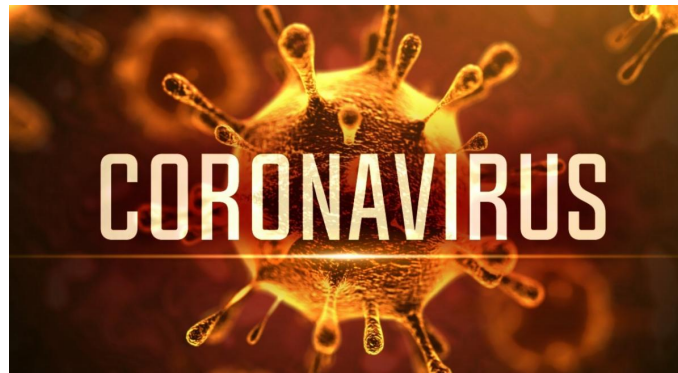


DPH Announces Nine Additional COVID-19 Cases

Four Patients Hospitalized



Delaware now has 39 laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 since March 11, nine new cases since yesterday. The individual ages range from 14 to 80. Twenty of the patients are male and 19 are female. Four patients are currently hospitalized, two of which are critically ill. Of the Delawareans diagnosed with COVID-19, 27 are from New Castle County, five are from Kent County, and seven are from Sussex County. [Read more.](#)

Governor Announces State COVID-19 Testing Plan

Testing Free to All Patients



Delaware Governor John Carney and the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) announced beginning **Monday, March 23**, Delaware health systems will operate standing health facility test sites, where health care staff will test individuals who have been evaluated by a medical provider and have symptoms consistent with COVID-19. A physician order or prescription is required. Standing health facility test sites will include:

- * New Castle County: ChristianaCare will operate two testing sites, one in Newark, one in Wilmington; Saint Francis Healthcare will operate one site in Wilmington.
- * Kent County: Bayhealth will operate one testing site in Dover.
- * Sussex County: Beebe Healthcare will operate two testing sites, one in Millsboro and one in Frankford; Nanticoke will operate one testing site in Seaford.

A comprehensive list of where each site is located will be shared soon.

[Read more.](#)

Community Testing Plan for

Physicians

COVID-19 Testing Steps to Follow



COVID-19 Community Testing Plan has been developed for Delaware's health care providers. This new plan includes criteria for patients who need to be prioritized and fast-tracked to the Delaware Public Health Laboratory as well as an instructional flow chart for patients with and without access to a primary care provider. The plan also covers how to handle symptomatic and asymptomatic patients for COVID-19. [Read plan.](#)

DPH Conference Calls with Physicians Continue

Questions Encouraged



In an effort to answer physician questions about COVID-19, DPH held three operator-assisted conference calls this week for physicians and their

practice managers. These calls will resume **Monday, March 23rd at 6:00 p.m.** If you have a question, please submit it before 3:00 p.m. on Monday. [Submit question](#). To participate on Monday, dial **866-506-4188** (This is a direct number to call in. There is no access code.)

[Listen to 3-17-2020 call](#)

[Listen to 3-18-2020 call](#)

[Listen to 3-19-2020 call](#)

MSD Updates

Office Building Closed - Staff Hard at Work



Starting Monday, March 23, the MSD Building & Conference Center will be closed, but staff will be working remotely in full capacity, operating as usual. Phone calls may not be answered on the first ring, but rest assured you will receive a call back as soon as possible! MSD has cancelled all in-person events that were scheduled at the Conference Center through April 30.

MSD Interim Meeting of the Council Postponed

The April 9, 2020 Interim Meeting of the MSD Council has been postponed until **Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** at Maple Dale Country Club in Dover. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and adjust this date if necessary.

Membership Requests / Applications

Keeping business as usual, MSD continues to process membership requests. If you are not a current member and would like to join MSD, please fill out the [Medical Society of Delaware Application for Membership](#) or email Michelle.Seymour@medsocdel.org.

MSD Physicians Make News

Kristine B. Diehl, MD, William B. Funk, MD



Delawareans are naturally curious as to how primary care physicians are handling their day-to-day operations in the thick of the coronavirus crisis. The *News Journal* reached out to a few MSD physicians to find out how things are going. Kristine B. Diehl, MD and William Funk, MD gave a few minutes of their time to explain life on the "front line."

Expanded Coverage for Telemedicine

MSD Physicians Relations Department Gives Answers



Under a modified Emergency Declaration, Governor John Carney temporarily lifted regulations to expand access to telemedicine in Delaware. Under the modified declaration:

- Patients do not need to present in-person before telemedicine services may be provided.
- Delaware residents do not need to be present in Delaware at the time the telemedicine services are provided.
- Any out of state healthcare provider who would be permitted to provide telemedicine services in Delaware if they were licensed under Title 24 may provide telemedicine services to a Delaware resident if they hold an active license in another jurisdiction. [Read more.](#)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has broadened access to

Medicare telehealth services so that beneficiaries can receive a wider range of services from their doctors without having to travel to a healthcare facility. CMS is expanding this benefit on a temporary and emergency basis under the 1135 waiver authority and Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act. [Read more.](#)

The Office of Civil Rights will exercise its enforcement discretion and will not impose penalties for noncompliance with the regulatory requirements under the HIPAA Rules against covered health care professionals in connection with the good faith provision of telehealth during the COVID-19 nationwide public crisis. [Read more.](#)

Pending Members

Jared Hossack, MD

MSD members are afforded a 7 day review period from the date of this publication to comment regarding an applicant applying for membership. Please contact Mary LaJudice at (302) 224-5183 or Mary.LaJudice@medsocdel.org with any questions or concerns.

"*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.

0	103	42
China has closed down its last coronavirus hospital. There are not enough new cases to support them.	Age of a Chinese grandmother who made a full recovery from COVID-19 after being treated for 6 days in Wuhan, China.	Number of Apple stores that were able to reopen in China this week.
Kindly Shared by Ronald Lieberman, DO	Kindly Shared by Ronald Lieberman, DO	Kindly Shared by Ronald Lieberman, DO

Upcoming Events

ALL EVENTS POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



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.

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