



Medical Society of Delaware

Practice Matters

Keeping Your Practice Informed Through Weekly Broadcast Fax

December 9, 2022

Volume 10, Number 47

In This Issue

- Tell Congress; Cancel Medicare Physician Payment Cut
- CMS Aims to Overhaul Prior Auth Under Proposed Rule
- MSD 2023 Insurance Payer Workshop
- Prescription Opioid Settlement Distribution Commission Grant Application
- HHS Postpones Enforcement of Good Faith Estimates
- FDA Authorizes Bivalent Vax for Kids Down to 6 Mos.

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 @medicalsocietyofdelaware

Contact MSD

302-366-1400
MedicalSocietyofDelaware.org
To unsubscribe contact
Kristie Stewart at
302-224-5196
Kristie.Stewart@medsocdel.org

Tell Congress: Cancel Medicare Physician Payment Cut

If Congress fails to act by the end of the year, physician Medicare payments are planned to be cut by 4.5% in 2023. **Please take a moment and contact your Senators and Representatives to tell them to cancel the cuts to protect physician practices and preserve patient access to care.** Use these materials (<https://tinyurl.com/mry5yjhs>) and contact your members of Congress (<https://tinyurl.com/muswvp4f>) to let them know the Medicare physician payment system needs reform to become a more sustainable, value-based system that better meets the needs of patients and physicians. The evidence is clear: The Medicare payment system is on an unsustainable path threatening patient access to physicians.

CMS Aims to Overhaul Prior Auth Under Proposed Rule

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Advancing Interoperability and Improving Prior Authorization Processes Proposed Rule that would place new requirements on Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, state Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Fee-for-Service programs, Medicaid and CHIP managed care plans, and Qualified Health Plan issuers on the Federally Facilitated Exchanges to streamline prior authorization (PA) processes to reduce physician practice burdens and prevent patient care delays. The American Medical Association (AMA) expects the rule to align with their PA reform campaign, which is a pillar of the AMA Recovery Plan for Physicians. If finalized, these prior authorization policies would take effect January 1, 2026, with the initial set of metrics proposed to be reported by March 31, 2026. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/4jtxy99z>.

MSD 2023 Insurance Payer Workshop

Save the date for the next MSD Practice Management and Education Session: 2023 Insurance Payer Workshop. This session will be held virtually on **Thursday, January 26, 2023, from 8:30am – 12:00pm**. Invited payers include Aetna, Amerihealth Caritas, CMS, Cigna, Highmark, and United Healthcare.

Prescription Opioid Settlement Distribution Commission Grant Application

The Prescription Opioid Settlement Distribution Commission (POSDC) is now accepting applications via the newly launched website. Delawareans will be able to submit applications through the website for funding. The current available funding for the Commission is approximately \$3 Million. The 2022 Phase 1A Application will be open November 30, 2022 – December 31, 2022. Applicants may apply to be considered for grants and intragovernmental transfers of \$100,000 or less from the Prescription Opioid Impact Fund established under 16 Del. C. § 4803B and/or the Prescription Opioid Settlement Fund established under 16 Del. C. § 4808B. Applications can be submitted on the POSDC website. For more information and guidance on the application process, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/2697nvvp>.

HHS Postpones Enforcement of Good Faith Estimates

Under the No Surprises Act, physicians and other health care professionals and facilities are required to provide good faith estimates to uninsured, out-of-network, or self-paying patients for services offered when scheduling care or when the patient requests an estimate. According to new guidance released by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) last Friday, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will not begin enforcing the No Surprises Act requirement to deliver good faith estimates. Enforcement was to begin on January 1, 2023, however HHS is extending enforcement discretion, pending future rulemaking, for situations where good faith estimates for uninsured, out-of-network, or self-pay individuals do not include expected charges from co-providers or co-facilities. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/2t74bxu7>.

MSD Annual Virtual Food Drive

MSD is raising money to help the Food Bank of Delaware address the increase in need for hungry Delawareans. With every \$1 raised, the Food Bank of Delaware can provide three meals. Let's help our fellow citizens in their time of need. Access the virtual donation site to make your donation. It is quick, easy, and convenient. Donations will be accepted through December 17th. Thank you for making a difference! To donate please visit <https://give.fbd.org/team/466583>.

FDA Authorizes Bivalent Vax for Kids Down to 6 Mos.

the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) amended the emergency use authorizations (EUAs) of the updated (bivalent) Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines to include use in children down to 6 months of age. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/59an4yp4>.