Nationwide Shortage of Tuberculin Skin Test Antigen
The Division of Public Health (DPH) has issued a health alert regarding an impending shortage of APLISOL® (JHP Pharmaceuticals, LLC). In June the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) informed health care professionals of an impending shortage of APLISOL®, one of two brands of tuberculin purified protein derivative (PPD) used in the U.S. for tuberculin skin tests (TST). According to the CDC, the shortage is expected to last three to 10 months. This notice alerts health care professionals and facilities who test for tuberculosis (TB) and physician’s guidance on how to manage the shortage. To view the notice visit https://tinyurl.com/TBTestShortage.

Some Flu Shot Shipments Will be Delayed
Shipments will be delayed for some flu vaccines, but the delays are not expected to create any shortages. The delayed shipments apply to flu vaccines produced by Sanofi, which anticipates a one-month delay in the first shipment of the vaccine. All shipments should be completed by the end of November. The delay will affect all three Sanofi Pasteur vaccines—Fluzone Quadrivalent, Fluzone High-Dose, and Flublok Quadrivalent. Sanofi Pasteur’s flu vaccines make up about 40 percent of the U.S. flu vaccine supply. Clinicians who have questions about their vaccine orders should contact their distributor. For more information https://tinyurl.com/FuShotDelay.

Active Shooter Planning and Response for The Health Care Setting
Is your office prepared for a possible active shooter incident? Health care facilities face a unique set of challenges in an active shooter incident. These incidents have no patterns in victim selection or method, creating an unpredictable and quickly evolving situation that can lead to loss of life and injury. Please join us for the next MSD Practice Management & Education session on Tuesday, September 10th 8:00 am-10:00 am, at the MSD Conference Center in Newark, DE with video conferencing to Bayhealth Kent General, presented by Dennis F. Dougherty, Law Enforcement Officer. This program will cover what to do in case of an active shooter, mitigation strategies, and protective measures. To register visit https://reg.planetreg.com/PMSActiveShooter.

OBVIOUS Event at MSD – "The Power of Nutrition"
The Medical Society of Delaware is pleased to present "The Power of Nutrition" by Neal Barnard, MD, FACC as part of the OBVIOUS Campaign for Kids. This event will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2019, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, at the Medical Society of Delaware Conference Center in Newark, DE. Dr. Barnard is an American author, clinical researcher, and founding president of the Physician Committee for Responsible Medicine. He has led numerous research studies investigating the effects of diet on diabetes, body weight, and chronic pain, including a groundbreaking study of dietary interventions in type 2 diabetes. The MSD Campaign for Kids is an initiative of the Medical Society of Delaware focusing on seven critical issues that affect young Delawareans and families. For more information and to register visit https://reg.planetReg.com/ThePowerOfNutrition. (Seating is Limited)

SSA Adds New Medical Conditions for Disability
The Social Security Administration has announced four new conditions are being added to the Compassionate Allowances list for disability benefits. The conditions are CDKL5 Deficiency Disorder, Pitt Hopkins Syndrome, Primary Peritoneal Cancer, and Richter Syndrome. The Compassionate Allowances program helps to accelerate the disability process for people due to the severity of their condition. The list contains 237 conditions. For more information visit https://tinyurl.com/SSADNews.

Federal Waiver Program Opens up More Treatment Beds
Federal officials approved a waiver allowing the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to use a mix of Medicaid and state funding to provide bed space at four treatment facilities across the state. Under the waiver, the following facilities are authorized to provide services to Medicaid patients between 21 and 64 years old: MeadowWood Behavioral Health, Rockford Center, Dover Behavioral Health, and SUN Behavioral Health in Georgetown. Without the waiver, the state would have been barred from providing the services to patients under Medicaid, which provides health benefits to low-income individuals. Delaware is the 25th state to receive a waiver for substance abuse treatment. The waiver runs through the end of 2023. For more information visit https://tinyurl.com/DETreatment.