

THE REPORT

News from the MRS

Stay up-to-date with the latest topics and events that are relevant to Michigan-based radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists with our bi-monthly publication.

Holiday Edition 2023 | Issue 23

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Walter Sahjidak, MD, FACR
President
2023-24 Term

President's Message

Holiday Edition 2023 | Issue 23

Dear Members of MRS,

As the year draws to a close, it is the perfect time to reflect on our achievements, celebrate our successes, and spend time with our loved ones. The MRS has had a fruitful year, with new members joining and numerous exciting events taking place.

As we move forward into the New Year, let us continue to support and inspire each other. By attending events, sharing research and knowledge, or simply being there for one another, we can make a positive impact on the lives of those around us.

With the advent of 2024, the MRS is thrilled to announce that the 27th Annual Resident Section Conference, 87th Annual Preston M. Hickey Memorial Lecture, and Annual Meeting will be merged into one grand weekend event. This gathering will be an opportunity for us to come together to honor the gold medal winners and discuss the latest developments in radiology. Members will be able to connect with peers and learn from experts in the field.

In addition to this exciting event, the MRS will continue to provide a wide range of resources and opportunities for members throughout the year.

We would like to extend our gratitude to all of our members for their unwavering support and commitment to the MRS. We look forward to another successful year ahead and wish each of you a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,

Walter M. Sahjidak, MD, FACR
President, Michigan Radiological Society



MRS FOUNDATION

And the Winner is...

The MRS Foundation attended the MRS Up North Conference at Boyne Mountain. We had the opportunity to visit with MRS Members and their families who attended the meeting and to get acquainted with members we had not met before.

Throughout the weekend we conducted a Silent Auction for a "MADE IN MICHIGAN" Basket with all proceeds going to the Foundation. All the items in the Basket were made in Michigan products which included the following items:

- Shurms Michi-Gummies (Oakland Twp, MI)
- Sanders Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramels (Clinton Twp, MI)
- Fireside Coffee Co. Peppermint Cocoa (Swartz Creek, MI)
- Koegel's Meat Company T-shirt (XL) and Ball Cap (Flint, MI)
- Signed Copy - "Road Trips Michigan Back Roads" (Hart, MI)
- Jiffy Corn Meal Mix (Chelsea, MI)
- Cherry Republic (Glen Arbor, MI)
- Mamma Mary's Top-Secret Cherries and Cherry Crisp Mix, Boomchunka Cookie, Cherry
- Jam and Michigan Minnows - Cherry Flavored Candy
- University of Michigan T-Shirt (L)
- Central Michigan University T-Shirt (L)
- Wayne State University T-Shirt (XL)
- Kellogg's Rice Krispies Treats (Battle Creek, MI)
- Vlasic Dill Pickles (Imlay City, MI)
- Vernors (Holland, MI)
- Faygo Pop (Detroit, MI)
- Velvet Peanut Butter (Livonia, MI)
- Great Lakes Kettle Chips (Traverse City, MI)
- Better Made Detroit Mix-Carmel and Cheese Popcorn (Novi, MI)
- Karr's Sweet and Salty Mix (Madison Heights, MI)
- Zehnder's Chicken Seasoning and Egg Noodles, (Frankenmuth, MI)
- Taffy - Frankenmuth Taffy Kitchen (Frankenmuth, MI)



We began the Auction on Friday and closed it out on Sunday. And the Winner is ... Ron Vianu.

Congratulations and thank you for your generous donation

(We appreciate all those companies who made donations to our Basket...thank you!)

The real “Winners” are Michigan Medical Students and Residents in diagnostic and interventional radiology, radiation oncology, medical physics, and nuclear medicine who benefit from your generous gifts to the Foundation. We believe the future of our patients and professions in these fields of radiology depends upon the successes of our future leaders, supported by the Michigan Radiological Society Foundation.

If you have not given a gift to the Foundation, we encourage you to do so. As this year is ending some of you will be making some year-end contributions. We hope you will consider the MRS Foundation.

There are many ways you can give. To learn more about the MRS Foundation or to make a donation, simply click on the Donate Now button below or visit our website at www.michigan-rad.org/foundation.

The Michigan Radiological Society Foundation is dedicated to carrying out the educational and charitable interests of the Michigan Radiological Society.

The MRS Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all gifts are tax deductible.



RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY

DXA/DEXA - DUAL ENERGY XRAY ABSORPTIOMETRY - REPORTING DEMYSTIFIED IN ADULTS

Why is osteoporosis diagnosis important?

1/2 of women and 1/4 of men over age 50 will break a bone from osteoporosis.
24% of hip fracture patients age 50 and over die in the year following the fracture.
6 months after hip fracture only 15% are able to walk across a room without help.

How do I make sense of the data?

Important elements include total hip, femoral neck, L spine (1-4) and sometimes the nondominant forearm (1/3 radius)
For post menopausal women and men over 50 the t scores will be the primary means of diagnosis.

T scores of -2.5 or less (more negative) indicates osteoporosis

T scores <-1 and >-2.5 are osteopenia

T scores of >-1.0 are normal

Of the above body parts, the worst t score makes the diagnosis.

For example, if the femoral neck is -1, total hip -1.5 and L spine -2.5, the final diagnosis is osteoporosis.

A t score compares a patient's bone density to that of an average 30 yr adult

Guidelines for medical treatment for osteoporosis:

- Hip or vertebral fracture in the past
- Osteoporosis by t score (if secondary causes are excluded)
- Osteopenia with abnormal FRAX
- Clinician judgement and patient preference

FRAX is often obtained in patients with a final diagnosis of osteopenia as a sort of tie breaker for whether to treat or not. Most newer scanners can offer the FRAX percentages. An online calculator is also available by clicking the button below.

The FRAX combines clinical factors with the bone mineral density of the femoral neck to come up with 10 yr probability of a hip fracture and 10 year probability of a major osteoporosis related fracture. If the hip fracture probability is 3% or more or if the major osteoporosis related fracture is 20% or more, treatment may be indicated.

Z scores compare bone density to average bone density of a patient with same age and gender cohort. In post-menopausal women or men above 50 with osteoporosis and a z score of <-2 the possibility of secondary cause of osteoporosis should be worked up.

In premenopausal women and men <50 yrs old, the z score is usually the primary means for diagnosis. The impression should indicate whether the BMD is "within the expected range for age" (z score > -2) or "below the expected range for age" (z score = or < -2)

References:

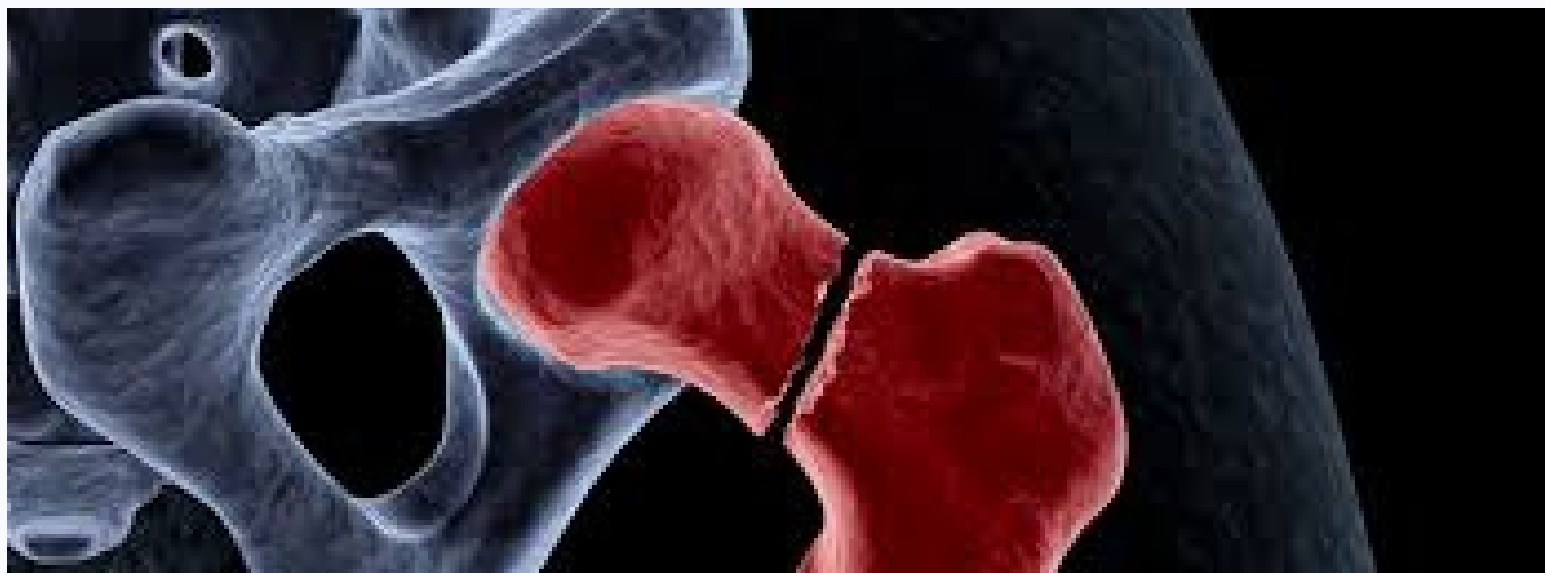
<https://www.bonehealthandosteoporosis.org/wp-content/uploads/Osteoporosis-Fast-Facts-2.pdf>

<https://iscd.org/learn/official-positions/adult-positions/>



Authored by John Kalabat, MD
Henry Ford Medical
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Chair Radiological Safety
Committee of MRS

Fracture Risk
Assessment Tool





OVERVIEW

The Legislature is on full throttle in an attempt to enact a number of priorities before an expected earlier-than-normal year-end adjournment. Among the items on the "to do" list are:

- a Constitutionally mandated enactment of a full disclosure law for elected and appointed officials
- a comprehensive renewable energy law mandating goals for carbon free energy production
- enactment of a Reproductive Health Act
- repealing a number of laws enacted during years of Republican control, including the so-called FDA defense protecting pharmaceutical manufacturers from product liability lawsuits
- creation of a Prescription Drug Affordability Board which would be charged with monitoring escalating drug costs
- revision of Michigan's auto no-fault law to add greater reimbursement for home health care workers

Democrats have a challenge to their control of the House, and it is of their own doing. They now hold a 56-54 majority, but 2 of their members are running for local office in a general election November 7th. If both of those members win their election, the partisan makeup of the House would be 54-54, and many of the Governor's priorities could not be enacted. Moreover, several bills that have passed and been signed into law by the Governor will not become effective until around April 1 of 2024. This is so because the minority Republicans withheld their support for the bills taking immediate effect. Without immediate effect, a bill that is enacted does not take effect until 90 days after final adjournment for the year by Constitutional mandate.

One of those bills not granted immediate effect is moving up the date of Michigan's Presidential Primary to February 27, a measure that President Biden's campaign wanted. However, since it did not get immediate effect, the law would not take effect until well after the February 27 date. That is, if the Legislature adjourned for the year as it normally does between Christmas and New Year's Day. For these and a few other reasons, Democrats are giving serious consideration to adjourning for the year in early November instead of late December. The odds are for early adjournment on November 9. By so doing, the Governor could call a special election to fill vacancies in case the 2 state representatives are elected to local office and Michigan presidential primary could be held on February 27. Early adjournment would also mean nurse practitioners would have less time this year to try and get their legislation passed. Stay tuned!

LEGISLATION

Scope of Practice:

On April 20, Senator Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) introduced SB 279, which is a reintroduction of last session's SB 680. The bill has bipartisan co-sponsorship and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy. This legislation, in essence, allows nurse practitioners to practice medicine by granting them authority to diagnose and prescribe controlled substances without being under the supervision of a physician. It also specifically allows nurse practitioners to engage in "ordering, performing, supervising and interpreting laboratory and imaging studies."

Physician groups are adamantly opposed to this legislation and are already actively lobbying against it. The MRS Legislative Committee has discussed this bill at length and has alternative language which would not allow nurse practitioners to practice radiology. MRS, along with other physicians, specialty organizations and MSMS, will be waging a very vigorous, grassroots campaign in opposition. In fact, SB 279 was the focal point of the MRS Legislative Day. Due to the effort of MRS, MSMS and other physician groups thus far, the bill has been stalled.

Physician-Led Patient Care Teams:

Rep. Alabas Farhat (D-Dearborn) has introduced HB 4472, which would establish and mandate practice agreements for physician assistants and nurse practitioners. The agreements call for a patient care team led by a physician or physicians. The legislation was introduced at the request of Michigan State Medical Society and is supported by physician specialty groups. It is now with the House Committee on Health Policy. The introduction of this bill was a counter-offensive by MSMS and physician groups to the nurses' efforts to legislate a medical degree.

HB 4071, Oral Chemo Therapy:

Rep. Samantha Steckloff (D-Northville) sponsored a bill that requires equal insurance coverage for oral cancer chemotherapy and intravenous therapy. This bill has passed the Senate and has been signed by the Governor.



James Cavanagh, JD
MRS Lobbyist

HB 4015, Insulin Co-Pay:

Sponsored by Rep. Jennifer Conlin (D-Dexter), places a limit on the co-pay of Insulin at \$35 for every 30-day supply. This bill remains with the House Insurance and Financial Services Committee.

HB 4276, Pharmacy Benefit Manager Regulation:

Rep. Farhat has introduced legislation calling for strict regulation of reporting requirements for pharmacy benefit managers. The bill has now passed the House and is with the Senate. It is a priority among Democratic Party leadership, and I expect its passage before the Legislature adjourns for the year.

SB 27, Mental Health Parity:

Sponsored by Sen. Sarah Anthony (D-Lansing), requires health insurers to give equal coverage for behavioral health and substance use disorder services as that given for physical health. Much of this is a codification of federal law; nevertheless, I do expect it to pass. The bill has passed the Senate by a vote of 35-3 and has been referred to the House Committee on Insurance and Financial Services.

Radiation Technology Rules:

The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (DLEO) is promulgating administrative rules that will establish education and training requirements for operators of ionizing equipment. A public hearing was held on August 16 with MRS former President Ralph Lieto testifying along with members of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, Molecular Imaging and the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. My best information is the Department will go ahead with the Rules, but exclude nuclear medicine because it believes it has no jurisdiction to regulate nuclear medicine.

Legislative Day:

The MRS Legislative Day was November 1, 2023. Legislative Committee and MRS leadership visited members of the Senate Health Policy Committee to oppose SB 279 and to explain what is required if an individual is to become a radiologist.



EXPLORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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- [Multiple Opportunities- SE MI Physician Led Group](#)
- [Locums/1099 Opportunities- Michigan](#)

Advanced Radiology Services, PC

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- [IR Warren](#)
- [IR Kalamazoo](#)
- [IR St. Joseph](#)
- [IR Tri Cities](#)
- [Breast Imaging Lansing](#)
- [Breast Imaging Grand Rapids](#)
- [Breast Imaging Kalamazoo](#)
- [Breast Imaging Tri Cities](#)
- [Neuro Remote Weekend Only](#)
- [Thoracic Grand Rapids](#)
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Botsford Medical Imaging, Farmington Hills

- [Cross-sectional Imaging and Vascular Interventional](#)

C. S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor

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- [Radiologist-In-Chief and Assoc. Chair for Ped Radiology](#)

Drs. Harris, Birkhill, Wang, Songe and Associates

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Garden City Hospital – SE MI

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Neuroradiologist, Hybrid

- [Cardiothoracic Radiologist, Hybrid](#)

Rochester Radiology PC – SE MI

- [Special Interest in Neuro](#)

University of Michigan – SE MI

- [Cardiothoracic Radiologist](#)

X-Ray Associates of Port Huron – East MI

- [BE/BE Radiologist](#)

To publish a job opening, please contact Shannon Sage at shannon@michigan-rad.org.



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