

MSD Annual Meeting & Inaugural Gala a Success

Discussion, Decisions, Dining, and Dancing



The 2019 Annual Meeting & Inaugural Gala were a great success. More than one hundred MSD members, presenters, and exhibitors gathered for a morning of important educational presentations, followed by the MSD Council Meeting. The American Medical Association (AMA) President, Patrice A. Harris, MD, MA, was

on hand to hear concerns and share news from the AMA. Members of DELPAC enjoyed gourmet coffee and discussion with Rep. David Bentz and Sen. Bryan Townsend, and by all accounts, the appearance of our furry friends from "PAWS for People" made the day a little more special. Thank you to everyone who attended. [View Annual Meeting pictures.](#)



Later that evening MSD rolled out the red carpet for MSD members, elected officials, friends, and health care leaders at Deerfield in Newark for a night of dancing, music, and laughter in celebration of MSD's 176th President, Joseph J. Straight, MD. MSD Officers for 202 are:

President - Joseph J. Straight, MD

President-Elect - Matthew J. Burday, DO

Vice President - Robert J. Varipapa, MD
Secretary - Bhavin R. Dave, MD
Treasurer - Prayus T. Tailor, MD
Speaker of the Council - Leo W. Raisis, MD

[View Inaugural Gala pictures.](#)

MSD Annual Meeting Resolutions Get Attention

Physician-Assisted Suicide / Medical Aid in Dying Leads Discussion



Two resolutions were submitted to the MSD Council for consideration at this year's Annual Meeting. After a lively and impassioned discussion that surrounded the topic of physician-assisted suicide/medical aid in dying, the following was decided. The resolutions were presented in the order they were received. [Read original resolutions.](#)

Resolution 01: Commitment to Ethics - (Tabled for further study)

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of Delaware will continue to recognize the AMA Code of Medical Ethics as binding on all decisions made by the organization and its members; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of Delaware will actively resist all attempts to lessen its ethical standards as enumerated in the AMA Code of Medical Ethics.

Resolution 02: MSD Support of Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) - (Defeated)

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of Delaware rescind its policy position of opposition to "Physician-Assisted Suicide" and instead adopt a position of engaged neutrality toward Medical Aid in Dying; and be it further

RESOLVED, That while "Physician-Assisted Suicide" and "Medical Aid in Dying" are commonly used interchangeably, the term "Medical Aid in Dying" will be the term utilized upon passage of this resolution.

This resolution was re-titled during discussion to **MSD Engaged Neutrality on Medical Aid in Dying.**

MSD Membership Renewal Time

Don't Let Your Membership Lapse!



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Membership renewal notices have

been mailed to all dues-paying MSD members. Membership renewals can be paid electronically by logging into the [MSD website](#) or by mail or phone. If your mailing address has changed recently, you didn't receive the dues mailing, or you are unsure of your MSD login information, please contact MSD Membership Coordinator Michelle Seymour at 302-224-4905 or Michelle.Seymour@medsocdel.org.

Thank You - Giving Tuesday

MSD Mission Appeal Off to a Solid Start

Thank
you
to all
who



recently donated to the Delaware Medical Education Foundation (DMEF) or Delaware Foundation for Medical Services (DFMS) in support of MSD's inaugural **Mission Appeal**. This initiative will support public service activities, advocacy, as well as professional and public education to help us realize our vision of a healthy Delaware for all. Your **tax-deductible donation** will directly enable crucial work including:

- **Expanding care through DFMS to marginalized and uninsured patients** through MSD initiatives such as Delaware's Voluntary Initiative Program and Medication Assistance Program.

- **Continuing and developing educational outreach** through DMEF such as our Healthy Living Talks and "It's OBVIOUS... Campaign for Kids."

To recognize the legacy of MSD, we've created the **1789 Club** - the year MSD was incorporated. Donors of \$1789 or more will become a member of this club and be recognized in the Delaware Medical Journal, listed on a special new donor wall, receive a distinguished lapel pin, receive invitations to mission appeal receptions, and more. [Please give today!](#)

CDC Issues Advisory for Physicians

Managing Vaping-Associated Lung Illness During Flu Season

The
Centers
for
Disease
Control
and



Prevention (CDC) has issued an advisory encouraging providers evaluating patients with respiratory illnesses to ask them about e-cigarette, or vaping, product use; evaluate whether patients require hospital admission; and consider empiric use of antimicrobials, including antivirals, as well as possible corticosteroids. Vaping associated lung injury (VAPI) is a diagnosis of exclusion; rapid recognition of VAPI patients by health care providers

is critical to reducing severe outcomes.
[Read more.](#)

AMA Takes on Walmart

Concerns Raised over Electronic-Only Prescription Policy



The

American Medical Association (AMA) is asking Walmart to stop a January 1, 2020 policy change regarding electronic prescriptions. The mega-store policy is scheduled to only accept electronic prescriptions for controlled substances. The AMA warns this policy will lead to disruption in patient care as only 44 percent of physicians currently have technology, hardware and certifications required to do electronic prescribing.
[Read more.](#)

In Memoriam

George Richard Hilty, III, MD

It is with sadness we share that long-time MSD member George R. Hilty, III, MD died on October 22nd after a brief illness. Dr. Hilty was a private practice pediatrician in Wilmington and was a founder of the Wilmington/New Castle Pediatric Association. He also worked as an



Associate Medical Director at HMO Delaware Pediatrics. During his career he volunteered with The Tatnall School as their physician, and finished his career with Locum Tenens and Al DuPont Institute. [Read more.](#)

"*Rerum Cognoscere*"

The Latin phrase *Rerum Cognoscere* translates to learn, examine, or become aware of facts or things. In this section we highlight measurable items of interest in health care from MSD, Delaware, the US, and the world.

2017	2X	28%
The year with the highest rate of death from alcohol-related liver disease in more than two decades.	In 2017 Native Americans had alcohol-related liver disease twice as much as non-Hispanic whites. CDC	Percentage decrease in students enrolled in medical school from rural U.S. areas over the last fifteen years. Health Affairs

Upcoming Events

Dec. 9 - [2019 Communicable Disease Summit](#), 7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m., John H. Ammon Medical Education Center, Christiana Hospital, Newark.

Jan. 14 - [2020 Insurance Payers Workshop](#), 8:00 - 11:00 a.m., MSD Conference Center, Newark.



Forward to a Friend

Was the information in this newsletter useful? If so, forward to a friend to let them know the value of your Medical Society of Delaware membership.