

Medical Society of Delaware

LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

COVID-19 UPDATE 5-6-2020

In an effort to keep Delaware's medical community current on the latest information regarding the coronavirus crisis, the Medical Society of Delaware is sharing the following:

DPH Announces 407 New Positive Cases / Six Additional Deaths

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH)**407** new Delawareans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, taking the total number of lab-confirmed cases to **5,778**, including **299** who are hospitalized, **65** of whom are critically ill.

One hundred ninety-three individuals have died due to COVID-19 in Delaware with ages ranging from 26 to 103 years old. The most recent deaths announced today ranged in age from 69 to 96. Two were New Castle County resident, one was a Kent County residents, and three were Sussex County residents. Five of the individuals had underlying health conditions. Three individuals were residents of long-term care facilities.

Latest statistics on positive cases:

- New Castle County cases: 2,087
- Kent County cases: 891
- Sussex County cases: 2,794
- Unknown County: 36
- Age range: 0 to 103

Read more.

MSD Creates Guidance on Reopening Medical Practices

In anticipation of medical practices resuming regular business, the Medical

Society of Delaware's Physicians Relations Department has created a useful and informative guide on best practices to safely resume medical practice operations and patient visits. This guidance has been compiled with input from the Delaware Division of Public Health. <u>Read more</u>.

Need Help Paying for Telemedicine?

If you are looking for financial assistance in providing telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic, a newly created \$200 million government program may be able to help defray the costs of continuing to provide care to patients remotely. The COVID-19 Telehealth Program is part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is taking applications for assistance now. The American Medical Association (AMA) has created a webpage to help physicians navigate the funding opportunity. Read more.

Virtual Recovery Town Hall - Tonight

Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long is hosting a virtual town hall tonight at 7:30 p.m. with stakeholder groups and members of the public to collect feedback that will inform Delaware's economic recovery effort. This town hall will focus on Sussex County. <u>Click here to watch</u>.

The next town hall will be tomorrow at 6:00 p.m., and will focus on Southern New Castle County.

DPH / Physician Conference Call Recording Now Available / FAQ Updated

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) in coordination with MSD held the thirteenth in a series of operator-assisted calls with physicians and practice managers last night. For your convenience, MSD has updated the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to include answers from last night's questions. <u>Read updated FAQ</u>. <u>Listen to May 5th call</u>. The next DPH/Physician conference call will be next **Tuesday**, **May 12th** at 6:00 p.m.

Scientists Say a Now-Dominant COVID-19 Strain May be More Contagious

Scientists have identified a new strain of the coronavirus that has become dominant worldwide and appears to be more contagious than the versions that spread in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new study led by scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory. The new strain appeared in February in Europe, migrated quickly to the East Coast of the United States and has been the dominant strain across the world since mid-March Read more.

For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, MSD has created a coronavirus resource page on our website. <u>View resource page</u>.

Medical Society of Delaware 900 Prides Crossing Newark, Delaware 19713 (302) 366-1400

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