



# Vermont Medical Society

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## VMS Membership Adopts New Resolutions

Resolutions to form basis of Society's 2015 public policy efforts ...

[Read Full Story](#)



## Jan. 23rd Legislative Bulletin and Montpelier Minute

Updates on proposed Medicaid reimbursement increase, elimination of educational loan repayment funds and more ...



## Montpelier Minute: 2015 legislative session preview

The VMS staff previews topics expected to arise during the 2015 legislative session ...



## Health Department releases Ebola FAQ for health care workers, updates tools

VMS relayed numerous questions from health care providers to health department ...



## VMS Membership Adopts New Resolutions

Resolutions to form basis of Society's 2015 public policy efforts ...

## Welcome to The Vermont Medical Society

The Vermont Medical Society is the leading voice of physicians in the state and is dedicated to advancing the practice of medicine by advocating on behalf of Vermont's doctors and the patients and communities they care for.

The Society serves its 2,000 members through public policy advocacy on the state and federal levels, as well as by providing legal, administrative and educational support, producing a rich flow of news and information and offering member benefits that increase medical practice effectiveness and efficiency.

Founded more than 200 years ago, the Society has long been recognized as one of the state's most prominent health care organizations.

## Quick Links

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## Leadership

### David Coddaira, M.D., President

Dr. Coddaira is a family physician at the Morrisville Family Health Center and the executive medical director of Community Health Services of Lamoille Valley, a Federally Qualified Health Center that runs several practices in the Lamoille Valley area. A recipient of the 2009 Vermont Medical Society's Physician of the Year award, Dr. Coddaira earned his M.D. at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, where he currently serves as a clinical associate professor in the Department of Family Medicine, and completed his residency at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

### James Hebert, M.D., President-Elect

Dr. Hebert is a general surgeon at the University of Vermont Medical Center and a Mackay-Page Professor of Surgery at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, where he earned his M.D. He was named to U.S. News and World Report's Top Doctors list for 2012-2013, placing in the top 1 percent for excellence in General Surgery with special expertise in Biliary Surgery and Colon & Rectal Surgery.

His research interests have focused on host defenses against infection and medical education. He has been a funded researcher and has authored many peer reviewed articles, book chapters, editorials and reviews. He has been the recipient of the UVM Department of Surgery teaching and service awards. In 2002 Dr. Hebert received a Distinguished Academic Achievement Award from the Medical Alumni Association at UVM, and in 2006 was the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award from the NBME.

### Wendy Davis, M.D. Vice President

Wendy Davis, M.D. is a clinical professor of Pediatrics at the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, and the Associate Director of the National Improvement Partnership Network. She also serves as a pediatrician at the University of Vermont Medical Center and as a professor in the University of Vermont College of Medicine's pediatric department.

The Vermont Health Commissioner from 2008 to 2011, Dr. Davis is an American Academy of Pediatrics Fellow and the 2009 recipient of the Vermont Medical Society's Distinguished Service Award. She received her M.D. from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1981 and completed pediatric and chief residencies at Case Western Reserve University.

### Howard Schapiro, M.D., Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Schapiro is an anesthesiologist at the University of Vermont Medical Center and the chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine (UVMCM). He received his bachelor of arts in biology and masters of science in natural sciences/epidemiology from the State University of New York at Buffalo and his medical degree at UVMCM. An attending anesthesiologist at FAHC since 1986, Dr. Schapiro is currently a member of the hospital's strategic management, faculty practice finance, medical staff executive, and operating room steering committees.

### Daniel Walsh, M.D., Immediate Past-President

Dr. Walsh is a Norwich, Vt., resident and vascular surgeon at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. A professor of surgery at Dartmouth Medical School, he earned his M.D. at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and completed his residency at the University of Michigan Medical Center. He joined the DHMC staff in 1987.

### John Mazuzan, M.D., Treasurer Emeritus

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## Staff



### Paul Harrington, Executive Vice President

Ext. 11

 E-mail: [pharrington@vtmd.org](mailto:pharrington@vtmd.org)

Executive Vice President Paul Harrington has worked at VMS since April 2002. Previously, Paul was the majority health policy director for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions under the chairmanship of Senator James M. Jeffords. He has also served as deputy commissioner of the Vermont Department of Labor and Industry, a board member of the Vermont Health Care Authority and as the chair of the Commerce Committee in the Vermont House of

Representatives, where he served three terms.

In addition to his duties at VMS, Paul is the treasurer of Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc., serves on the AMA's State Technical Advisory Team and is on the executive committee of the Governor's Vermont Chronic Care Initiative. He also serves on the boards of the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care and The Physicians' Foundation. Paul is a graduate of the University of Vermont.



### Madeleine Mongan, Deputy Executive Vice President

Ext. 17

 E-mail: [mmongan@vtmd.org](mailto:mmongan@vtmd.org)

Vice President for Policy Madeleine Mongan has been at VMS since January 1996. She works with the Vermont Legislature, state agencies and insurers on health care policy and provides education and technical assistance to Vermont physicians on legal issues. As an attorney, her practice addresses a range of health law issues including confidentiality, licensing, managed care, scope of practice, liability reform, public health, contracting, and fraud and abuse.

Madeleine is a member of the American Medical Association Advocacy Resource Center Advisory Board, the American Health Lawyers Association, the American Society of Medical Association Counsel, the Vermont Bar Association, and is past chair of the Vermont Bar Association Health Law Committee. She represents Vermont physicians on the Medicaid Advisory Board, the Area Health Education Centers Advisory Board and the Vermont Health Resource Allocation Plan Board.

She received her B.A. from the University of Delaware, M.A. from Stanford University, and J.D. from the University of California at Davis.



### Stephanie Winters, Operations Director

Ext. 10

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[swinters@vtmd.org](mailto:swinters@vtmd.org)

Office and Membership Coordinator Stephanie Winters has worked at VMS for thirteen years. She serves as the executive director of the Vermont chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the executive director of the Vermont Orthopaedic Society. Stephanie graduated from U-32 High School in East Montpelier in 1995 and attended Champlain College in Burlington.

Stephanie was born and raised in Central Vermont and lives in Williamstown with her husband Terry and their two cats and two dogs. Stephanie enjoys spending time with her family, graphic design and cooking.



### **Colleen Magne, Business Manager**

Ext. 14  
 E-mail: [cmagne@vtmd.org](mailto:cmagne@vtmd.org)

Business manager Colleen Magne has worked at VMS since September 2005. In addition to her duties as business manager, Colleen also is the program administrator for the Vermont Practitioner Health Program. Previously she was employed by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont for nearly 12 years. Her positions there included customer service, nongroup sales, account representative, and senior account representative.

Colleen lives in Middlesex with her husband David, 18-year-old son Nathan, and 25-year-old daughter Meghan. Colleen attended Trinity College of Vermont in Burlington. She enjoys living and working in the Montpelier area, as well as attending sporting events at Union 32 High School in East Montpelier.



### **Justin Campfield, Communications**

(802) 683-9889  
 E-mail: [jcampfield@vtmd.org](mailto:jcampfield@vtmd.org)

Justin Campfield has led VMS's communications efforts since January 2009 and contributes more than a decade of communications and public affairs experience.

As a public relations executive in both agency and in-house settings, Justin has led communications programs for a wide array of clients, including two community hospitals in Florida. He is an occasional contributing columnist for the American College of Healthcare

Executives' membership magazine, Healthcare Executive, and in 2008 joined two Dartmouth Medical School professors in co-authoring a paper that was published by the Journal of Healthcare Management.

Justin, a graduate of Florida Southern College, lives with his wife and three children in Norwich, Vermont.



### **Suzanne Parker, M.D., VPHP Medical Director**

(802) 223-0400  
 Email: [lifeform22@aol.com](mailto:lifeform22@aol.com)

Suzanne Parker, M.D., rejoined VMS as





Director of VPHP in early 2010. She previously served in the role from 2001 to 2008. During her career, Dr. Parker has received numerous awards, including the Alan Buckland Award for Distinguished Service in the Field of Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment, the 2006 VMS Physician of the Year Award and the University of Vermont College of Medicine Alumni Award for Service to Medicine and the Community.

In private practice since 1987, Dr. Parker received her M.D. from the University of Vermont and conducted her residency in psychiatry at Fletcher Allen. Dr. Parker is also an instructor at the UVM College of Medicine, with an emphasis on the topics of substance abuse, physician impairment and pain management.



#### Wm. Cyrus Jordan, M.D., VMSERF Administrator

Ext. 12

Email: [cjordan@vtmd.org](mailto:cjordan@vtmd.org)

Dr. Jordan assumed the position of Medical Director of the Vermont Medical Society's Foundation for Research and Education at the Foundation in late 2010 after serving as the Medical Director of the Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care, Inc. for 17 years.

Dr. Jordan is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine. He completed both a residency in family medicine at the University of Vermont and a pediatric residency at Boston University. He received his Masters in Public Health from Harvard University. Prior to his career in quality measurement and improvement, Dr. Jordan practiced family

medicine and pediatrics for a decade in inner city Boston and rural Vermont.

Dr. Jordan served as chair of the board of directors of the Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Vermont's HITECH Regional Extension Center from 2007-2009. He currently serves on the board of the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center, a federal and state partnership to promote production and service efficiencies in both the private and public sectors including state government, education and health care.



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### CMEs and Education

VMS offers its members a host of services that are designed to encourage medical excellence through education.

**Continuing Medical Education** – VMS helps physicians fulfill continuing medical education requirements by hosting several CME programs during its annual meeting and, upon request, will document members' fulfillment of CME requirements.

And through a new partnership with the Massachusetts Medical Society VMS members now have discounted access to approximately 30 world-class online CME offerings. Additionally, the Vermont General Assembly has enacted a number of new regulations regarding CMEs that VMS members should be aware of.

**Educational Materials and Resources** – As the practice of medicine is ever evolving, VMS works diligently to assist its members by providing information, regulations, studies, and articles to providers through a growing compilation of helpful resources. Items include information about alcohol and drug abuse, mental health, palliative care and pain management, the American Disabilities Act, the Vermont Guide to Health Law, and even interpreter services.

**VMS Foundation** – VMS also supports the education of current and future physicians through the Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Foundation, Inc. a not-for-profit public benefit corporation organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. The mission of the VMS Foundation is to advance the public good by supporting education, improvement and evaluation in the field of health.

Besides its important studies, reports and conferences, the VMS Foundation, in conjunction with the Chittenden County Medical Society, each year awards the Dr. Mildred Reardon Award, a \$10,000 scholarship given to a deserving third-year medical student at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

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## VMS Resolutions

VMS resolutions are catalysts for the organization's legislative efforts. Each year, VMS members propose and approve resolutions that guide VMS staff and leadership in their advocacy and public policy efforts.

To view past resolutions, click on the years below.

### 2014

[Compliance with Act 48 Triggers](#)   
[Evidence-Based Alternatives to Opioid Prescribing](#)   
[Timely Access to Level One Inpatient Psychiatric Care](#)   
[Integrating the Science of the Adverse Childhood Experience \(ACE\)](#)   
[Developing the Vermont Health Resource Allocation Plan](#)   
[Supporting Graduate Medical Education](#)   
[Patient Portals](#)   
[Transition from Pediatric to Adult Care](#)

### 2013

[Improving Transition of Care](#)   
[Advances in Public Health and Health Care Delivery Integration through Populations Health](#)   
[Burden of Quality Reporting](#)   
[Electronic Health Records and the Medical Record](#)   
[Support for Physician Policy Involvement and Physician Leadership Education](#)   
[Investigation Standards for the Vermont Board of Medical Practice](#)   
[Acute Inpatient Mental Health Care](#)

### 2012

[Physician Stewardship of Health Care](#)   
[Cost of Medical Education](#)   
[Reimbursement to Physicians for Providing Non Face-to-Face Care](#)   
[Collaboration Among Physicians and Other Health Care Practitioners](#)   
[Electronic Health Records and the Physician-Patient Relationship](#)   
[Patient Incentives](#)   
[Medical Liability Reforms](#)   
[Use and Improvement of the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System](#)

### 2011

[Issuing an Annual Progress Report on State Government's Compliance with the Act 48 Principles](#)   
[Opposition to a Medicaid Tax on Physicians' Net Revenue](#)   
[Reconvening the Vermont Medical Society Physician Policy Council](#)   
[Patient Education & Personal Responsibility for Health](#)   
[Dangers of Distracted Driving](#)

### 2010

[Physician Leadership](#)   
[Need for Tort Reform in Order to Address Defensive Medicine](#)   
[Unfunded Mandates](#)   
[Reaffirming the Physician/Patient Relationship](#)   
[Anatomical Gifts](#)

### 2009

[Collaboration with the Vermont Department of Health on H1N1](#)   
[Increasing Immunizations Rates of Vermonters](#)

## Advocacy and Policy

- ▶ [Overview](#)
- ▶ [Previous Advocacy Efforts](#)
- ▶ [VMS Resolutions](#)
- ▶ [VMS PAC](#)
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- ▶ [Key Legislative Committees Info](#)

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[Preserving Patient Access to Physicians by Reducing Administrative Burdens and Improving Reimbursement](#)   
[Strategies to Address Rising Health Care Costs](#)   
[Preventing Childhood Obesity](#) 





## 2008

[VMS Support for Efforts to Minimize Cost Burden to Patients](#)   
[Grants and Gifts to Physicians](#)   
[Prescription Drug Abuse and Diversion & E-Prescribing of Controlled Substances](#)   
[Legislative Action to Repeal Medicare SGR Payment Formula](#)   
[Responsibility for Health Care in the Ideal System](#) 






## 2007

[Health Care Information Technology](#)   
[Prevention](#)   
[Primary Care Physician Shortage](#)   
[Protection of Patients' Access to Physicians](#) 

## 2006

[Implementing Electronic Medical Records](#)   
[Ensuring the Privacy of Prescription Information](#)   
[Sustainability of Vermont Blueprint for Health](#)   
[Restrictive Covenants in Physician Employment Contracts](#) 














## 2005

[Principles for the Development of Pay-for-Performance Programs](#)   
[Establishing Pre-Trial Screening Panels for Medical Liability Claims](#)   
[Establishing the Dr. Mildred Reardon Scholarship](#)   
[The Improvement of Vermont's Health Care System](#)   
[Fluoridation in Community Water Systems](#) 






## 2004

[Resolution to Endorse Health-Promoting Activity and Healthy Foods in Vermont Schools](#)   
[Advocating for Change in the Relative Update Committee of the American Medical Association](#)   
[Enactment of National Medical Liability Reform](#)   
[Prompt and Adequate Medicaid Reimbursement](#)   
[Pain Treatment and Assessment](#)   
[Repeal of Medicare's Sustainable Growth Rate Reimbursement Formula](#)   
[Reducing the Secondary Effects of Cigarettes](#)   
[Physician Reimbursement Under Vermont's Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule](#) 

## 2003

[Preventing Childhood Obesity](#)   
[Domestic Violence as a Health Care Concern](#)   
[Improvement of Vermont's Health Care System](#)   
[Medicaid Reimbursement](#)   
[Development & Implementation of a Medical Information System](#)   
[Medicare Reimbursement](#)   
[Vermont Physicians Confronting the Opioid Challenge Facing Vermonters](#)   
[Prescribing Authority for Optometrists](#)   
[Licensing Respiratory Care Practitioners](#)   
[Waiving VMS Membership Dues](#)   
[Voting Procedures](#)   
[Physician-Assisted Suicide](#)   
[Memorial Resolution - Joseph B. Warshaw, M.D.](#) 

## 2002

[Medical Use of Marijuana Cannabis Research](#)   
[Reducing Childhood Obesity](#)   
[Medicaid Reimbursement](#)   
[Medical Cannabis Use and Study](#)   
[Moratorium on the Death Penalty](#)   
[Treatment Availability for Opioid Dependence](#)   
[Prescribing Authority for Optometrists](#)   
[Patient Privacy and Pharmaceutical Sales Representatives](#)   
[Professional Liability Insurance Reform for Physicians](#)   
[Letter to Vermont Retail Lumber and Building Materials Companies from Members of the Vermont Senate and House of Representatives](#)   
[Resolution to Eliminate Smoking in All Indoor Public Places](#) 

To view older VMS policies click [here](#) (pdf) .





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## News

The mission of the VMS communications department is two-fold; keeping members informed about the organization's activities and emerging industry issues, and communicating to the media, lawmakers and public where VMS and its physician membership stands on important issues.

VMS communicates with its members by producing a host of publications, including:

- [The Green Mountain Physician](#) is a six-times-a-year membership magazine that features news, profiles on members of Vermont's health care community, legislative and regulatory updates, and helpful practice management articles written by subject-matter experts.
- [The Legislative Bulletin](#), a newsletter published as issues dictate throughout the legislative session and year. The Bulletin is produced with the goal of keeping members up-to-date on health care-related activities in the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the state and local government, and when needed, calling on physicians to participate in the legislative process.
- [VTMD.org](#) is VMS's primary electronic source of information and aims to be Vermont physicians' go-to-source for information about their profession.

VMS maintains an active public presence by issuing press releases, surveys, studies and other forms of information that influence public perceptions and actions.

## News Links

- ▶ [Overview](#)
- ▶ [Latest News](#)
- ▶ [Pressroom](#)
- ▶ [Green Mountain Physician](#)
- ▶ [Legislative Bulletins](#)
- ▶ [Media Contact](#)

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**VMS Foundation releases report on Antibiotic Stewardship in Emergency Departments**

At the request of the Vermont Department of Health and with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the VMS Foundation has...[read More](#)



## The VMS Education & Research Foundation

### Helping Physicians Help Patients and Communities

The Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. The mission of the VMS Foundation is to advance the public good by supporting education, improvement and evaluation in the field of health. It's ultimate goal is to help the state's health care community provide better care that leads to healthier Vermonters at lower costs.

The Vermont Medical Society created the Foundation as a distinct entity with its own governance structure in order to separate its traditional advocacy role from the Foundation's goal of promoting the health of all Vermonters through physician leadership, professionalism and shared-decision making.

**Optimizing  
Laboratory  
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## Reports & Whitepapers

[Actualizing Reform Through Clinician Leadership](#) - Jan. 9, 2014

[Foundation Delivers Rural Care Whitepaper to GMCB](#) - Dec. 12, 2013

[Foundation Presents Whitepaper on Physician Opinion on Optimizing Hospital-based Care to GMCB](#) - Dec. 5, 2013

[Foundation releases revealing chronic pain and prescription drug abuse whitepaper](#) - Nov. 14, 2012

[Physician Leadership Interviews and Action Plan](#) - 2012

[Report Suggests VT Docs are Facing Numerous Practice- and Finance-related Concerns](#) - June 7, 2011

### Latest News

#### **VMS Foundation Awarded \$500,000 Grant to Combat Unnecessary and Potentially Harmful Medical Testing**

The Vermont Medical Society Education and Research Foundation has been awarded a \$548,829 grant to develop... [Read More](#)

#### **VMS Foundation releases report on Antibiotic Stewardship in Emergency Departments**

At the request of the Vermont Department of Health and with support from the Centers for Disease Control... [Read More](#)

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