



Medical Society of Delaware
LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

COVID-19 UPDATE

4-15-2020

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:

DPH Announces 88 New COVID-19 Cases and Three Additional Deaths

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), 88 new Delawareans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, taking the total number of lab-confirmed cases to **2,014**, including **208** who are hospitalized, **48** of whom are critically ill.

Forty-six individuals have died due to COVID-19 in Delaware, **28** of whom were residents of long-term care facilities. The most recent deaths involved:

- 83-year-old female from Sussex County, hospitalized long-term care resident
- 53-year-old female from Kent County, hospitalized
- 46-year-old male from New Castle County, hospitalized

[Read more.](#)

Information to Share with Patients Being Tested for COVID-19

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has created two important documents to help patients understand what to do after taking a COVID-19 test. The guidance includes information for patients who took a rapid COVID-19 test as well as a standard test. DPH is asking physicians to please distribute these documents with patients.

[Read COVID-19 Patient Instructions After COVID-19 Testing](#)
[Read Patient Instructions Following a Rapid COVID-19 Test](#)

Governor Asks for Stricter Measures for Long-Term Care Facilities

Delaware Governor John Carney has issued the 11th modification to his State of Emergency declaration, requiring stricter guidelines to prevent COVID-19 infections in nursing facilities and other long-term care facilities. The order requires nursing facilities to immediately ensure they are in full compliance with the Public Health Authority guidance related to COVID-19. Nursing facilities must check Division of Public Health (DPH) guidance at least daily to ensure they are complying with the most current guidance and adjust their policies, procedures, and protocols accordingly. [Read more.](#)

DPH Issues Important COVID-19 Long-Term Care or Assisted Living Facilities Guidance

The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has issued guidance for discontinuation of transmission-based precautions and disposition of patients with COVID-19 to long-term care or assisted living facilities. This information is adapted from guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. [Read more.](#)

MSD Joins AMA / Medical Societies in Urging Congress to Modify CARES Act Provision

The Medical Society of Delaware, along with medical societies across the country and national physician specialty organizations, signed a letter sent by the American Medical Association outlining concerns regarding some obstacles faced by physician practices to repay loans provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The letter details challenges physicians face and outlines actions to help. [Read letter.](#)

DPH Conference Call Answers COVID-19 Testing Questions

Tuesday's DPH hosted call for physicians fielded many questions regarding COVID-19 testing, including the availability of rapid tests and the potential for physicians to perform tests in their practices, as well as the effectiveness of new tests coming on the market. We have incorporated last night's answers into the MSD Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. The next DPH/physician call will be next **Tuesday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m.** [Read FAQ.](#) [Listen to April 14th call.](#)

How are You Dealing with COVID-19?

Merritt Hawkins, in collaboration with The Physicians Foundation, is conducting a national survey to determine how physicians are being affected by and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey includes three short questions and takes approximately one minute to complete. [Take survey.](#)

For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, MSD has created a coronavirus resource page on our website. [View resource page.](#)

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