MSD Takes Stand Against Recreational Marijuana
MSD, along with the Medical Societies in Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey, has signed a joint statement against the legalization of recreational marijuana. The group lists concerns regarding lack of scientific evidence that supports recreational marijuana use. The statement also supports reclassifying marijuana from a Schedule I to a Schedule II drug, which would enable government funding to be used for necessary research that clearly defines the positive and negative elements of marijuana use. Connecticut and New Jersey are expected to vote on measures next week. Read the statement at: https://tinyurl.com/MSDStmtnt2019.

Medical License Renewal Deadline
Medical licenses will expire on March 31 of odd-numbered years (2017, 2019, etc.). You must certify that you have completed the Mandatory Training in addition to the Continuing Medical Education (CME) required by the Rules and Regulations for your license. You may be selected for audit of your CME following the renewal. See “Renewing an Expired License” at http://tinyurl.com/DEMEDLIC. Note that, if you hold a controlled substance registration, you must file a separate renewal application at http://tinyurl.com/DELCSR2019.

Beware of IRS Scams During Peak Tax Season
The Department of Justice Consumer Protection Unit is cautioning Delaware consumers and employers to be on guard for fake IRS phone call scams and IRS Form W-2 email phishing scams that are targeting Delaware employers, including retail businesses, school districts, nonprofit organizations, and law firms. The IRS says that these scammers often spoof the telephone number to disguise where they are calling from and manipulate the caller ID information. If you are worried that the call might be real, hang up and call the IRS directly at 1-800-829-1040.

DPH Launches Lifesaving Smartphone App OpiRescue
As part of its multi-pronged approach to addressing the opioid crisis and reducing the number of individuals dying from drug overdoses in Delaware, the Division of Public Health (DPH) is announcing the launch of a new smartphone app that provides lifesaving step-by-step instructions on how to use naloxone during an opioid overdose. OpiRescue Delaware is a free, state-supported app available for download on all Android and Apple devices. The app contains detailed information on how to recognize signs of an overdose and includes animations on how to provide rescue breathing and administer naloxone, an overdose-reversing medication. Additionally, individuals can use the app to find the nearest available pharmacy carrying naloxone, which can be purchased without a prescription. For more information: https://tinyurl.com/DPHOpApp.

Medical Front Office Skills Certificates Program
Registration Open! The role of the medical office receptionist has changed in recent years. No longer are the duties of front desk personnel limited to answering the phone and making appointments for patients. Productivity of a staff member depends on knowledge, skills, and training. MSD, in partnership with Practice Management Institute, offers a Medical Front Office Skills Certificate Program and is scheduled at two locations for your convenience, May 16 & 17 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the MSD Conference Center in Newark, and on June 13 & 14 at the Eden Hill Medical Center in Dover, DE. This program will cover: customer service, communication techniques, data collection, medical terminology, front desk operations, insurance basics, billing and collections, and much more. To register please visit: https://reg.planetreg.com/MFOS2019.

MSD HealthHub Welcomes Vidyo™
Vidyo™ provides a real-time video solution that delivers quick-start telehealth applications spanning the continuum of care, including in-home, acute, post-acute, and emergent settings. Consults can be scheduled or on-demand, enabling virtual visits and remote patient monitoring. Providers can easily integrate Vidyo with their EHR solution and workflows, browser and mobile-based patient portals, and existing scheduling tools. Vidyo offers a frictionless user experience across mobile, desktop, and clinical devices designed for inpatient care settings, such as telemedicine carts and wall-mounted stations. Vidyo offers multi-participant capabilities, remotely operated pan, tilt, and zoom cameras, medical exam cameras, digital stethoscopes, and otoscopes, allowing for the most robust remote examination capabilities in the market. For more information visit: https://tinyurl.com/vidyo2019.