



Medical Society of Delaware

Practice Matters

Keeping Your Practice Informed Through Weekly Broadcast Fax

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Reminders

2023 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"

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Delaware Extends Postpartum Medicaid Coverage

The Delaware Department of Health and Social Services' (DHSS) Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA) announced that it has extended Medicaid postpartum health care coverage from 60 days to 12 months after the end of a pregnancy. This expansion is made possible through a State Plan Amendment approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in May. The expansion is retroactively effective as of July 2022. Delaware is one of 35 states to extend Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage to 12 months following the end of pregnancy. Previously, Medicaid enrollees who were pregnant received coverage through the end of the month in which their 60-day postpartum period ends. Medicaid recipients will now be eligible to receive 12 months of ongoing postpartum health care coverage beginning on the date their pregnancy ends, regardless of the reason, through the last day of the month 12-months after the last date of the pregnancy. These individuals will remain eligible for ongoing postpartum health care coverage even if certain changes occur that may affect eligibility — such as a change in income or household/family unit. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/rhzanfub>.

Preliminary 2022 MIPS and QPP Performance Scores

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Quality Payment Program (QPP) have released the preliminary preview of 2022 feedback for the MIPS and QPP performance scores. This early access allows you to assess your performance and ensure that your scores are in line with what was reported earlier this year. Review each category carefully - Quality, Promoting Interoperability, Improvement Activities, and Cost. Take this opportunity to examine your preliminary scores thoroughly, ensuring they accurately reflect your practice's performance. Contact QPP if you find inconsistencies with your overall score. To access a video tutorial visit <https://tinyurl.com/mttux395>.

Medical Front Office Skills Certificate Program

This live virtual class will be held on **August 9, 16 and 23 from 10 am – 1 pm**. Setting high performance standards in the front office will lead to more informed and satisfied patients, smoother workflow, and a healthier revenue cycle. Attendees will learn essential responsibilities to excel in a patient-interfacing role. Emphasis on quality care measures, overall patient satisfaction, workflow, compliance, and the bottom line are key ingredients that make-or-break office success. Class includes discussion on new health care communication and compliance challenges. To register visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/MFOSJune>.

FDA Approves New Class of Meds to Treat Pediatric T2D

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Jardiance (empagliflozin) and Synjardy (empagliflozin and metformin hydrochloride) as additions to diet and exercise to improve blood sugar control in children 10 years and older with type 2 diabetes. These approvals provide a new class of medicines taken by mouth to treat pediatric type 2 diabetes. Metformin, the only other oral therapy available for the treatment of children with type 2 diabetes, was first approved for pediatric use in 2000. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/2p8zdpc5>.

Updated COVID-19 Vaccines Beginning Fall 2023

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) met last week regarding the formula for COVID-19 vaccines for the 2023-2024 fall and winter seasons. The FDA has since advised <https://tinyurl.com/4vw9fjrb> manufacturers seeking to update their COVID-19 vaccines that they should develop vaccines with a monovalent XBB.1.5 composition, moving away from the existing formula that protected against the Omicron variant and an early form of the virus, and to aim at the most dominant variant of the coronavirus this summer. Pfizer, Moderna, and Novavax began development on versions of their vaccines targeting XBB.1.5 months before the FDA's decision.

MedPAC 2023 Report to Congress on Medicare, Health Care Delivery System

The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) released its 2023 report to Congress that included numerous recommendations such as the price of Medicare Part B drugs, standardizing benefits under Medicare Advantage plans, behavioral health services in the Medicare program, aligning fee for service rates across ambulatory settings, reforming Medicare's wage index system, and more. Also included in the report, mandated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, was the usage of telehealth services during the public health emergency and the association between expanded telehealth coverage and health care quality, access, and costs. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n9a9e5y>.