



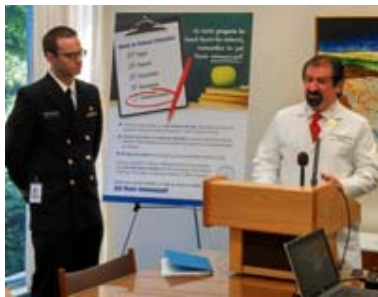
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e-News for Friday, August 9, 2013

### Upcoming Events

## MSMS President Talks Medicaid, Vaccines, Smoke-free Air Law Threat with Media



MSMS President Kenneth Elmassian, DO, a Lansing anesthesiologist, had a very busy week speaking to media on behalf of Michigan's physicians and patients:

**Medicaid** - On Thursday morning, Doctor Elmassian was a guest on WKAR's "Current State" answering questions about Medicaid

expansion in Michigan. "The idea is...to see patients...before they are critically ill or have to go to an emergency room...and to get more people into the primary care offices," said Doctor Elmassian, in response to what the goal of raising Medicaid reimbursement rates is. Listen to the entire show [here](#) (Medicaid segment 14:00-23:00).

**Vaccines** - Later that same morning, MSMS hosted a press conference featuring Doctor Elmassian (photo, right), Jevon D. McFadden, MD, MPH (photo, left), and Bob Swanson, director of the Division of Immunizations with the Michigan Department of Community Health. The purpose of the event was to urge parents to get their children immunized before heading back to school. The event generated a great deal of state and national [media coverage](#).

**Smoke-free Air Law** - Lastly, the [Detroit Free Press ran an op-ed](#) from Doctor Elmassian about dangerous legislation (HB 4536) that would "carve scores of exemptions into the law, undoing the progress we've made and, worse, threatening the health and lives of families across Michigan."

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**Selecting an EHR Just Got Easier - Thanks to MSMS & Docright**

### Transitioning to Accountable Care Organizations

September 18, 2013  
Plymouth

Accountable Care Organizations present a natural progression in the delivery of patient-centered care as they bring providers together to manage the broad spectrum of care for a population of patients. Hailed as a better way to achieve cost-effective, high-quality patient care, Accountable Care Organizations have the potential to improve the population's health and slow spiraling health care costs.

[Register Now >>](#)

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### Business 101: A Crash Course for Physicians

October 25, 2013  
Troy

A half-day intense training program to cover the basics of running a business. This program is essential for all physicians wishing to overcome confusion and run an effective, efficient, and successful business while offering quality patient care.

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[More Events >>](#)

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Thanks to a new partnership between MSMS and Docright.com, comparing electronic health record vendors just got easier for our members. With Docright - the latest free benefit for MSMS members - you can gain access to an array of up-to-date information about the top EHR products, together with easy-to-use web tools to help in all stages of EHR adoption and profitable use.

By signing into Docright, MSMS members can immediately:

- Find and compare the top EHR products
- Discover and schedule events about EHR and IT including demos, webinars and meetings
- Connect and collaborate with other MSMS members about EHR and IT and referrals.

[Read more or get started using Docright>>](#)

## SGR Fix in Sight - Contact Your Lawmakers This Month!

Congress began its traditional five-week summer recess on August 3 following recent bipartisan efforts to finally address Medicare's broken physician payment and delivery system. Specifically, legislation passed by the House Committee on Energy & Commerce focuses on repeal of the sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula and the future of physician payment policy and delivery models. While a number of good proposals have been included by the committee, significant work remains to be done in order to improve this legislation.

MSMS urges its members to take immediate action by [sending an email](#) or calling their lawmakers via the AMA's Physicians Grassroots Network (PGN) hotline at 800-833-6354. Please convey the following points to your representative and senators:


- Congress must finally act this year to repeal the SGR
- Payment updates must allow physician practices to keep pace with the cost of caring for our nation's senior and disabled population
- Existing burdens and penalties must be reduced
- New systems should not be overly burdensome or duplicative of current efforts
- Physicians must have the opportunity to lead in the development of quality metrics and alternative payment and delivery models

## Michigan Medicine Earns APEX Award for Excellence

MSMS's *Michigan Medicine* magazine has earned the 2013 APEX Award for Publication Excellence in the category of "Magazine & Journal Writing." The issue nominated for the award was Vol. 111, No. 4 (July/August 2012), which featured a cover story on State **Senator Roger Kahn, MD**, and was written by Senior Manager of Communications and Public Relations, Stacy Sellek. The annual competition is for publishers, editors, writers and designers who create print, Web, electronic and social media. Business, nonprofit,

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**Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) Legal Alert**

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