

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.
 MPS News Design & Layout
 Jora Hritz

President's Column

The Value of Volunteering in MPS

Greetings colleagues. I had a tough time trying to decide what to share with you this month. Not because I couldn't think of anything to talk about, but rather there are several important events and issues that I wanted to make you aware of. Ultimately, I decided that the path to addressing most of these issues centers on the active involvement of us, the members of Maryland Psychiatric Society.

Volunteering is one of the most meaningful ways to ensure that our voices, our values, and our commitment to patient care continue to guide the future of Psychiatry. MPS often has influence in setting healthcare standards in Maryland, supporting educational initiatives, and establishing public policies. Volunteers contribute directly to these efforts through involvement in the MPS committees, mentoring or consultation, organizing educational events, or participating in advocacy initiatives. Your involvement creates the positive change we seek.

Active involvement in MPS shows our commitment to the field of Psychiatry and our willingness to contribute beyond individual career goals. It allows us to showcase our expertise and reliability to healthcare stakeholders. Over time, these contributions enhance our professional visibility and establish credibility within the region's mental healthcare. As such, MPS reinforces our place as a valuable resource when decisions are made regarding our profession and the individuals to whom we provide care.

Becoming actively involved with MPS contributes to personal growth and fulfillment. I know we are all striving daily to achieve and maintain a healthy work-life integration or balance. It can be hard to find time to commit to one more thing. However, I have found that my participation in MPS has helped broaden my perspectives, expand my professional networks, build additional leadership skills, and develop lasting friendships that contribute to me achieving that work-life integration and realizing what is important to me. Volunteering is an investment in both one's personal and professional growth.

So, I am asking that all of us consider joining and participating in one of the MPS committees to continue making our efforts at positive change in the landscape of mental health in Maryland. If you do not find a committee that speaks to you, or you have an idea for the development of a committee, workgroup, or interest group that would be helpful, please reach out to the MPS Executive Council, MPS Council, and/or Meagan and Jora. A list of MPS committees can be found on [page 3](#), and you can email jhritz@mdpsych.org to sign up for any committees that interest you.

I am thankful for the dedication and active involvement that many of you have shown thus far. I sincerely appreciate you volunteering your time towards the advancement of our mission. I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

*Tyler Hightower, M.D., MPH
 MPS President*

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

The Maryland Psychiatric Society

Ikwunga Wonodi Social Justice and Health Equity in Psychiatry Award

Recognizing Residents, Fellows, and Early-Career Psychiatrists who demonstrate distinction in advocating for equity in psychiatry.

Each year, recipients will receive \$500 to aid in work that supports underrepresented individuals seeking psychiatric care.

Contribute to the Dr. Ikwunga Wonodi Award



Special Member Rate for MPS Directory Ad

MPS members can advertise their practice, new office location, specialty, new book, etc. for a special members-only rate of \$100 for 1/3 page in the directory. The 2026-2027 directory will be out in fall 2026, so order soon!

For details, email Jora at jhritz@mdpsych.org.

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 email meps@mdpsych.org. The listserv is open to members only so you will have to wait for membership approval and will be notified by email.

Are you a General Member? Become an APA Fellow!

Are you ready to take the next step in your career? Fellows of the APA (FAPA) are part of a select group dedicated to shaping the role of psychiatry in our healthcare system. Fellow status is an honor that enhances professional credentials and reflects dedication to the psychiatric profession. Dues rates stay the same. **The deadline is September 1.** Visit the [APA website](#) for more details and instructions for how to apply.

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.

Member Update Forms

Your member update form will be sent this month via USPS, along with your Annual Survey. The MPS membership directory will be published in late Summer. Please ensure that your information on file with MPS is up to date. If you opt in, this data is also used for the online Find a Psychiatrist and the telephone patient referral service. Please indicate all insurance plans where you participate in-network. You can also log in to your member account on the MPS website to directly enter updates. **The deadline for directory changes is August 10th.**

2026 MPS Member Survey

The annual MPS member survey checks in on a variety of topics and will be sent via email and USPS. Please respond to help guide how MPS committees, Council and staff will work for you in the coming year.

INCENTIVE: Three respondents who complete the entire survey and provide their names will be chosen at random for a **\$100 credit** that can be applied toward MPS dues or an MPS event.

[CLICK HERE](#) to start – this should take less than 5 minutes!



2026-2027 MPS Committee Chairs

Academic Psychiatry

James Aluri, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 955-3250

Elizabeth Prince, D.O., Co-Chair
(410) 955-5000

Enhances collaboration between the MPS and the academic community, focuses on its needs and highlights its accomplishments via annual paper and poster contests.

APA Assembly Delegation

Adefolake Akinsanya M.D.
(410) 938-3000

Elias K. Shaya, M.D.
(443) 444-4540

Marsden McGuire, M.D.
(202) 461-4161

This group of MPS members serving in the APA Assembly is co-chaired by the MPS Assembly Reps. It coordinates representation of MPS membership in the Assembly and is a forum for members with concerns they want the APA to address.

Community Psychiatry & Diversity Coalition

Theodora G. Balis, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 469-5238

Ann L. Hackman, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 328-2564

Advocates for integrating the elements of diversity into the MPS by acting as a liaison to other community organizations with related interests, both clinically and academically. In addition, it represents the MPS on issues related to community psychiatry, including the proper use and role of psychiatrists in public settings and the quality of psychiatric care for patients. There is a recovery focus on under-served individuals with serious mental illness.

Distinguished Fellowship

Karen L. Swartz, M.D., Chair
(410) 955-5212

Selects the MPS nominees for APA Distinguished Fellow in accordance with APA guidelines. Committee members must be Distinguished Fellows or Distinguished Life Fellows.

Editorial Advisory Board

Bruce A. Hershfield, M.D., Editor
(410) 771-4575

Responsible to the Council for supervising and advising the Editor of *The Maryland Psychiatrist* regarding policies, article selections, and general management of the publication.

Ethics

Tyler Hightower, M.D. Co-Chair
(410) 970-7102

Ronald F. Means, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 724-3000

Reviews ethical dilemmas in psychiatric practice and provides leadership and guidance to members. Also responsible for investigating ethical complaints against members. It is constitutionally limited to ten members, two of whom must be past presidents.

Legislative

Cynthia Major Lewis, MD, Co-Chair
(410) 955-3861

Brandon Newsome, M.D., Co-Chair
(202) 476-5000

Pursues the interests of the membership in all mental health matters, initiating and responding to proposed state legislation as well as proposed regulations affecting psychiatry. Liaison with our lobbyist, other MPS committees, MedChi, and other patient and professional advocacy groups is integral to this work, much of which occurs during the legislative session from early January to early April each year. Members critique bills and can testify in Annapolis on bills the committee feels are most important.

Membership & Recruitment

Adefolake Akinsanya, M.D. Co-Chair
(410) 938-3000

Michael Young, M.D. Co-Chair
(410) 938-3891

Recruits and evaluates applicants for membership, in accordance with MPS and APA policy. Also considers special member requests, works on recruitment, including outreach to area residency training programs, and carries out retention efforts.

Subspecialty

The MPS Subspecialties Committee acts as a liaison with psychiatric subspecialty organizations, including Maryland and regional affiliates of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the Academy of Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry, the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, and the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry.

Program & Continuing Medical Education

Joshua J. Chiappelli, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 328-6735

Paul Nestadt, M.D., Co-Chair
(410) 955-6114

Plans MPS scientific programs and ensures that they qualify for CME credit.

SPA Resident Research Award: DEADLINE JUNE 15

The Southern Psychiatric Association (SPA) offers an annual award for an original manuscript concerning basic or clinical research on a topic pertinent to psychiatry.

ELIGIBILITY

- Psychiatric Residents or Fellows that are currently in training at an approved and accredited graduated medical education program at the time of the Annual Meeting.
- The applicant must attend and present their research at the September 2026 Annual Meeting in Baltimore in order to receive the award.
- All submissions must be original and not previously published.
- One manuscript per applicant.
- PowerPoint not accepted.
- Literature reviews are excluded from acceptable manuscripts.

AWARD WINNER RECEIVES

- Travel expenses up to \$1,000 to SPA's Annual Meeting, September 16 – 19 in Baltimore, MD.
- Presentation of research at the Annual Meeting
- \$500 honorarium for presenting.
- Meeting Registration Fee Waived
- Recognition of the winner's training program

DEADLINE

- June 15, 2026
- Applicants are encouraged to submit manuscripts as early as possible for consideration.

Contact JHritz@mdpsych.org for additional details and how to submit.

Member Publications

Andrew van der Vaart, MD, PhD, Margo Lauterbach, MD and Scott T. Aaronson, MD published a study in *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* titled "[Efficacy and Safety of a Single Dose of Psilocybin for Chronic Suicidal Ideation: An Open-Label Trial.](#)" The study evaluates the efficacy, safety, and durability of a single 25-mg dose of a proprietary, synthetic formulation of psilocybin with psychological support for reducing chronic suicidal ideation in a treatment-resistant population.

Denis Antoine, M.D. co-authored a paper published in *JAMA Network Open* titled "[Impact of Cannabis Edibles Combined With Alcohol on Driving, Field Sobriety Performance, and Subjective Effects.](#)" The study added to evidence that using cannabis edibles and alcohol together worsens driving impairment compared with consuming either substance alone. The study also found that cannabis (alone or with alcohol) did not impair performance on standard field sobriety tests.

Elizabeth Wise, M.D., Carmen Lopez, M.D., and Lisa Hovermale, M.D. contributed to a second edition of the textbook *Pediatric Neuropsychiatry: A Case-Based Approach*. New topics include cerebral palsy, Down syndrome regression disorder, and pediatric neurodegenerative diseases.

Out & About

Scott Aaronson, M.D. was interviewed by *Psychedelic Alpha* in an article titled "[Psilocybin for Chronic Suicidal Ideation](#)" where he spoke about his [newly published study](#).

Ronald Means, M.D. participated in a [Sheppard Pratt LinkedIn Live discussion](#) about five ways to support your mental health. He highlights practical, effective strategies from small daily habits to mindset shifts that can support your mental well-being.

Paul Nestadt, M.D. was interviewed in two WebMD articles about how to talk with a loved one about depression or about suicide. The articles, [Talking to a Loved One About Suicide](#) and [Depression: What You Say vs. What They Hear](#) offer practical, evidence-informed guidance on what to say, what to avoid, and how to truly be present for someone who is struggling.

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 Member

Andrew Sulaiman, D.O., Ph.D.

Reinstatement

Daryl Coleman, M.D.

Transfers

Scott Abrahamson, M.D.

Ali Khalil, M.D.

Member Spotlight Submissions

Recently published a paper, worked on an exciting research project, were featured in a news article or in the media?

We want to share your accomplishments with our membership! Email jhritz@mdpsych.org with any recent achievements and we will share your responses on social media and in our newsletter.

Southern Psychiatric Association & Maryland Psychiatric Society Present:

Bridging Science and Society Psychiatry in America's 250th Year

The Royal Sonesta Harbor Court Baltimore • September 16-19, 2026

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

MEMBER-ONLY EARLY BIRD SPECIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH JUNE 15, 2026

CME TOPICS INCLUDE:

- ADHD in Later Life
- Assisted Outpatient Treatment as Alternative to Involuntary Hospitalization
- Dysautonomia: The Elephant in the Room
- Forensic Psychiatry
- GLP-1s & Psychiatry
- Intensive Community Based Treatment for People with Complex Psychiatric Problems
- Intersection of Politics and Medical Recommendations
- Medical Marijuana
- OCD and Autism
- Residency Training Medical Education

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

WEDNESDAY

6:00-7:00PM • Welcome Reception

THURSDAY

12:00-5:00PM • CME Sessions

6:30-8:30PM • Social Event at Little Havana

FRIDAY

7:00AM-3:00PM • CME Sessions

SATURDAY

7:00AM-3:00PM • CME Sessions

6:30PM-9:30PM • Farewell Gala

HOTEL RESERVATIONS CLOSE AUGUST 15



[ONLINE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION](#)



[HOTEL RESERVATIONS](#)

For more information, please contact Janet Bryan through phone at (410) 938-3452 or email at janet.bryan@sheppardpratt.org
Southern Psychiatric Association | 6501 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21204

Maryland News

New Bills Signed Into Law

Please see bills of interest to MPS members that were signed into law in May by Governor Wes Moore that passed during the 2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

- [HB 746](#): Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance – Collaborative Care Model – Cost Sharing Prohibition and Coverage Requirements
- [SB 745/HB634](#): Police Training – Autism and Dementia (LEAD Act of 2026)
- [SB 808/HB1093](#): Health Insurance – Provider Panels – Requirements

Prescription Opioid Settlement Dashboard Released

Maryland's [Prescription Opioid Settlement Dashboard](#) has launched. This new, interactive dashboard provides an overview of the funds Maryland has received and expects to receive from legal settlements with prescription opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retail pharmacies. It also shows how funds have been distributed at the state and local level, including detailed lists of supported programs.

Dashboard Highlights

- ✦ Maryland expects to receive over \$747 million over the next 12–15 years through eight finalized settlements.
- ✦ As of the 2025 fiscal year, the state has received approximately \$245.8 million.
- ✦ Nearly \$170 million has already gone to or is available for use by counties, cities, and towns across the state, with more on the way.

You can learn more about Maryland's Opioid Restitution Fund at StopOverdose.maryland.gov/ORF.

The dashboard was developed in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health's Data Office. It is designed to raise public awareness, ensure transparency, and provide rigorous oversight of state and local efforts to use settlement funds. It also gives Marylanders easy access to local plans showing how counties and municipalities intend to put these funds to work in their communities. **Please note that the dashboard has not been optimized for mobile viewing at this time.**

For questions regarding the dashboard or the state's efforts to administer this funding, you can email ORF.MOOR@maryland.gov.

Survey: Improve State Reporting on Adverse Actions

MedChi has been asked to present to the Workgroup on the Rise of Adverse Decisions, which was created by legislation passed in 2025. The Workgroup is charged with making recommendations to improve State reporting on adverse decisions, including recommendations regarding:

- Standardized definitions of medical service categories; health settings; adverse decisions; and medical necessity;
- A standardized method for categorizing adverse decisions and prior authorization denials; and
- A standardized process for reporting grievances or filing complaints and appealing adverse decisions.

MedChi is interested in hearing any recommendations on the above issue, especially regarding how to standardize definitions across payers. Any examples of how carriers may differ in their definitions or in the information they request is extremely helpful.

In addition, MedChi is monitoring the implementation of the utilization review law that passed in 2024 (effective January 1, 2025) and is interested in hearing from you on the following issues. Feel free to use the name of the health insurer when appropriate.

[Click here to take the survey now](#). Deadline to complete the survey is June 19th.

MedChi Opposes UnitedHealthcare Increase Request

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, has formally urged the Maryland Insurance Administration to reject requested mid-year 2026 premium increases submitted by UnitedHealthcare for Maryland's small group insurance market, citing concerns over affordability, access to care, and continued strain on Maryland patients and physicians.

In a letter sent to Maryland Insurance Commissioner Marie Grant, MedChi expressed strong opposition to the proposed increases, which would impact more than 26,000 Marylanders enrolled in affected plans.

[The letter](#) highlighted UnitedHealthcare's strong financial performance, including first-quarter 2026 revenues exceeding projections and increased earnings guidance for the year. The organization also pointed to a declining medical benefit ratio with insurers spending less on patient care while collecting higher premiums.

MedChi and physicians alike are equally concerned the requested increases will contribute to delays and denials of medically necessary care.

Maryland News

Dr. Talley New BHA Deputy Secretary

Last month BHA sent communication announcing that Dr. Rachel Talley had been selected as the new Deputy Secretary for the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA).

A board-certified psychiatrist committed to the development of high-quality, equitable systems for individuals with complex behavioral health needs, Dr. Talley joined MDH as BHA Chief Medical Officer in July 2024. She became Acting Deputy Secretary in February.

Prior to joining MDH, Dr. Talley served as Director of the University of Pennsylvania Center of Excellence in Public Psychiatry, overseeing the expansion of public psychiatry training and community-academic partnerships within the Department of Psychiatry. She holds an adjunct faculty appointment as Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania. Her clinical and academic career has focused on the care of individuals with serious and persistent mental illness, including prior roles providing direct services in community mental health settings in Philadelphia and New York City. Her contributions to public mental health leadership and policy include serving on an ad hoc committee of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine on Strategies to Improve Access to Behavioral Health Care Services through Medicare and Medicaid, and membership on the National Council for Mental Wellbeing Medical Director Institute.

Maryland Board of Physicians Warns of Recent Scams

According to recent alerts from the Maryland Board of Physicians (MBP), scammers are actively posing as medical board investigators, contacting physicians and PAs via telephone or in writing, with claims that their license is at risk unless they send money. If you receive any communication by phone or letter that demands immediate payment, MBP advises you NOT to provide personal or financial information to the individual or individuals requesting it. [Here is an example of a scam letter.](#)

Carelon Payment Management Moving to Zelis

Effective June 12, 2026, Carelon is transitioning provider payments to the Zelis Advanced Payment Platform (ZAPP). To ensure a seamless transition, please carefully review the important guidance in the Provider Alert: [Provider Payment Management Moving from PaySpan to Zelis.](#)

Resident-Fellow and Medical Student Poster Competition

Hosted at Little Havana, Thursday, September 17 6:30-8:30PM

The Maryland Psychiatric Society (MPS) and Southern Psychiatric Association (SPA) are hosting a poster competition for medical students and psychiatric residents/fellows.

Deadline: August 31, 2026

Abstract Registration Criteria

- Abstract Title
- Case Report/Research (designate one)
- Primary Authority (Name/Credentials (MD/DO/MS/Other))
- Other Author(s) (Name/Credentials (MD/DO/MS/Other))

Poster Criteria – Submissions Must Be:

- Print Dimensions - Maximum 3' H X 4' W
- Bullet points, charts, or simple tables

Poster Setup

- Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 6:00PM

Poster Awards

- 1st/2nd/3rd Place Prizes awarded for Top Posters
- Any presenter who does not meet published criteria will be disqualified
- Awards will be presented on September 17 around 8:15 p.m. at Little Havana

Contact JHritz@mdpsych.org for additional details and how to submit.

Expand Your MPS Engagement

Engage with Digital Options

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

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.

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

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.](#)

Medicare Updates

2026 Quality Payment Program Exception Applications

The 2026 Quality Payment Program (QPP) exception applications are now available through December 31, 2026, at 8 p.m. ET.

There are 2 types of exception applications that allow participants to indicate why they can't report data for one or more Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) performance categories.

MIPS Promoting Interoperability Performance Category Hardship Exception Application

Individual clinicians, groups, and virtual groups (or their third-party representative) reporting traditional MIPS, a MIPS Value Pathways (MVP), or the Alternative Payment Model (APM) Performance Pathway (APP) can submit a MIPS Promoting Interoperability Performance Category Hardship Exception application for the following reasons:

- You have decertified Electronic Health Record (EHR) technology (must be decertified under the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) Health IT Certification Program).
- You have insufficient internet connectivity.
- You face extreme and uncontrollable circumstances such as a disaster, practice closure, severe financial distress, or vendor issues.
- You lack control over the availability of certified EHR technology (CEHRT).

This application is specific to the MIPS Promoting Interoperability performance category. If your application is approved, you won't be required to report data for this performance category.

REMINDERS: Small practices, non-patient facing, hospital-based clinicians, and ambulatory surgical center (ASC) based clinicians are automatically excepted from having to report data for the Promoting Interoperability performance category. APM Entities reporting the APP or traditional MIPS can't submit a MIPS Promoting Interoperability Performance Category Hardship Exception application on behalf of the entire APM Entity.

MIPS Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Exception Application

Individual clinicians, Groups, and Virtual groups
Individual clinicians, groups, and virtual groups (or their third-party representative) reporting traditional MIPS, an MVP, or the APM Performance Pathway can submit a MIPS Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances (EUC) Exception application for one or more MIPS performance categories (quality, cost, improvement activities, and Promoting Interoperability) due to extreme and uncontrollable circumstances, defined as rare events entirely outside of

your control and the control of the facility in which you practice.

These circumstances would:

- Cause you to be unable to collect information necessary to submit for a MIPS performance category.
- Cause you to be unable to submit information that would be used to score a MIPS performance category for an extended period of time (for example, if you were unable to collect data for the quality performance category for 3 months).
- Impact your normal processes, affecting your performance on cost measures and other administrative claims measures.

If your application is approved, you won't be required to report data for the performance category or categories included in your approved application. However, please note that a qualifying data submission will override approved reweighting on a category-by-category basis. Any qualifying data you or someone on your behalf submits will be scored, and those performance categories will contribute to your final score.

Alternative Payment Model Entities

Alternative Payment Model (APM) Entities including Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program) Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) can also submit applications, but they must apply for all performance categories. If your application is approved, you won't be required to report data for MIPS, and any data submitted won't be scored for purposes of MIPS.

How to Apply

To submit either exception application:

- Sign in to the [QPP website](#) with your Health Care Quality Information System (HCQIS) Access Roles and Profile (HARP) account.
- Choose "Exceptions Application."
- Click "Add New QPP Exception."
- Choose your exception type.

Additional Resources

- [Quality Payment Program Access User Guide](#) – Refer to "Step 1: Register for a HARP Account"
- [Exception Applications \(webpage on the QPP website\)](#)
- [2026 MIPS Promoting Interoperability Hardship Exception Application Guide](#)
- [2026 MIPS Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Exception Application Guide](#)
- [2026 MIPS Automatic Extreme and Uncontrollable Circumstances Policy Fact Sheet](#)

Medicare Updates

Reminder: Preview Is Open

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) opened the calendar year (CY) 2024 Doctors and Clinicians Preview Period on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

You can preview your CY 2024 Quality Payment Program (QPP) performance information before it appears in the [Provider Data Catalog \(PDC\)](#) and on clinician and group profile pages on the Medicare.gov [compare tool](#). You can access the secure preview on the [QPP website](#).

To learn how to preview your information, review [CY 2024 Doctors and Clinicians Performance Information: Guide to the Preview Period \(1.04 MB\) \(PDF\)](#).

For more help accessing the QPP website or getting your Health Care Quality Improvement Systems (HCQIS) Access Roles and Profile (HARP) user role, email the QPP Service Center at QPP@cms.hhs.gov. To learn how to [sign up for a HARP account](#), review the [QPP Access User Guide \(5.4MB\) \(ZIP\)](#).

To learn more about the CY 2024 QPP performance information available for preview, download the following resources on the [Doctors and Clinicians Initiative webpage](#) and in the [CY 2024 Doctors and Clinicians Preview Period \(2 MB\) \(ZIP\)](#) on the [QPP Resource Library](#):

- [Doctors and Clinicians Public Reporting: CY 2024 Quality Payment Program Performance Information on the Medicare.gov Compare Tool \(1.55 MB\) \(PDF\)](#)
- [CY 2024 Medicare.gov Compare Tool Clinician Star Rating Cut-offs for Clinicians and Groups \(267.53 KB\) \(XLSX\)](#)
- [CY 2024 Doctors and Clinicians Preview Period: Performance Information YouTube Video](#)

Note that Accountable Care Organization (ACO)-level data isn't available on the QPP website during the Preview Period. Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who participate in Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs can preview their performance information in their CY 2024 MIPS Performance Feedback.

Medicare Shared Savings Program ACOs can also review quality performance information in their previously provided CY 2024 Quality Performance Reports. The list of ACO performance information planned for public reporting is available on the [Doctors and Clinicians Initiative webpage](#) and in the [QPP Resource Library](#).

The CY 2024 Preview Period will close **Thursday, June 11, 2026**, at 8 p.m.

Reminder: Preview Is Open

A common practice imposed by health insurers on patients and providers is their intrepid need to second-guess clinician treatment decisions by requiring prior authorizations before paying a claim. The current prior authorization process creates unnecessary delays for patients, burdens health care providers with excessive paperwork, and erodes trust between payers and health care providers, even though all share the same goal: delivering high-quality patient care. It is way past time to axe the fax, kill the clipboard, and put patients over paperwork.

More Information:

- [Full blog](#)
- [Electronic Prior Authorization](#) webpage
- [Video](#)
- [Timeline](#)

CLASSIFIEDS

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

Ellicott City: Full/part time office space with amenities and active in-office listserv for Mental Health Practitioners. Easily accessible via routes 40, 29,32, 695. Contact Dr. Mike Boyle at 410-206-6070, 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 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.

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES for Psychiatrists at Sheppard Pratt

Applicants must be board certified or board eligible and have a current Maryland-issued license at the time of hire. Some positions require an on-call schedule.

Current openings Include:

Psychiatrist

Adult Service Line | Towson, MD

Psychiatrist

Child and Adolescent Inpatient | Towson, MD

Psychiatrist

Admissions and Urgent Care | Elkridge, MD and Towson, MD

Scan QR code to
see all openings



At Sheppard Pratt, you will be surrounded by a network of the brightest minds in psychiatry led by a bold vision to change lives. We offer:

- Robust resources to develop your career
- Cutting edge research and technology
- A generous compensation package with comprehensive benefits

For more information, scan the QR code or contact Kathleen Hilzendeger, Director of Professional Services, khilzendeger@sheppardpratt.org or 443-465-6142.

About Sheppard Pratt

Consistently ranked as one of the top ten psychiatric hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*, Sheppard Pratt is the nation's largest private, nonprofit provider of mental health, substance use, special education, developmental disability, and social services. We employ more than 95 doctors who all share a passion for providing the best care to those we serve. Visit sheppardpratt.org to learn more about our services. *EOE*.

PRACTICING TELEPSYCHIATRY?

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