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Peter Blumenthal, MD, MPH, FACPM Installed as 233rd President of the Medical Society of New Jersey

Monday, April 28, 2025



Trenton, N.J. – Peter Blumenthal, MD, MPH, FACPM was recently installed as the 233rd President of the [Medical Society of New Jersey](#) (MSNJ) during the House of Delegates session of the organization's 2025 Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 26, 2025. Dr. Blumenthal has been a member of MSNJ since 1978 and a member of MSNJ's Board of Trustees since 2016, having served on various councils and committees. Dr. Blumenthal will assume the presidency from David E. Swee, MD.

"We are excited to welcome Dr. Blumenthal as our incoming President for the 2025-2026 term," said Larry Downs, CEO of MSNJ. "Dr. Blumenthal brings a keen eye toward critical public health issues and a fresh perspective that will benefit our members

and the broader medical community. His dedication to evolving the practice of medicine and advocating for physicians is unwavering. We look forward to advancing our initiatives with him this year."

Dr. Blumenthal, a senior occupational medicine physician, brings a wealth of experience in pharmacology, toxicology, and trauma care. His expertise in managing work-related injuries and illnesses is backed by his fellowship training in clinical pharmacology and toxicology, alongside 12,000 hours as an emergency physician. Since 1993, Dr. Blumenthal has performed over 37,000 independent medical examinations, including long-term disability assessments.

Dr. Blumenthal earned his medical degree from the University of Bonn in Germany, where he also completed his doctoral thesis in biochemistry. He furthered his training in clinical pharmacology at Tulane University and clinical pharmacokinetics at SUNY Buffalo, before obtaining his Master of Public Health from Rutgers University's EOHSI program. He continues his academic contributions as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and regularly lectures at legal education seminars.

Dr. Blumenthal's research led to the first published measurement of nitroglycerin plasma concentrations in humans. He is board-certified in Occupational Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine, is a certified Independent Medical Examiner and also a certified Medical Review Officer. His leadership roles include past presidency of the Essex County Medical Society and serving as Speaker of the House of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

Dr. Blumenthal is honored to now add "233rd President of the Medical Society of New Jersey" to this list of accomplishments.

In his inaugural speech as President, Dr. Blumenthal shared a few principles that will guide him during his presidency:

1. Elbow room for physicians.

"We must create space for physicians to practice medicine without the burden of intrusive or misguided regulations. Common sense and humanity must prevail. One clear example is the movement to remove stigmatizing questions about mental health from licensing and credentialing applications. These questions discourage physicians from seeking the help they may need. Safe Haven laws—such as the model adopted in Virginia—eliminate this barrier. I believe strongly that *'some people are physicians, but all physicians are people.'* We owe it to each other to create a system where seeking help is a sign of strength, not a liability."

2. Fair payment for services.

"We cannot care for vulnerable populations—especially Medicaid patients—under the current fee structure. Consider:

- New Jersey has 9.5 million residents.
- About 1.3 million (13.5%) are covered by Medicare.
- 1.9 million (20.4%) are covered by Medicaid.
- Nearly 40% of all births are covered by Medicaid.

We've spoken out against the 2.8% Medicare cut that took effect this January. But I submit to you: it's time to be equally forceful about Medicaid. This is the benefit that provides essential care—including mental health care—for our poorest patients. I know some worry that pushing too hard here might backfire. But I challenge us all with the question: *'What would you do if you were not afraid?'*"

3. Reform that puts clinicians first.

"We achieved a major milestone when Governor Murphy signed prior authorization reform into law in 2024. Our next steps must include meaningful Step Therapy reform and policies that promote **team-based care**—always led by a physician. That leadership is essential to maintaining safety, quality, and continuity."

4. A more medically literate public.

"Enhancing patient understanding is a personal mission of mine. In my office, pamphlets and visual aids help build that bridge. I would like to see our AMA collect and publish the excellent "JAMA Patient Pages" in a public-facing, searchable format. As the late retail innovator Sy Syms used to say, *"An educated consumer is our best customer."* Likewise, an educated patient is our best partner.

I believe deeply in the "partners in recovery" model. When patients understand their conditions and treatments, they become collaborators in their own care."



Presenting the MSNJ at the Annual Meeting of the AMA in Chicago