

### **COVID-19 UPDATES** 3-23-2020

In an effort to keep Delaware's medical community current on the latest information regarding the coronavirus crisis, the Medical Society of Delaware is sharing the following:

#### **Governor Declares Public Health Emergency**

Governor John Carney today declared a Public Health Emergency and released a strong order to assist Delaware's coronavirus (COVID-19) response efforts. The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) and the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) issued a <u>companion order</u> focused on strengthening Delaware's health care workforce. <u>Read more</u>.

#### Under the order from DEMA and DPH:

- Nurses, doctors, mental health care providers, pharmacists and other health care professionals who have active licenses or certificates of good standing in any U.S. jurisdiction are authorized to provide in-person health care services in Delaware throughout the emergency, as well as telemedicine services.
- Delaware health care professionals whose licenses expired in the last five years are authorized to provide health care services in Delaware, assuming their licenses were in good standing for the five-year period.

The Governor also ordered all Delaware schools to remain closed through at least **Friday**, **May 15** to fight the spread of COVID-19. The State of Delaware intends to formally recommend that no school district or charter school extend its school calendar beyond the end of June. Read more.

# One Year Old Baby Among COVID-19 Cases Reported in Delaware

Delaware now has 87 COVID-19 cases in all three counties in Delaware since March 11. This includes 31 additional cases since yesterday. Of the Delawareans diagnosed with COVID-19, 58 are from New Castle County, nine

are from Kent County, and 20 are from Sussex County. The individuals range in age from 1 to 90. Seven individuals are currently hospitalized, three are critically ill. The source of exposure for many of these cases is unknown, indicating community spread. Read more.

#### **MSD Gets Answers to YOUR Questions**

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the nightly calls with DPH. We have collected hundreds of questions from health care professionals around the state that we have shared with DPH for answers. MSD's Physician Relations department has compiled a frequently asked questions (FAQ) for your information. Read FAQ.

<u>Listen to tonight's conference call - 3-23-2020</u>

### MSD Supports Governor's Order to Stay Home

Medical Society of President Joseph J. Straight, MD issued a strong statement today supporting Governor Carney's order asking Delawareans to stay home. "The Medical Society of Delaware is grateful for and completely supports Governor Carney's most recent executive order asking all residents to stay at home in an effort to flatten the curve. This is the most important thing we can all do to protect the most vulnerable in our community. It is also the most important thing we can all do to return our lives to normal." Read more.

## Governor's Office Needs Your Help Gauging Child Care Needs

In an attempt to gauge the child care needs of health care professionals during the COVID-19 crisis, Governor Carney's office is asking for physicians and other key health care professionals to answer a short survey. The purpose of the survey is to get a better sense of the resources necessary to support a health care workforce operating at full capacity, specifically as it relates to the child care needs of health care professionals. Survey closes **Wednesday**, **March 25**. Take survey.

For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, MSD has created a coronavirus resource page on our website. <u>View resource page</u>.

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