

MSD Membership Renewal Time

Don't Let Your Dues Lapse



Membership renewal notices have been mailed to all dues-paying MSD

members. Membership renewals can be paid electronically by logging into the [MSD website](#) or by mail. If your mailing address has changed recently, you didn't receive the dues mailing, or you are unsure of your MSD login information, please contact MSD Membership Coordinator Ryan Wolfe at 302-224-4905 or ryan.wolfe@medsocdel.org.

MedNet Receives \$200K Mini-Grant

EMR Integration Streamlines MedNet Network Capabilities

Medical
Network



Management Services of Delaware, LLC (MedNet), a subsidiary of MSD, has been awarded a mini-grant from the Health Care

Commission as part of the State Innovation Model (SIM) initiative. The funds will be used to accelerate the development of a population health management platform that will streamline and speed up the process to integrate electronic medical records (EMR). The platform, being developed by MedNet's partner HealthEC, will help MedNet's more than 800 physicians succeed with their value based contracts. [Read more.](#)

New Medicare Part D Opioid Overutilization Policies

Important Information For 2019



In a continued effort to help combat the

opioid crisis, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced changes last summer to the Part D Opioid Overutilization Policies for 2019. The finalized new policies for Medicare drug plans will begin January 1, 2019 and include improved safety alerts when prescriptions are dispensed at the pharmacy, and drug management programs to better coordinate care when chronic high-risk opioid use is present.

[Read Prescribers Guide to the News Medicare Part D Opioid Overutilization Policies for 2019.](#)

Health Advisory: Hepatitis A Outbreak

DPH Recommending Increasing Vaccinations



The Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) has issued a Health

Advisory warning physicians of a Hepatitis A Virus (HAV) outbreak in Pennsylvania and neighboring states. Officials are encouraging health care professionals to increase vaccinations and screenings for high risk patients. The outbreak is highest among patients reporting drug use and/or homelessness. DPH encourages those at risk to seek an HAV vaccination and are offering free vaccines to high-risk individuals in homeless shelters. [Read more.](#)

Highmark Offering Training For Prior Authorization

New Changes for Advanced Imaging and Cardiac Services



Highmark is transitioning its utilization management program to eviCore healthcare. Highmark is offering free

webinar orientation sessions followed by question-and-answer sessions to discuss in detail the prior authorization requirements for Highmark members and how to navigate the web portal. Members are encouraged to attend to ensure the understanding of the new prior authorization process for advanced imaging and cardiology services. [Read more.](#)

NOTICE: CMS Fee Schedule Webinar Rescheduled

Be Ready For the 2019 Physicians Fee Schedule



Due to the unexpected passing of former President Bush, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Physician Fee Schedule lunchtime webinar has been rescheduled for **Thursday, December 14th from noon-1:00 p.m.** This FREE (\$25.00 for non-MSD members) webinar will teach you the ins and outs of the new changes for 2019 and how they will affect your practice. [To register.](#)

First Twins Born After Scientist Used Gene Editing

Medical Community Conflicted

Gene editing is taking over the headlines this week after a



Chinese scientist claimed he used gene editing to attempt to create a child that is HIV resistant. According to reports, twins were born in November to one HIV positive parent and one HIV negative parent after the scientist attempted to alter a gene affecting HIV in the embryos. The topic has created an uproar and has physicians and scientist struggling with the ethics of the issue. [Read more.](#)

Retirement Information Vital For Physicians

Executive Deferred Compensation Plan



Resource Management Inc. (RMI) is offering a unique and innovative way to defer taxes today and allow for a stronger retirement nest egg later. The RMI deferred compensation plan allows a participant to postpone payment of a portion of currently earned income, to be paid at a later date - often during retirement. Deferring income into the

future also defers the participants current tax bracket for a potentially lower bracket later on, like is often the case at retirement. This plan can be used for up to \$100k of deferment a year. RMI is offering this opportunity as part of their services to MSD members. [Learn more](#). Contact Tim O'Brien at tim@rmi-solutions.com

MSD Food Drive - Making a Difference Together

MSD Food Drive to Benefit Southern Delaware

MSD will be collecting canned and dry goods to donate to



Helping Hands of Bethel Tabernacle in Frankford, Delaware, a non-denominational church that serves more than one hundred people in need of food assistance monthly. Donations will be accepted daily through Dec. 14th at the Medical Society of Delaware, 900 Prides Crossing, Newark. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to Bethel Helping Hands Food bank. Tax receipts for donations available upon request. [Read more](#).

New Face at MSD

Dominique Haile



Dominique Haile has joined the MSD team full time as Administrative Assistant. Prior to arriving at MSD, Dominique worked in similar positions at the University of Delaware and Delaware Technical Community College. Dominique is a busy mother of two young children and is currently working on her degree in Human Services at Delaware Technical Community College. Welcome Dominique to the MSD team!

"Rerum Cognoscere"

The Latin phrase *Rerum Cognoscere* translates to learn, examine, or become aware of facts or things. In this section we highlight measurable items of interest in health care from MSD, Delaware, the US, and the world.

78.6	70,237	20%
Life expectancy for Americans in 2017. A decline from 2016 due to increase in suicides, the opioid crisis, influenza, pneumonia, and diabetes.	The final number of U.S. drug overdose deaths in 2017, an increase of almost 7,000 from 2016.	Estimated decline in drug overdose deaths in the last twelve months in Ohio and Pennsylvania.
Wall Street Journal, Nov. 29, 2018	Washington Post, Nov. 30, 2018	Washington Post, Nov. 30, 2018

Upcoming Events

December 10 - [2018 Health Summit: Communicable Diseases](#), 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., John H. Ammon Medical Education Center, Christiana Hospital, Newark.

January 8 - [Frank M. and Robert R. Hoopes Medical/Dental Lecture 2019](#), 6:30 - 8:15 p.m., John H. Ammon Medical Education Center, Christiana Hospital, Newark.

January 13 - PAHCOM presents: [MIPS 2019 - What You Need To Know About the Final Rule](#), 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., MSD Conference Center, Newark.

December 14 - MSD presents: [Final Rule For the 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Webinar](#), 12:00-1:00 p.m. Free for MSD members.

January 15 - [MSD Practice Management Session: Insurance Payers Update](#), 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., MSD Conference Center, Newark. Video Conferencing to Bayhealth Hospital, Kent Campus.



Was the information in this newsletter useful? If so, forward to a friend to let them know the value of your Medical Society of Delaware membership.

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