**MSD COVID-19 Resource Page**

MSD continues to work closely with the Delaware Division of Public Health to provide our medical community with the most up-to-date information and resources available on COVID-19. Please visit the MSD Coronavirus resource page: https://tinyurl.com/MSDCOVID19. This page is continually updated when new information becomes available.

**PPE Supplies During COVID-19**

The Division of Public Health has made available a form to request assistance with PPE supplies during the COVID-19 outbreak. Please note, supplies are limited, but DPH will do its best to meet the needs of the community. For links to the PPE Request Policy & Procedures and the State Health Operations Center (SHOC) Resources Request Form, please visit https://tinyurl.com/MSDCOVID19.

**Reminder to Screen Your Patients Prior to Appointment**

Screen patients and visitors for symptoms of acute respiratory illness (e.g., fever, cough, difficulty breathing) before entering your health care facility. Separate patients with respiratory symptoms so they are not waiting among other patients seeking care. Keep up-to-date on recommendations for preventing spread of COVID-19 on the CDC’s website: https://tinyurl.com/CDCPPSCN.

If there are grave concerns about people experiencing symptoms, or people who think they have come in contact with positive cases, please direct them to the Epidemiology hotline immediately at 1-888-295-5156.

**New CPT Code Announced To Report Novel Coronavirus Test**

The American Medical Association (AMA) announced that the CPT Editorial Panel approved a new addition to the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) code set that will help streamline data-driven resource and allocation planning in the battle against the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) as the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases continues to rise in the United States. For quick reference, the new Category I CPT code and long descriptor are: 87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique. The code is effective immediately for use as the industry standard for reporting of tests for the novel coronavirus across the nation’s health care system. In addition to the long descriptor, CPT code 87635 has short and medium descriptors that can be accessed on the AMA website: https://tinyurl.com/AMACPTCV.

**MSD POSTPONES EVENTS**

In light of the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak, and in an effort to slow its spread and protect our community, the Medical Society of Delaware is postponing the following events:

- MSD Practice Management Session on Cyber Security on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at the MSD in Newark & Bayhealth, Kent General.
- “The Dangers of Vaping” on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at MSD in Newark.

Please look for future announcements about these events.

**HIPAA Privacy and Novel Coronavirus**

The HIPAA Privacy Rule recognizes the legitimate need for public health authorities and others responsible for ensuring public health and safety to have access to protected health information (PHI) that is necessary to carry out their public health mission. Therefore, the Privacy Rule permits covered entities to disclose needed PHI without individual authorization to a public health authority, such as the CDC or a state or local health department that is authorized by law to collect or receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease including COVID-19. For more information visit https://tinyurl.com/HIPAACOVID19.

**Blood Bank of Delmarva Pleads for Donations**

The Blood Bank of Delmarva (BBD) has issued an urgent call for healthy blood and platelet donors and community partners to help strengthen the region’s blood supply. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, BBD is seeing a growing number of cancellations and low donor turn-out. For more information visit https://tinyurl.com/BBDELMAR.