CDC Updates Guidance for Managing Vaping-Associated Lung Illness During the Flu Season

The CDC has updated interim guidance to assist health care professionals as rates of influenza in the community increase. The CDC advises health care professionals 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. For more information visit https://tinyurl.com/UGVF2019.

MSD Practice Management & Education Session

2020 Insurance Payers Workshop

Please join us for the next Practice Management & Education Session, 2020 Insurance Payers Workshop, Tuesday, January 14th from 8:00 - 11:00 am, at the MSD Conference Center in Newark with video conferencing to Bayhealth Hospital, Kent General Campus. Representatives from Aetna, AmeriHealth Caritas, Cigna, CMS, Highmark Delaware, Highmark Health Options, and United Healthcare will present on the latest changes and updates that will affect your practice and patients’ health insurance plans for the upcoming year. For more information and to register visit https://reg.planetreg.com/2020IPW. Seating is limited!

Certified Medical Office Manager Course

Registration is open! The next Certified Medical Office Manager (CMOM) course will be held on Feb 20, 21, 27, and 28 at the MSD Conference Center in Newark. The CMOM curriculum is a complete resource chosen by medical office professionals seeking to expand their skills and excel in a practice leadership role. Whether you are currently running a practice or want to acquire the skills to become a practice leader, the program will explain this role in detailed, easy-to-follow modules. Participants will gain a thorough foundation for managing a successful medical practice. For more information visit https://reg.planetreg.com/CMOM2020. (Seating is limited!) Test your practice management knowledge and taking a free assessment at http://tinyurl.com/CMOMTest.

MSD Membership Renewals in the Mail

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. If your mailing address has changed, or you are unsure of your MSD login, please contact MSD Membership Coordinator Michelle Seymour at 302-224-4905 or Michelle.Seymour@medsocdel.org.

Prescription Drug Disposal

Delaware residents can safely dispose of their unused or expired prescription medications at designated sites throughout the state. Properly discarding unused medications is an important tool for keeping prescription medications out of the hands of people who may misuse, abuse, or sell them, and helps reduce the risk of drug overdoses. For more information and to view a list of medication collection sites visit https://tinyurl.com/RXDOLDEL.

AMA Takes on Walmart’s 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. To read the AMA letter to Walmart visit https://tinyurl.com/AMASONWalmart. For more information on Walmart’s electronic prescription for controlled substance policy visit https://tinyurl.com/WalmartEPCSPolicy.

Check Your Final 2019 MIPS Eligibility Status

You can now check the Quality Payment Program (QPP) participation status tool to view your final 2019 eligibility status for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Your status may have changed, so we encourage you to use the QPP Participation Status Tool to confirm your final 2019 MIPS eligibility. Your initial 2019 MIPS eligibility status was based on CMS review of Medicare Part B claims and PECOS data from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018. For more information visit https://qpp.cms.gov/participation-lookup/.