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Reminders

2022 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2022 HIPAA, mandatory OSHA, & BLS training scheduled with MSD Compliance Coordinator Dwayne Downs at 302-366-1023.

MSD MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE

Please change your records to our new mailing address effective immediately: Medical Society of Delaware PO Box 8155 Newark, DE 19714.

MSD IS ON FACEBOOK "Like"

the Medical Society of Delaware Facebook page for informative posts, pictures and events. <https://www.facebook.com/MedicalSocietyofDelaware/> or <https://www.facebook.com/medicalsocietyofdelaware>

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Veterans Day - November 11

The theme for Veterans Day 2022 is "Honor." There is distinct honor in serving to protect our way of life and the Constitution of the United States. MSD thanks those who have had the honor of answering the call to duty and serving in the U.S. military. On the eleventh day of the eleventh month, may we observe a day once dedicated to the cause of world peace and celebrate and honor American veterans of all wars for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice. We thank you.

MSD Annual Meeting Wrap Up

MSD provided another successful Annual Meeting schedule of events last week, concluding on Saturday with the OBVIOUS 5k Run/Walk and Health Fair in the morning at Rockford Park in Wilmington and the Inaugural Reception in the evening at the Smyrna Opera House. MSD has prepared the full report of the business conducted, as well as producing a video to capture the moments from the Council Meeting and Inaugural Reception. Congratulations to the 2023 newly elected officers, the 50-Year Medical Service Awardees, the COVID-19 Honorees, and Distinguished Service, President's, Young Physician, and Special Recognition award recipients! You can view the Annual Meeting Full Report, Presidential Address to Council, Incoming President Address to Council, Annual Meeting Picture Video, OBVIOUS the 5k Run/Walk and Health Fair Video on the MSD's Website <https://www.medicalsocietyofdelaware.org/delaware/>.

CDC Health Advisory on Elevated Respiratory Disease

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Advisory about early, elevated respiratory disease incidence caused by multiple viruses occurring especially among children and placing strain on health care systems. Co-circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza viruses, SARS-CoV-2, and others could place stress on health care systems this fall and winter. This early increase in disease incidence highlights the importance of optimizing respiratory virus prevention and treatment measures, including prompt vaccination and antiviral treatment. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/3xtt646h>.

Pfizer Begins Testing on Combined Flu-Coronavirus Vax

Pfizer and its German partner, BioNTech, announced last week that Phase 1 testing has begun on an experimental flu and coronavirus vaccine combination. The vaccine combines the influenza vaccine and the omicron-targeting booster. The study will be conducted in the United States, and researchers plan on enrolling 180 volunteers ages 18 to 64. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/yaayy9km>.

DPH Launches Flu Dashboard

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) announced the launch of the My Healthy Community (MHC) influenza (flu) dashboard, which shares weekly as well as seasonal data on positive cases, hospitalizations, deaths, and for the first time, vaccinations in the state. The dashboard is intended to provide an accurate picture of flu activity among Delawareans and make influenza data readily and easily available. Updates will occur weekly on Thursdays for local data, and monthly for other geographies. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/ymcscbua>.

What's the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing Program?

CMS created the Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) program to measure the rate of improper Fee-for-Service payments. The error rate measures payments that didn't meet Medicare requirements. It doesn't indicate fraud. How does the CERT program work? The CERT contractor reviews a sample of processed claims. If a claim doesn't meet Medicare's coverage, coding, and billing rules or the provider fails to submit medical records, it's counted as a total or partial improper payment. Medicare Administrative Contractors analyze CERT error rates to reduce improper payments by updating their internal processes and educating providers. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/2d46ckpp>.

Employees Heighten Their Focus on Benefits

Employers are generally mindful of how financially stretched their employees might be and are trying to limit how much they add to their burden. Instead of raising benefit levels for all employees across the board, it may be beneficial to develop a more targeted approach and let individuals select the benefits that are best suited for them, through a voluntary benefit package as an example. Today's economy employees have shifted their perspective on compensation, focusing intensely on the employer sponsored benefit portfolio. The Medical Society of Delaware Insurance Services offers its members access to My Benefit Advisor as a solution for employee benefits, including voluntary offerings. For more information, visit our website at www.mybenefitadvisor.com or contact Sharon Ruth at (302) 397-0173.