

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGISTS

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February 1, 2010

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To: Members of the Massachusetts Society of Pathologists.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

As many of you know, radical Health Care proposals have appeared on both the National and State level. The Health Care Payment Reform proposal in Massachusetts will be on the desk of legislators this year. If enacted, it will dramatically change the practice of medicine in this state and most likely would end the “fee for service” system as we know it.

In that context, and because of this threat, it is also important that we make a vigorous attempt to negotiate with third party payers for payments for the professional component of clinical pathology.

Since our last MSP meeting of October 2009, the Executive Committee has been extremely busy.

1. The MSP has entered into a one year arrangement with Johnson/Haley, registered lobbyists. Johnson/Haley will represent our interests at the State House in the matter concerning Health Care Payment Reform. The MSP has contracted with Johnson/Haley for the annual sum of \$30,000. The CAP has agreed to pay one half of that sum (\$15,000).
2. A subcommittee of the MSP, with the assistance of Mr. Jonathan Richman of Health Management Associates, has pursued options concerning reimbursement for professional component of clinical pathology (PCCP). The subcommittee has decided to enter into an agreement with Attorney Jane Pine Wood. Attorney Jane Pine Wood will develop appropriate documents, national data and support information to present to representatives of major third party payers in Massachusetts. It is anticipated that the total cost of this education project will not exceed \$10,000.

The Executive Committee has voted to approve the aforementioned expenditures.
To summarize:

Issue #1:

It is very critical that our professional interests as pathologists be represented at the State House as Health Care Payment Reform is debated. The MSP and the CAP have every confidence that Johnson Haley will adequately represent our interests.

Issue #2:

In other states, state pathology societies have successfully challenged third party payers in order to be compensated for professional laboratory services. There is no time like the present for our organization to pursue this issue.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

These administrative and legal issues require funding. Our dues, which will be mailed separately, do not begin to cover the anticipated expenses.

Each member of the Executive Committee has already pledged generously to our professional cause. Also, the Executive Committee of the MSP has developed a strategy to ask non-dues paying pathologists to also contribute. These issues are critical to our collective professional survival and will affect all pathologists in all practice settings. Please contribute generously to support these endeavors on your behalf performed by the Society.

- OTHER
- \$500.00
- \$250.00
- \$100.00

Please make checks payable to: Massachusetts Society of Pathologists,
22 Hutchins Rd, Medford, MA 02155.

Or contribute via our web site: www.masspath.org

Sincerely,

C. Dean Pappas, M.D.
President, Massachusetts Society of Pathologists

