



Medical Society of Delaware
LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHY DELAWARE

COVID-19 UPDATE

4-25-2020

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 Carney Orders Face Masks to be Worn in Public

Delaware Governor John Carney today issued the thirteenth modification to his State of Emergency declaration, requiring Delawareans to wear face coverings in public settings, including in grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, doctor's offices, and on public transportation.

Governor Carney's order does not require children aged 12 or younger to wear a face covering. Any child 2-years-old or younger **MUST NOT** wear a face covering, due to the risk of suffocation. [Read more.](#)

DPH Announces 134 New COVID-19 Cases and 12 Additional Deaths

According to the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH), **134** new Delawareans have been diagnosed with COVID-19, taking the total number of lab-confirmed cases to **3,576**, including **300** who are hospitalized, **61** of whom are critically ill.

One hundred twelve individuals have died due to COVID-19 in Delaware with ages ranging from 32 to 103 years old. The most recent deaths announced today ranged in age from 61 to 97. Seven were New Castle County residents, three were Kent County residents, and two were Sussex County residents. The most recent deaths all involved individuals with underlying health conditions.

Latest statistics on positive cases:

- New Castle County cases: 1,504

- Kent County cases: 579
- Sussex County cases: 1,490
- Unknown County: 3
- Males: 1,613; Females: 1,936; Unknown: 27
- Age range: 0 to 103

[Read more.](#)

Concern for Poultry Processing Plant Workers Increases

The increasing number of positive COVID-19 cases in Sussex County has many Delawareans concerned about the potential spread through the poultry processing plants that are plentiful in the county. With working conditions challenged to maintain social distancing, state and community officials are working to figure out ways to communicate with, and test those who might be at risk. *News Journal* reporter Meredith Newman did a deep dive into the situation and what is being done to reach those affected. [Read story.](#)

AMA Issues Guidance for HHS General Allocation Fund Portal

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it will begin distributing the second distribution of funds from the \$100 billion in funds to hospitals and other health care providers impacted by the coronavirus response.

The funding will be used to support health care-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19. HHS announced that \$50 billion of the Provider Relief Fund is allocated for general distribution to facilities and providers which billed Medicare in 2019, and are impacted by COVID-19, based on providers' 2018 net patient revenue. Of this \$50 billion, the initial \$30 billion was distributed between April 10 and April 17, and payments to providers from that \$30 billion were calculated based on providers' portion of Medicare fee-for-service revenue.

Starting on April 24, a portion of providers will automatically be sent an advance payment based off the revenue data they submit in CMS cost reports. Providers without adequate cost report data on file will need to submit their revenue information to the General Distribution Portal for additional general distribution funds.

[Read more.](#) [Read AMA Guidance for HHS General Allocation Fund Portal](#)

Know Someone Who Should be Receiving MSD COVID-19 Updates?

From all of us here at the Medical Society of Delaware, thank you to all our daily readers! We have been dedicated to sending daily COVID-19 updates, not just to MSD members, but to all physicians in the First State as well as practice managers. The feedback has been fantastic and we will continue to deliver timely, accurate information you need.

If you know a physician, PA, or health care stakeholder who isn't receiving our communications, please let us know by emailing Mary.Fenimore@medsocdel.org.

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**

You are receiving this communication as a benefit of your membership in the Medical Society of Delaware.