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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 31, 2021

Mass. hospitals, physician organizations, and healthcare leaders affirm commitment to address clinician burnout

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to place tremendous strain on the resiliency and wellbeing of caregivers, some 120 Massachusetts hospitals, physician organizations, and healthcare leaders have signed on to an effort led by the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) and Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association (MHA) to continue their efforts in addressing clinician burnout. Leaders from each of the organizations listed below have committed to measuring a specific contributing factor to clinician burnout, and prioritizing improvements in that area as an institutional goal.

The **MMS-MHA Joint Task Force on Physician Burnout (TFPB)**, in collaboration with local and national organizations, has closely analyzed the causes of physician and clinician burnout, and has identified and shared effective burnout reduction strategies. The task force continues to pinpoint opportunities to reduce administrative burden and other contributors to clinician burnout, and actively advocates for their adoption. Now more than ever, the TFPB members believe commitment at the highest levels of the healthcare organization is necessary to effectively reduce clinician burnout.

Each of the organizations listed below will select a measure of clinician wellness or burnout, measure its prevalence in their organization over time and include improving that measure as an institutional goal.

“Our caregivers are often called heroes, but they are still very much human and are subject to more stress and strain than ever before,” said **Steve Walsh, president and CEO of the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association**. “Our hospitals and healthcare leaders are focused on ensuring that our most valuable resource – our clinicians – get the support they need. This latest commitment has the flexibility to allow our organizations to focus on specific areas tailored to their individual needs, which ultimately helps us address burnout on a united front.”

“The issue of clinician burnout was at an alarming level long before COVID-19. We are fortunate that healthcare leaders and systems came together to acknowledge and begin to address the issue,” said **Dr. David A. Rosman, president of the Massachusetts Medical Society**. “During the pandemic, members of the health team demonstrated their unwavering commitment to their patients, no matter the risk. It turned out that the risk was more than COVID-19 – working to the brink of exhaustion and despair, mental health has been pushed to and in some cases over the edge. This commitment to addressing burnout and deploying institutional improvements is a critical step in assuring that clinicians and all healthcare teams are able to deliver care to our patients through the pandemic and beyond.”

The TFPB has outlined some its findings in its publications [Changing the EHR from a Liability to an Asset to Reduce Physician Burnout](#) and [A Crisis in Health Care: A Call to Action on Physician Burnout](#). The group’s work also aligns closely with the work of MHA’s Caring for the Caregiver Task Force, which focuses on challenges relating to worker safety, wellbeing, engagement, and development and deployment of staff. A recently released Caring for the Caregiver Task Force Report, which includes information about clinician burnout provided with MMS leadership, is available on MHA’s [PatientCareLink](#) site.



CEO/CMO Clinician Burnout Commitment Letter Signatories (as of 3/31/2021)

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|---|---|
| 1. AdCare Hospital | 60. Lowell General Hospital |
| 2. Anna Jaques Hospital | 61. Lowell General Physician Hospital Organization |
| 3. Atrius Health | 62. Martha's Vineyard Hospital |
| 4. Baycare Health Partners, Inc. | 63. Mass General Brigham Community Physicians |
| 5. BayRidge Hospital | 64. Mass General Brigham |
| 6. Baystate Franklin Medical Center | 65. Massachusetts Eye and Ear |
| 7. Baystate Medical Center | 66. Massachusetts General Hospital |
| 8. Baystate Noble Hospital | 67. Massachusetts General Hospital Physicians Organization |
| 9. Baystate Wing Hospital | 68. McLean Hospital |
| 10. Berkshire Health Systems | 69. MelroseWakefield Healthcare |
| 11. Beth Israel Deaconess Care Organization | 70. Mercy Medical Center |
| 12. Beth Israel Deaconess HealthCare | 71. MetroWest Healthcare Alliance |
| 13. Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Milton | 72. MetroWest Medical Center |
| 14. Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Needham | 73. Milford Regional Medical Center |
| 15. Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Plymouth | 74. Milford Regional Physician Group |
| 16. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | 75. Mount Auburn Cambridge Independent Practice Association |
| 17. Beth Israel Lahey Health | 76. Mount Auburn Hospital |
| 18. Beth Israel Lahey Health Performance Network | 77. Nantucket Cottage Hospital |
| 19. Beverly and Addison Gilbert Hospitals | 78. New England Baptist Hospital |
| 20. Boston Children's Hospital | 79. New England Quality Care Alliance |
| 21. Boston Medical Center | 80. Newton-Wellesley Hospital |
| 22. Boston University Medical Group | 81. Newton-Wellesley Physician Hospital Organization |
| 23. Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital | 82. North Shore Medical Center |
| 24. Brigham and Women's Hospital | 83. Northeast Hospital Corporation |
| 25. Brigham and Women's Physicians Organization | 84. Northeast Physician Hospital Organization |
| 26. Cambridge Health Alliance | 85. Partners Continuing Care |
| 27. Cambridge Health Alliance Physicians Organization | 86. Partnership for Health in the Berkshires |
| 28. Cape Cod Healthcare ACO | 87. Pediatric Physicians' Organization At Children's |
| 29. Cape Cod Hospital | 88. Pentucket Medical Associates |
| 30. Circle Health | 89. Physician Performance LLC |
| 31. Coastal Medical | 90. Physicians' Organization At Children's Hospital |
| 32. Congenial Healthcare | 91. Reliant Medical Group |
| 33. Cooley Dickinson Health Care | 92. Saint Vincent Hospital |
| 34. Cooley Dickinson Physician Hospital Organization | 93. Shriners Hospitals for Children – Boston |
| 35. Core Physicians | 94. Shriners Hospitals for Children – Springfield |
| 36. Curahealth Stoughton | 95. Signature Healthcare |
| 37. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute | 96. Signature Medical Group |
| 38. Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital | 97. South Shore Health |
| 39. Emerson Hospital | 98. Southcoast Health |
| 40. Emerson Physician Hospital Organization | 99. Southcoast Health Network |
| 41. Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Braintree | 100. Southcoast Physicians Group |
| 42. Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Western Massachusetts | 101. Spaulding Rehabilitation Network |
| 43. Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital | 102. Sturdy Memorial Hospital |
| 44. Fairview Hospital | 103. Trinity Health Of New England |
| 45. Falmouth Hospital | 104. Tufts Medical Center |
| 46. Family Medicine Associates of South Attleboro PC | 105. Tufts Medical Center Children's Hospital |
| 47. Franciscan Children's | 106. Tufts Medical Center Community Care |
| 48. Hallmark Health PHO | 107. Tufts Medical Center Physicians Organization |
| 49. Harrington HealthCare System | 108. UMass Memorial Accountable Care Organization |
| 50. Harrington Hospital PHO | 109. UMass Memorial Health Care |
| 51. Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians | 110. UMass Memorial HealthAlliance-Clinton Hospital |
| 52. Hebrew Rehabilitation Center | 111. UMass Memorial Marlborough Hospital |
| 53. Hebrew SeniorLife | 112. UMass Memorial Medical Center |
| 54. Heywood Healthcare (includes Heywood Hospital and Athol Hospital) | 113. UMass Memorial Medical Group |
| 55. Heywood Physician Hospital Organization | 114. VA Bedford Healthcare System |
| 56. Highland Healthcare Associates IPA | 115. VA Boston Healthcare System |
| 57. Lahey Clinical Performance Accountable Care Organization | 116. Vibra Hospital of Southeastern Massachusetts |
| 58. Lahey Hospital & Medical Center | 117. Vibra Hospital of Western Massachusetts |
| 59. Lawrence General Hospital | 118. Wellforce |
| | 119. Winchester Hospital |
| | 120. Winchester Physician Hospital Association |



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About the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS):

The Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) is the statewide professional association for physicians and medical students, supporting 25,000 members. We are dedicated to educating and advocating for the physicians of Massachusetts and patients locally and nationally. A leadership voice in health care, the MMS contributes physician and patient perspectives to influence health-related legislation at the state and federal levels, works in support of public health, provides expert advice on physician practice management, and addresses issues of physician well-being. Under the auspices of the [NEJM Group](#), the MMS extends our mission globally by advancing medical knowledge from research to patient care through the New England Journal of Medicine, NEJM Catalyst, and the NEJM Journal Watch family of specialty publications, and through our education products for health care professionals: NEJM Knowledge+, NEJM Resident 360, and our accredited and comprehensive continuing medical education programs.

About the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association

The Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association (MHA) serves as the unified voice for Massachusetts hospitals and healthcare providers. Founded in 1936, MHA represents over 100 hospitals, healthcare partners, and patients across the state. Through advocacy, education, and collaboration, MHA's mission is to improve the overall health of the commonwealth and support providers' efforts to offer high-quality, affordable, and accessible care.

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