critical panel, and joined physician groups in a [statement](#) opposing political interference over the panel. [Click here to read more](#).
- **Congressional Appropriations Update:** On July 31, the Senate Appropriations Committee advanced the *Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act*, which sets funding levels for federal programs in FY2026. [Click here to read more](#).
- **APA Supports Community TEAMS Act:** APA endorsed the *Community Training, Education, and Access for Medical Students (TEAMS) Act*, introduced by Representatives Carol Miller (R-WV), Marc Veasey (D-TX), Sam Graves, (R-MO) and Troy Carter (D-LA). [Click here to read more](#).
- **APA Endorses Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act:** APA joined more than 110 organizations in endorsing the *Community Mental Wellness & Resilience Act* introduced by Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Don Bacon (R-NE), and Senator Edward Markey (D-MA). [Click here to read more](#).
- **APA Endorses Medicaid Bump Act:** APA endorsed legislation from Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) that would increase the federal reimbursement rate for mental and behavioral health care services under Medicaid. [Click here to read more](#).

### FREE APA Course of the Month

Each month, APA members have free access to an on-demand CME course on a popular topic. [Click here to access the Course of the Month and sign up for updates about this free member benefit.](#)

### APA Dues Increase

At its March 2025 meeting, the APA Board of Trustees approved an adjustment to the APA rates for the 2026 dues year (5%) to increase to all APA dues rates. A new FAQ section about the increase has also been added, and you can [find that here](#).

### Join APA's Federal Advocacy Conference

APA's 2025 Federal Advocacy Conference is an opportunity for psychiatrists to gain hands-on advocacy training and lobby members of Congress on issues that affect their practice and patients. The event will be held Oct. 6-7 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Washington, D.C. [Learn more and register today →](#)

### APA's RFM Caucus

The new Resident-Fellow Member (RFM) Caucus officially launched on June 9, following its approval by the APA Board of Trustees in March. It hosted its inaugural meeting at the 2025 Annual Meeting. Since its launch, the Caucus has seen strong engagement, with 131 new Resident-Fellow Members joining-bringing total participation to 501 members as of August 1.

Resident-Fellow leaders have been working diligently behind the scenes to create a dedicated space where their voices can be heard, and the formation of this Caucus represents a significant step forward in that effort. Recently, the group held its first leadership election, resulting in the appointment of Mary Shen (Massachusetts) as co-chair, along with the founding co-chair, Poojajeet Khaira (Ohio) and mentor German Velez (NY County).

Resident Fellow Members can join via their APA members profile at [my.psychiatry.org](http://my.psychiatry.org) and navigate to APA Caucuses on the lefthand navigation bar.

### 2025-2026 APA Foundation PASS Ambassador

The APA Foundation's (APAF) [Psychiatry Ambassadors and Student Scholarships \(PASS\) Program](#) provides funding opportunities for APA residents and medical student members to attend the APA Annual Meeting.

Please visit the Ambassador program [website](#) for more information. The deadline to apply is **December 1, 2025**. The application link is [here](#).



## Member Publications

**Max Spaderna, M.D.** published an article in the *Journal of Social Work* titled "[Social Work Assistance and Stipends for Housing: A pilot feasibility study for homeless patients receiving methadone for opioid use disorder](#)." It examines the potential for housing assistance to improve outcomes for methadone for opioid use disorder (MOUD), analyzing the effects of social work assistance and stipends for housing in a 12-month, pilot study.

**Paul Nestadt, M.D.** co-authored a paper published in *JAMA Psychiatry* titled "[Racial Differences in Suicide and](#)

## Member Shoutout

**Harsh Trivedi, M.D., MBA** was named an "Influential Marylander" in the health care category by *The Daily Record*. You can view the [complete list of honorees here](#). Congratulations Dr. Trivedi!

## Out &amp; About

**Paul Nestadt, M.D.** was quoted in *The Dallas Morning News* article "[RFK Jr. targets psychiatric meds, such as SSRIs, in wake of Minneapolis mass shooting](#)" which discusses RFK Jr.'s comments about SSRIs being potential contributors to violent behavior. Dr. Nestadt countered the claims by stating that there is no current evidence supporting a causal relationship between SSRIs, or other psychiatric medications, and mass shootings.

## RFM Post-Residency Plans

**Mark S. Elkin Mazer, M.D.** will be a faculty member in the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine

**Eric Prouty, M.D., Ph.D.** will be working as a psychiatrist on the young adult unit at Sheppard Pratt's Baltimore/Washington Campus

## Member Spotlight Submissions

Recently worked on an exciting research project, reached a milestone in your career, or have advice for younger psychiatrists? Submit a short article and photo [here](#) to showcase your experiences. We will share your responses on social media and in our newsletter. If you have any questions please call or text 410-625-0232.

## MPS Membership

*The following individuals have applied for membership Unless any current members have evidence that an applicant does not meet the criteria for ethical and professional standards, these actions will be approved 14 days after publication.*

## NEW MEMBERS

Emilie Disviscour Berman, M.D.

Christine Egede, M.D.

William "Zakee" McGill, M.D.

Oluwaseun A. Oyewo, M.D., MBA

Mit Patel, M.D.

Allyson Sloan, M.D.

Lee Wachtel, M.D.

Jewel Washington, M.D.

## TRANSFERS

Rahoul Adrian Gonsalves, M.D.

Danielle Marie Jones, M.D.

## Expand Your MPS Engagement

## Join the MPS Listserv

Join the online MPS community to quickly and easily share information with other MPS psychiatrists who participate. To join, click [here](#). You will need to wait for membership approval and will be notified by email. If you have any problems, please email [mps@mdpsych.org](mailto:mps@mdpsych.org).

**MPS Interest Groups:** Interest Groups are a way to connect with other psychiatrists around areas of mutual interest. Most communication occurs over email, but other options are possible. MPS members can opt in indefinitely to receive information and the opportunity to share news, ideas and concerns with participating members. Be sure to check out our new Collaborative Care Model interest group!

## Engage with Digital Options

To stay informed, visit the [MPS website](#) regularly and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), formerly [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

## Psychiatrists with Immediate Patient Openings Available

The MPS maintains a list of members who can see new patients quickly. An *updated* "[MPS Members Actively Taking New Patients: Appointments Within 1-2 Weeks](#)" will appear on <https://mdpsych.org/> later this month. Please email [mfloyd@mdpsych.org](mailto:mfloyd@mdpsych.org) to be included (include name, patient types, insurances accepted, phone number/email, etc.) and/or consider referring patients to this resource. Patients can also try [Find a Psychiatrist](#), but the wait time may be longer.

## Medicare Updates

### CMS Request for Information

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is issuing a Request for Information (RFI) to solicit public feedback on potential changes to Medicare regulations, with the goal of reducing the costly private healthcare expenditures required to comply with Federal regulations. CMS is seeking the public's input on approaches and opportunities to streamline regulations and reduce administrative burdens on providers, suppliers, beneficiaries, Medicare Advantage and Part D plans, and other stakeholders participating in the Medicare program.

The **Calendar Year (CY) 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Proposed Rule (CMS-1832-P)** Fact Sheet can be found [here](#). Please follow the link below to submit comments by 11:59 pm Eastern on September 15, 2025.

[Medicare Regulatory Relief | CMS](#)

### CMS Publishes 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule

The CY 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule includes updates to payment rates, geographic cost indices, malpractice RVUs, and telehealth services. It outlines a 3.8% payment increase for qualifying APM participants and 3.6% for others, incorporating statutory and RVU adjustments. The rule also proposes changes to quality reporting and other Medicare Part B policies. Public comments are open through September 12, 2025. See rule here: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/calendar-year-cy-2026-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-pfs-proposed-rule-cms-1832-p>

### New CMS Publication on Opioid Policies

A Prescriber's Guide to Medicare Prescription Drug (Part D) Opioid Policies — Revised. Learn [what's changed \(PDF\)](#):

- CMS clarified that:
  - \*Part D plans have 3 days to send the second notice when implementing a coverage limitation
  - \*Medication-assisted treatment is also known as medications for opioid use disorder
- Added information on Opioid Treatment Programs

## CLASSIFIEDS

### OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

**Ellicott City:** Full/part time office space for Psychologists with amenities and easily accessible via routes 40, 29,32, 695. Contact Dr. Mike Boyle at 410-206-6070, [psycmike@gmail.com](mailto:psycmike@gmail.com).

Ellicott City/Waverly Woods/Columbia: near Rt. 70, Rt. 32 and Rt. 29. Office and Group Room are in a beautiful suite ready for immediate occupancy. Daily and hourly rentals are available. Includes large fully furnished office with 2 windows, large beautifully decorated waiting room, receptionist/file room, 2 bathrooms, Kitchen and a warm community of other therapists who cross-refer. WiFi and fax available. Free ample parking. Contact [Jenniferplassnig@gmail.com](mailto:Jenniferplassnig@gmail.com) or 410-203-2411.

### Advertise Position Openings and Office Space with MPS!

The MPS offers timely ads in [MPS News](#) (includes online post), [The Maryland Psychiatrist](#) and the MPS [home page](#). [Click here](#) for ad rates. Please help MPS generate non-dues income by using MPS ads to connect with psychiatrists.

## Summer Ad Bundles

Offer Available June 2025 through September 2025

### Save money when you purchase multiple ads!

10% OFF	15% OFF	20% OFF
Order at least \$1,500 worth of ads and receive a 10% discount on your entire purchase!	Order at least \$2,000 worth of ads and receive a 15% discount on your entire purchase!	Order at least \$3,000 worth of ads and receive a 20% discount on your entire purchase!

\*Offer is exclusive to MPS News Ads, *The Maryland Psychiatrist* ads, Homepage Ads, Classified Ads, Mailing Label Rentals, and Email Blasts. Please see the attached rates sheet for pricing

Contact Us: Phone: (443) 990-3280  
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