

THANK YOU VETERIANS FOR YOUR SERVICE!

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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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COVID Vaccine Requirements for Health Care & 100+ Businesses

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will require COVID-19 vaccines for all employees at Medicare and Medicaid-participating health care facilities by January 4. The Biden Administration announced the mandate at the beginning of September as part of a broader action plan to combat the pandemic, with a more widespread vaccine mandate for large employers. **CMS confirmed that physician's offices are EXCLUDED from this Rule** (see CMS slides).

In addition, OSHA has issued an emergency temporary standard (ETS) to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission in the workplace and will require all employees at businesses with 100 or more workers to be vaccinated or get tested weekly with few exceptions. While the implementation deadline is currently the subject of legal debate, many employers are, nevertheless, preparing to address new requirements under the ETS. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/4mzzj4y4>. View CMS slides at <https://tinyurl.com/mhyaxmr>.

Mental Health Awareness for Kids K-12 Free Virtual Event

CHILDREN AND TEENS ARE FACING A SIGNIFICANT NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

REGISTER NOW for this important session... Join MSD, NAMI Delaware, Nemours and the Life Health Center, for a panel discussion on Mental Health Awareness for school-aged children K-12 on **November 16th at 6:00 pm**. Hear presentations by special guest speakers, Anne Sleese, M.Ed; Norwood Coleman, Jr., LCSW-S, ACSW; Meghan Tuohy Walls, PsyD; and Vanessa Patel, MD. This complimentary event is open to all allied health professionals and the general public. Registration is free and required. Visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/MentalHealthAwareness>.

Practice Management Session - COVID-19: "What Happens Next"

Time is running out to register! Please join us for the next MSD Practice Management and Education Session (virtual), presented by CURI, on **Thursday, November 18 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm**. This virtual session will provide an overview and details about the current COVID-19 climate, including current standings of vaccine distribution, which regulatory changes should continue to be monitored, COVID-19's lasting impact on independent practices, and more. To register for this virtual event visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/COVID-19Webinar>.

Surgeon General Releases Toolkit on Vaccine Misinformation

The US Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy released a step-by-step toolkit this week to help people combat misinformation about the COVID-19 vaccines in their own close circles. During the summer, the Surgeon General issued an advisory that called misinformation an urgent public health threat. The new guide provides a road map for vaccinated people to talk to unvaccinated people who believe conspiracy theories that spread on the internet about the COVID-19 vaccines. The guide includes discussion questions and illustrations explaining why people share misinformation or what a hypothetical conversation around misinformation could look like. Dr. Murthy hopes the toolkit will be used by health professionals, faith leaders, teachers, and parents with children newly eligible for the vaccine. To view the toolkit visit <https://tinyurl.com/zrwfa7p7>.

Governor Extends Public Health Emergency Order

Governor John Carney on Friday last week formally extended the Public Health Emergency order another 30 days to allow the State of Delaware and medical providers to continue COVID-19 vaccination and testing programs. Under Delaware law, Public Health Emergency declarations must be renewed every 30 days. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/h5mdhwcu>.

Medicare Physician Fee Schedule 2022

On January 1, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will reduce payments for certain health care providers. If Congress does not act to stop these cuts, it will further strain practices that are still struggling to keep their doors open during the ongoing pandemic. Although CMS is increasing payment for hospital outpatient services and home health, it is reducing reimbursement for physicians. Physician practices face a stack of Medicare financial hits amounting to a 9.75 percent cut. Contact Congress <https://tinyurl.com/zpnwph9a> and ask to address these devastating Medicare cuts.