1. Physicians Advocate SGR Repeal on 'The Hill'

This week, MSMS and other state medical society leaders from around the country attended the AMA National Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC, and took time to visit their congressional lawmakers to push for SGR repeal.

Michigan physicians who attended: MSMS President Kenneth Elmassian, DO, an Ingham County anesthesiologist; MSMS Board member and MDPAC Immediate Past Chair Mohammed A. Arsiwala, MD, a Wayne County internist; MSMS Board member T. Jann Caison-Sorey, MD, a Wayne County pediatrician; Donald P. Condit, MD, a Kent County orthopedic surgeon; MSMS Board...
Michigan docs on The Hill

member and MDPAC Past Chair Stephen A. Dallas, MD, a Kalamazoo County internist; Jeanette M. Meyer, MD, a Kalamazoo County internist; Mark C. Rummel, MD, a Kalamazoo County vascular surgeon; Vani J. Sabesan, MD, a Kalamazoo County orthopedic surgeon; M. Salim Siddiqui, MD, a Wayne County radiation oncologist; Joann M. Smith, MD, an Oakland County obstetrician/gynecologist; and Phillip G. Wise, MD, a Kent County urologist.

The Michigan group met with these lawmakers in DC: Congressman Justin Amash (R-Cascade Twp.); Congressman Dan Benishek, MD (R-Crystal Falls); Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland); Congressman John Dingell (D-Dearborn); Congressman Bill Huizenga (R-Zeeland); Congressman Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak); Congressman Mike Rogers (R-Brighton); Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI); and Congressman Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph).

During the Conference, Michigan's Congressman Upton received the prestigious Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service in honor of his support of physicians. Congressman Upton chairs the House Energy & Commerce Committee, which took the lead in moving SGR repeal legislation during the last year.

Our Work Isn't Done Yet!

Just because you didn't go to Washington, DC, that doesn't mean you can't take action. Call your US rep before March 31 using the toll-free AMA Grassroots Hotline: 800-833-6354.

More details >>

2. Deadline for Health Insurance Enrollment through Marketplace Nears

Open enrollment for 2014 individual coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace ends March 31, 2014. Physicians and other individuals searching for health insurance through the Marketplace must enroll by March 15 in order to have coverage that begins April 1. Waiting to enroll between March 16 and March 31, means coverage won’t start until May 1.

MSMS has created a flyer just for MSMS members and their patients that outlines the 10 essential things they need to know about the Health Insurance Marketplace.
Also, register now for the MSMS Affordable Care Act Conference on March 19 in Troy.

3. Get Convenient, Online Training from MSMS to Give CDL Physical Exams

In order to administer physical exams for Commercial Driver's License (CDL) applicants, physicians must meet criteria as set forth by the federal government. As a registered training provider of the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (NRCME), MSMS now offers an on-demand webinar for medical professionals seeking to be listed on the NRCME website. The online training course is designed to meet the core curriculum requirements for medical examiners according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

Delivered 100% online, this course is designed to meet the needs of busy medical professionals. No travel, no classroom time, no time away from work or home. You can access and participate in this training when and where you choose.

Register now >>

4. Run for MSMS Open Officer Seats at House of Delegates Meeting

The 149th annual MSMS House of Delegates meeting will take place Friday-Sunday, April 25-27, at The Henry in Dearborn. Physicians who wish to run for open officer seats may find election information online.

Other HOD details >>

5. Attend MSMS Maternal & Perinatal Conference This Spring

The 53rd annual MSMS Joseph S. Moore, MD, Conference on Maternal & Perinatal Health will take place in conjunction with the Spring Scientific Meeting on
Thursday, May 15 at The Henry in Dearborn. This must-see conference is developed by a multidisciplinary planning committee specializing in obstetrics, family practice, neonatology, maternal fetal medicine and pediatrics, and will include two separate afternoon tracks focusing on pediatrics and obstetrics.

Register now >>

6. UM Effort Aims to Reduce Pediatric Medication Errors

A research team at the University of Michigan has launched a statewide initiative to reduce pediatric medication errors by creating new standards for children's medication dosages.

The initiative addresses the problem of prescription dosage errors when children switch pharmacies, which was uncovered by a survey of Michigan pharmacies. It is likely to make Michigan the first state to standardize concentrations for children's liquid prescriptions.

UM and the Michigan Pharmacists Association have announced the release of the new standards published on mipedscompounds.org as part of a sweeping campaign to educate prescribers and pharmacists in the state and rest of the country.

7. Doctor Mridha Awards Honor Physicians Who Volunteer, Sacrifice

To celebrate and inspire volunteerism, a prestigious annual award has been established through the MSMS Foundation. The "Mridha International Physician Volunteer Award," established by Debasish Mridha, MD, a Saginaw County neurologist, and his family, will recognize and support one outstanding physician member of MSMS each year who provides volunteer medical care and/or counsel outside of the US. There's still time to nominate! Nominations must be submitted by March 15.

Nomination form >>

In addition, the AMA Foundation is proud to announce the addition of
the Dr. Debasish Mridha Spirit of Medicine Award to the **Excellence in Medicine Awards program**, which will be held in conjunction with the AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago. Doctor Mridha created the award to recognize physicians who demonstrate altruism, compassion, integrity, leadership, and personal sacrifice in the interest of providing quality healthcare to marginalized populations.

To view this message as a webpage: [click here](#).

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