



Medical Society of Delaware

# Practice Matters

Keeping Your Practice Informed Through Weekly Broadcast Fax

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## Reminders

### MEDICAL FRONT OFFICE SKILLS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

October 21-22, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the MSD Conference Center in Newark  
To register visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/MFOS2021>.

### 2021 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2021 HIPAA, mandatory OSHA, & BLS training scheduled with MSD Compliance Coordinator Dwayne Downs at 302-366-1023.

### Contact MSD

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## COVID-19 Vaccine May Soon Been Available for 5-11 Year-Olds

This week, Pfizer and BioNTech announced its vaccine was safe and effective for children ages 5 to 11 years old, and that it would seek U.S. approval for providing the vaccine to the younger age group. A lower dose was tested, equating to a third of the amount in the vaccine that is given now. The companies have indicated the lower dosage has proved safe, with similar or fewer temporary side effects that teens experience (sore arm, fever, achiness). The goal is to apply to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by the end of the month for emergency use authorization for this age group. The FDA has indicated that, once it receives the study results, the agency hopes to evaluate the data in a matter of weeks to determine if the vaccine is both safe and effective for this age group. Topline readouts for the other two age cohorts from the trial – children 2 to 5 years of age and children 6 months to 2 years of age – are expected by the fourth quarter this year. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/3j4cjs73>.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Update - Third Doses & Boosters (Virtual Event)

Registration is now open for a COVID-19 Vaccine update (virtual event) on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. This session is presented by Dr. Karyl Rattay and Dr. Rick Hong from the Delaware Division of Public Health and will provide updates on the COVID-19 pandemic, it will also outline guidance for administering third doses and booster shots of the COVID-19 vaccine to patients. For more information and to register visit <https://tinyurl.com/45ecrn8w>.

## Pfizer Recalls All Lots of Chantix Nationwide

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced a voluntary Pfizer recall of all lots of Chantix 0.5 mg and 1 mg tablets due to the unacceptable levels of N-nitroso-varenicline, a type of nitrosamine. This follows Pfizer halting distribution this summer and then recalling more than a dozen lots of the medicine in August. Chantix supply disruptions led to a shortage. In July, the FDA allowed a global pharmaceutical company to import generics from Canada. The FDA last month approved a U.S. generic from Endo's Par Pharmaceutical. As alternative suppliers have been approved in the U.S., Pfizer is undertaking this precautionary measure. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/4twjphsz>.

## CDC Investment to Protect Patients and Health Care Workers

The Biden-Harris Administration announced a \$2.1 billion investment to improve infection prevention and control activities across the U.S. public health and health care sectors. Working through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Administration is investing American Rescue Plan funding to strengthen and equip state, local, and territorial public health departments and other partner organizations with the resources needed to better fight infections in U.S. health care facilities, including COVID-19 and other known and emerging infectious diseases. Over the next three years, the CDC will issue \$1.25 billion of the total to 64 state, local, and territorial health departments to support this work. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/4xm7tcez>.

## Practice Management and Education Session - HIPAA Rules: Are You Compliant?

Registration Closing! The next Practice Management and Education Session, presented by Dwayne Downs, MSD's Training & Compliance Coordinator. This session will provide an overview of HIPAA policy and procedures, how to implement a HIPAA plan and much more. The virtual event will be held on **Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00 pm**. To register visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/HIPAA>.

## MSD Virtual Membership Engagement Event

Register to attend this year's 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Society of Delaware (MSD) Virtual Membership Engagement Event! Join to meet new members and connect with those you may not have "seen" in a while! This virtual event will feature discussions about the following MSD Committees\*: Education Program Planning Subcommittee, 3rd Party Payer Committee, and Physician Relations Advisory Committee. Each chair will discuss specifics about their committee, explain the committee's past accomplishments and future goals, and how it all fits with MSD's strategic plans. Also, USI/MSDIS and Diamond State Financial will be present to provide resources & information. Are you looking to get involved or simply understand what MSD does? To register visit <https://tinyurl.com/e9emy3vv>.

## Congratulations! MSD Members Celebrating Milestone Anniversaries in October

Congratulations to **50 years:** Maurice a. Thew, MD, **20 Years:** Leo H. Eschbach, Jr., MD, Andrew P. Robinson, MD, Lowell F. Scott Jr., MD, and **10 years:** Nancy M. Gideon, MD.