



Medical Society of Delaware
LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

COVID-19 UPDATE

4-2-2020

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 New COVID-19 Death, Outbreak at Third Long-term Care Facility

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), 12 Delawareans have died due to complications from COVID-19. There have been a total of six deaths related to long-term care facilities, including five in New Castle County and one in Sussex County. The most recent fatality involved a 75-year-old male from New Castle County who had underlying health conditions.

DPH has announced a third outbreak of positive coronavirus cases at a long-term care facility. The latest outbreak involves the Governor Bacon Health System, an intermediate-skilled nursing facility operated by Delaware Department of Health and Social Services in Delaware City, which has two staff members and a resident who have tested positive for COVID-19.

Current Delaware COVID-19 statistics:

- 393 total laboratory-confirmed cases
- New Castle County cases: 245
- Kent County cases: 43
- Sussex County cases: 105
- Males: 179; Females: 214
- Age range: 1 to 97
- Hospitalized: 56; Critically ill: 15
- Delawareans recovered: 49

[Read more.](#)

DNREC to Close Park and Wildlife Area

Amenities

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control has announced it will close its public restroom facilities, including bathrooms, bathhouses and portable toilets in state parks, wildlife areas, and state boat ramps at the end of the day April 3. All amenities will remain closed until May 15 or until the public health threat has been eliminated. [Read more.](#)

DEA Eases Prescribing Restrictions

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is exercising its authority to provide flexibility in the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances to ensure necessary patient therapies remain accessible. As part of this effort, DEA has partnered with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to ensure authorized practitioners may admit and treat new patients with opioid use disorder (OUD) during the public health emergency. [Read more.](#)

Guidance from Delaware Insurance Payers

MSD has receiving many questions about reimbursement for telemedicine visits. While the information is still being sorted out regarding reimbursement, MSD's Physician Relations Department has created an information reference sheet with helpful details from Delaware's major payers for physicians and practice managers. [Read more.](#)

UD Disaster Research Center Study

The University of Delaware Disaster Research Center is conducting a study on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is asking health care providers to participate in a short anonymous survey. The data collected is intended to yield both basic scientific knowledge on disasters and information that can be applied to develop more effective plans and policies to reduce disaster impacts in the future. [Take survey.](#)

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

Medical Society of Delaware
900 Prides Crossing
Newark, Delaware 19713
(302) 366-1400

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