



Medical Society of Delaware

Practice Matters

Keeping Your Practice Informed Through Weekly Broadcast Fax

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Reminders

2021 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2021 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: <https://www.facebook.com/MedicalSocietyofDelaware/> or @medicalsocietyofdelaware and turn on your notifications.

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Delta Now The Predominant Variant Strain In The State

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) identifies COVID-19 variants in Delaware through routine surveillance of test specimens. The variants are based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) list of Variants of Concern and Variants of Interest. DPH reported that last week was the second week in a row that Delaware saw an increased number of Delta variant cases compared to weeks prior. As of the end of last week, Delta was the predominant variant strain in Delaware and blamed for an uptick in cases and hospitalizations. Read more at <https://tinyurl.com/cuxehb2k>.

Qualified Businesses Can Apply For Payroll Tax Relief

The Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) can mean a tax credit for your business. If your business has 10-50 full-time employees, the Delaware Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is providing 25 businesses a customized tax credit filing service. Complete a short pre-screening questionnaire to determine eligibility. Cover & Rossiter, CPAs explains the details of the ERTC Support Program to help understand federal eligibility guidelines and how the tax credit can work for your business. **Deadline is Friday, July 30th at 10:00 am.** For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/h8f76w>.

HHS Announces Rescue Plan to Strengthen Resiliency and Address Burnout

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced the availability of an estimated \$103 million in American Rescue Plan funding over a three-year period to reduce burnout and promote mental health among the health workforce. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/2kr73enj>.

Enroll in MSD's 2022 Group Membership Renewal Discount

Solo or group practices can take advantage of MSD's group membership renewal discount program and save 10% on 2022 regular membership dues! Solo practitioners - get creative and form your own network of physicians to qualify (such as your call group). All physicians within the group must be members of MSD to qualify. Eligibility for the group discount is contingent upon membership application approval for those who are not currently members. Groups must be enrolled in the program by October 29, 2021. *Groups who participated in the program in previous years must re-enroll annually.* If your group is interested, please contact Michelle.Seymour@medsocdel.org or (302) 224-4905 to enroll.

DMMA MCO Procurement Town Hall Invitation

Delaware Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) is beginning the procurement process for its Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) that will start serving members on January 1, 2023. The contracts with the current MCOs expire December 31, 2022. DMMA will host four virtual town hall meetings to get input. Visit <https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dmma/>.

DPH Offers FREE Healthy Heart Ambassador Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring

Healthy Heart Ambassador Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring is being offered at no cost to adults with hypertension from the Delaware Division of Public Health. This goal of this initiative is to promote control of high blood pressure, and it includes a home blood pressure monitor, individual guidance from qualified health coaches, and education on nutrition, medication adherence, and more. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/5cpupn3b>.

2022 Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule

An effort has been initiated to persuade Congress to prevent a nearly four percent cut to Medicare payments from going into effect in 2022. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2022 Physician Fee Schedule <https://tinyurl.com/2022pps>, that proposes to cut the Medicare conversion factor used to calculate Medicare reimbursements. Congress averted a 3.75 percent cut from going into effect for 2021 to help physicians struggling financially due to COVID-19, but that moratorium ends after this year. The Surgical Care Coalition, <https://tinyurl.com/surgcarecoal> an advocacy group of 13 surgical associations, indicates that updates to the conversion factor have not kept up with inflation, resulting in a conversion factor of about 50 percent of what it would have been if it had been indexed to general inflation as it had been prior to 1998. The Physician Fee Schedule payments must be budget neutral, meaning any pay raises for one specialty must come with cuts to another.