

MSMS Medigram



Valuable insights on ACOs



e-News for Friday, April 5, 2013

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House of Delegates: Engage in the Policymaking, Stay for the Events

You don't have to be a delegate or alternate delegate to take part in the House of Delegates (Friday-Sunday, April 26-28, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids). Through our online [Resolution Forum](#), you can share your expertise, opinions and/or personal experiences on this year's 80 resolutions and 10 Board Action Reports. Your comments will be shared with reference committees for their consideration at the House.

Members also may purchase tickets to attend the Presidential Banquet on Saturday evening, April 27, make a contribution to attend the MDPAC 300 Club Reception with lawmakers on Saturday afternoon, or attend these FREE events on Saturday afternoon:

FREE Physician Issues Forum –12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Featuring a boxed lunch and these topics/speakers:

--"Doctor & Patient: 3,000 Years of Trying to Get it Right," Richard I. Levin, MD, FACP, FACC, FAHA, President & CEO, The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

--"Will Medicaid Expansion Make it to Michigan?", Vernon K. Smith, PhD, Managing Principal, Health Management Associates ---

"Activate Your Political Voice," Mohammed A. Arsiwala, MD, MBBS, BS, Chair, Michigan Doctors' Political Action Committee

FREE CME programs – 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

The Weight of the State
May 8

The Inn at St. John's - Plymouth

This important conference will provide essential educational opportunities for health care professionals on advances in prevention strategies, treatment approaches, and health consequences of obesity.

[Register Now >>](#)

Spring Scientific Meeting
May 16 & 17

Somerset Inn - Troy

Smaller and shorter version of the popular fall Scientific Meeting, featuring clinical education.

[Register Now >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

- Physicians Guide to Identifying and Treating Mental Health in their Practice
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan's Strategy for Payment Reform

[All things House of Delegates>>](#)

Get Your Legislative Advocacy Juices Flowing!

State legislators return from their spring break next week, so MSMS plans to hit the ground running with action on several issues heating up next week, including:

Medicaid Expansion & GME Funding –

Upon several concerns being raised, the House Appropriations Community Health Subcommittee removed Medicaid expansion language from the MDCH budget bill it recently passed. The Senate is expected to take up its own MDCH budget bill very soon. In addition to lobbying for the expansion, MSMS is working to preserve graduate medical education (GME) funding in the Medicaid budget, which is at risk after the governor proposed a 7% cut to GME funding. [Contact your lawmakers>>](#)

[Expand Medicaid coalition>>](#)

Auto No-Fault –

Legislators soon are expected to introduce bills that would effectively repeal our state's model no-fault insurance system and replace it with a dangerous system that will drive up health care costs. MSMS opposes such measures as a member of the Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault (CPAN).

Check out your March/April edition of [Michigan Medicine](#), which features the article "Protecting Michigan Auto No-Fault Insurance" by John Cornack, CPAN President.

Nurse Scope –

MSMS opposes dangerous bills that aim to expand the scope of practice of advanced practice registered nurses (SB 2) and certified registered nurse anesthetists (SB 180). The bills are expected to be taken up within the coming weeks.

Doctor of the Day –

Next Tuesday, physicians from the MSMS International Medical Graduate section will be in Lansing as part of the MSMS-MDPAC Doctor of the Day program to talk with lawmakers about Medicaid expansion, GME funding, J-1 Visas, and more. You, too, can be "Doctor of the Day"! [Learn more>>](#)

FREE
to MSMS Members

**A Case Study on Child
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Contact Caryl Markzon:
cmarkzon@msms.org
(517) 336-7575



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Send MSMS Your Questions about the Affordable Care Act

Though it was enacted three years ago, physicians undoubtedly still have many questions about how the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (ACA) will affect their delivery of care, how they run their practices, and provide insurance to their employees, to name a few things. To help physicians and their staff better understand provisions of the complex law, MSMS is asking for your feedback for an upcoming article. Send your questions to Stacy Sellek at ssellek@msms.org (subject line: "ACA Questions") by April 30 and we will address them in the article.

This is a significant year for ACA implementation because of possible health insurance coverage expansions through Medicaid (see item #2 above) and health insurance exchanges take effect on January 1, 2014. In addition, physicians face a variety of provisions that begin in 2013, including disclosure of financial relationships between health entities (April) and enrollment in health insurance exchanges (October). [View ACA timeline>>](#)

Check out your March/April edition of [Michigan Medicine](#), which features the article "Employers: Avoid Penalties Under Affordable Care Act," by Virginia Gibson, MSMS Senior Director, Subsidiary Services, which includes the MSMS Physicians Insurance Agency.

Study Finds No Connection between 'Too Many Vaccines' & Autism Risk

In an April 2 letter to immunization partners around the state (physicians, other health care providers, public health entities, etc.), the Michigan Department of Community Health promoted a recent article in the *Journal of Pediatrics* (March 29, 2013) that evaluated the issue of "too many vaccines too soon" and the development of autism.

The article, "Increasing exposure to antibody-stimulating proteins and polysaccharides in vaccines is not associated with risk of autism" (March 29, 2013), outlines that the amount of antigens from vaccines received on one day of vaccination or in total during the first two years of life is not related to the development of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in children; and the study found that the total amount of antigens from vaccines received was the same between children with ASD and those that did not have ASD.

MDCH shared further article highlights in the letter, as well as links to additional resources.

[Read letter>>](#)

TDC: Malpractice Claims Consume Years of a Physician's Career


On average, each physician spends 50.7 months, or approximately 11% of an average 40-year career, on resolving medical malpractice cases--the majority of which end up with no indemnity payment. That's the conclusion of a recent study by the RAND

Corporation based on data provided by The Doctors Company, the nation's largest medical malpractice insurer and MSMS's exclusively endorsed professional liability carrier. Researchers found that 70% of the time physicians spend on claims is spent defending claims that end in no payment to the plaintiff.

Key findings of the study include:

- Physicians experience additional stress, work, and reputational damage from the time spent defending claims;
- Fighting claims takes time away from practicing medicine and from the opportunity for the physician to learn from his or her medical errors; and
- The lengthy time required to resolve claims also negatively impacts patients and their families.

[More>>](#)

<i>Figure 6</i>		Only one insurance agency PROTECTS YOUR MEDICAL PRACTICE, LIFE, HOME...
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