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Reminders

MSD CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

Please visit our MSD Coronavirus Resource page for continued updated guidance on COVID-19 at <https://tinyurl.com/MSDCOVID19>

DELAWARE RX CARD

Are you looking for help with the cost of your medications? Delaware Rx Card can help. Visit delawarerxcard.com to download a free card and save up to 80% on your prescription medications.

2020 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2020 HIPAA, mandatory OSHA, & BLS training scheduled with MSD Compliance Coordinator Dwayne Downs at 302-366-1023.

MSD IS ON FACEBOOK

"Like" the Medical Society of Delaware Facebook page for informative posts, pictures and events. Like & Follow us at: [@medicalsocietyofdelaware](https://www.facebook.com/MedicalSocietyofDelaware/_or) and turn on your notifications.

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DPH Releases Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Enrollment Instructions

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) is strongly recommending that medical practices go through the process of registering to be a COVID-19 vaccinator, regardless of whether the intention is to vaccinate. Being enrolled will allow small practices to have the option to vaccinate their own staff once the vaccine becomes available. The process to enroll can take time, so it is important not to delay. For step-by-step enrollment instructions, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/PROVENRL>. Enrollment questions can be submitted to COVIDVaccine@delaware.gov or call 1-800-282-8672.

DPH Announces Arrival of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine

With the recent FDA authorization for the emergency use of the first COVID-19 vaccine, the Delaware Division of Public Health announced that Delaware received an initial shipment of 975 doses of the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on Monday, 12/14 and an additional 7,800 doses on Wednesday, 12/16 for a total of 8,775 doses of the vaccine this week. Delaware is one of the first states in the nation to receive the Pfizer vaccine. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/DPHVACPF>.

Delaware Begins COVID-19 Vaccinations in Long-Term Care Facilities

Governor John Carney and the Division of Public Health announced that Delaware is among the first states in the nation to begin vaccinating staff at long-term care facilities. Residents will be able to begin receiving the vaccine the week of December 28, as part of vaccination efforts under the federal pharmacy program. Walgreens and CVS pharmacists are partnering with facilities to vaccinate residents. While the vaccine is shipped directly to the pharmacies from the federal level, doses come out of each state's total allocation. Residents at long-term care facilities account for 1,736 of the state's 47,929 positive coronavirus cases as of December 11. Long-term care residents account for 455 of the state's 833 coronavirus deaths, slightly more than half, as of December 11. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/covidvaccinelongtermcare>.

FDA Authorizes Emergency OTC Rapid At-Home COVID-19 Diagnostic Test

The FDA has issued an emergency authorization for the country's first coronavirus test that can run from start to finish at home without the need for a prescription. Individuals as young as 2 years old are cleared to use the test. Unlike many similar products, which are only supposed to be used by people with symptoms of COVID-19, this test is authorized for people with or without symptoms. The results are delivered by smartphone in as little as 20 minutes. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/FDACVAC>.

Clinical Outreach & Community Activity Webinar

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) held a Clinical Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) webinar this week to outline the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). VAERS, co-managed by the CDC and FDA, is the nation's early warning system for vaccine safety, covering 320 million US residents. To view the webinar slide deck which includes instructions on how to report an adverse event to VAERS and additional resources, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/COCASlides> or www.vaers.hhs.gov.

CMS Proposes New Rules to Address Prior Authorization & Reduce Burden

CMS issued a proposed rule that would improve the electronic exchange of health care data among payers, providers, and patients and streamline processes related to prior authorization to reduce burden on providers and patients. By both increasing data flow and reducing burden, this proposed rule would give providers more time to focus on their patients and provide better quality care. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/CMSPRIAU>.

MSD Virtual Food Drive

In this year of the pandemic, food banks need more help to fill the shelves! With your donation you provide 3 meals for every dollar! This holiday season, you can give the hope of a holiday meal safely from your home or office! Reach out and help the community near you! To make a donation visit <https://tinyurl.com/MSDFD20>.