



Medical Society of Delaware

# Practice Matters

Keeping Your Practice Informed Through Weekly Broadcast Fax

September 1, 2022

Volume 10, Number 34

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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 IS ON FACEBOOK

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

### 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.

## Contact MSD

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## DPH Launches New Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution

The Delaware Division of Public Health's (DPH) Office of Health Crisis Response (OHCR) is announcing it will begin including fentanyl test strips in Narcan kits it distributes to the public. The effort is part of a harm-reduction strategy aimed at preventing accidental overdoses due to fentanyl consumption. Fentanyl is now the leading cause of drug overdose deaths in Delaware, found in more than 80% of fatal overdoses. The test strips are highly sensitive and will detect fentanyl down to 0.1 mcg/ml. Fentanyl test strips are legal in Delaware, though laws may vary in other states. DPH also distributes 10-pack fentanyl test strip kits through a free mail-order program. More detailed information is available at <https://www.helpsherede.com/understanding-addiction/what-is-fentanyl>.

## Government No Longer Providing At-Home COVID Tests – Program Ends Friday

Because Congress has not provided additional funding to replenish the stockpile of tests, the government will end its free at-home rapid coronavirus test distribution program on Friday, 9/2 as communicated on the [covid.gov](https://www.covid.gov) website. It was hoped that free and accessible testing would help slow the spread of the virus. Free testing will be available in other ways, including 15,000 federally-supported community sites.

## Thinking of Retirement...Mastering Your Financial Plan Virtual Session

MSD is co-hosting a retirement planning session with speakers from Diamond State Financial Group, MSD Insurance Services (MSDIS), USI Insurance Services and Cover & Rossiter for an evening of "Mastering Your Financial Plan". This virtual session is scheduled on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm. Registration is required at <https://reg.planetreg.com/Retirement2022>.

## MSD OBVIOUS 5k Run/Walk & Health Fair

We are excited to announce our Annual "Superhero for Hope" 5K Run/Walk is happening again this year! The Medical Society of Delaware will host its 5th Annual Campaign for Kids... "It's OBVIOUS" 5K Run/Walk on **Saturday, November 5, 2022, at Rockford Park, Wilmington**. This family-friendly event is being held in conjunction with a Community Health and Wellness Fair, co-hosted by MSD, Mom's House, and Vision to Learn. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Back by popular demand is the "Oat Bowl" featuring a make-your-own oatmeal bowl with a variety of fixings. Race participants will also enjoy t-shirts and other post-race food and refreshments. For more information and to register for this great event, please visit <https://raceroster.com/events/2022/56632/superhero-for-hope-5th-annual-run-walk>.

## Advanced Telehealth Certification Program

The Advanced Telehealth Coordinator certification provides a foundational understanding of the benefits and uses of telehealth, and the role of the telehealth coordinator. Participants gain the knowledge and skills necessary to support the use of telehealth applications within a health care organization. The fall scheduled begins September 12<sup>th</sup>. Additional information on the course can be found at: <https://www.pcs.udel.edu/telehealth/>. The Delaware Division of Public Health is offering this opportunity with funding provided by the National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities.

## GET CERTIFIED - Virtual Certified Medical Coder Course Offered

Demand for the Certified Medical Coders is in high demand! Certified Medical Coder (CMC)® validates training and knowledge as an outpatient coding professional. Earning the CMC coding credential will improve confidence when communicating with physicians, third-party payers, patients and business associates. This seven week certification course will take place on Thursdays from **September 29 – November 10, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**. To register visit <https://reg.planetReg.com/CMC2022>.

## Highmark BC/BS Delaware Update

Highmark has now been awarded the exclusive contract for the State of Delaware retired employee population. Approximately 30,000 retired employees will start their coverage with Highmark (Delaware Medicare Advantage) on Jan. 1, 2023. Highmark is currently running town-hall style meetings with this population to answer any questions they may have about their benefits for next year. Town hall meetings for physicians will be scheduled beginning in the fall of this year. To participate in this program and to treat this population, providers will need a separate provider contract with Highmark. Providers should also be aware that this plan does require prior authorization for some services, but no referrals. For more information about the program or contracting, contact Kevin O'Hara ([kevin.ohara@highmark.com](mailto:kevin.ohara@highmark.com)).