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e-News for Friday, April 25, 2014

Upcoming Events

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1. GME, Medicaid Funding Boosts Pass Senate Committee



Yesterday, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Community Health passed a measure that would fully fund the state's graduate medical education (GME) program and propose a new

initiative, called MiDocs, to help place more primary care residents in underserved areas across the state.

The measure was introduced by Subcommittee Chair Sen. John Moolenaar (R-Midland), who has worked with MSMS to understand and address the need to keep the residents who receive training in Michigan

Spring Scientific Meeting

May 14-15, 2014
The Henry - Dearborn

This two-day event provides physicians, nurses and other health care professionals an opportunity to earn up to 16.0 AMA CME credits.

[Register Now >>](#)

Conference on Maternal & Perinatal Health

May 15, 2014
The Henry - Dearborn

This must-see program is developed by a multidisciplinary planning committee specializing in obstetrics, family practice, neonatology, maternal fetal medicine and pediatrics.

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practicing here after they've completed their training.

"Patients and physicians alike can be proud that lawmakers are making public health a priority by helping keep new physicians right here in Michigan," said MSMS President Kenneth Elmastian, DO, an Ingham County anesthesiologist, in a [statement](#).

"Their decision today, led by Senator Moolenaar, to fully fund graduate medical education while focusing on ways to ensure Michigan patients have access to primary care physicians will improve access to quality health care across the state."

The bill also would apply restore the majority of a Medicaid physician reimbursement cut that resulted from the expiration of last year's one-time federal funding boost. The funding boost, mandated by the Affordable Care Act, temporarily brought Medicaid reimbursements up to Medicare levels.

The bill now heads to the full Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration. Keep watching Medigram, MSMS social media channels, and www.msms.org for further developments.

2. Be Aware of Tax Scam Targeting Health Professionals

Reports continued to come in this week about physicians and other health professionals around the country--and in Michigan--being targeted in identity theft/tax fraud scams. MSMS has been made aware of several instances of fraudulent tax return filings involving Michigan physicians, although the exact number has not yet been determined.

This has been discovered when legitimate tax returns are filed and a notice is received that the return has already been filed. The source of this identity theft (i.e., the Social Security numbers, addresses and other information necessary to file a tax return and obtain a refund) is unknown at this time.

An internal investigation at MSMS has revealed no information indicating that this information was stolen from MSMS.

[Protect yourself >>](#)

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The advertisement features a green background with a white silhouette of Michigan and a keychain with a house-shaped charm.

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For more info, please contact Dara Barrera at djbarrera@msms.org or (517) 336-5770.

The advertisement features a background image of a stethoscope.

MDPAC 

MICHIGAN DOCTORS'
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Activate Your Voice

The advertisement features a blue background with white text and a white Rod of Asclepius symbol.

3. Travel Lighter for #HODElegates



The Android version of the new MSMS event app is now available. Delegates and alternate delegates can travel even lighter--and greener--this year by using their smart phones or tablets to access information about the [149th annual MSMS House of Delegates meeting](#), Friday-Sunday, April 25-27, at The Henry in Dearborn.

MSMS worked with its partner Docright to develop the app, which includes the complete 2014 House of Delegates Handbook, hotel and local area information, and more. You will even be able to access the final report packet for Sunday's voting as soon as it's available!

To download the app, visit the app store on your mobile device and search under "MSMS."

USE HASHTAG! Be sure to use our #HODElegates hashtag whenever you tweet or post on social media channels during the MSMS House of Delegates meeting. By searching that hashtag, you can also read what others post about the House of Delegate.

4. Apply for Meaningful Use Hardship Exception by July 1



If you are a Medicare physician who was unable to successfully demonstrate meaningful use for 2013 due to circumstances beyond your

control, the US Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will accept applications for hardship exceptions to avoid the upcoming Medicare payment adjustment for the 2013 reporting year.

Payment adjustments for the Medicare EHR Incentive Program will begin on January 1, 2015, for eligible professionals.

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CMS has posted hardship exception applications on the EHR website for:

- [Eligible professionals](#)
- [Eligible professionals submitting multiple National Provider Identifiers \(NPIs\)](#)

[More info >>](#)

5. MSMS Conference Addresses Child Obesity in Michigan

Reports show that Michigan is now the 10th most obese state in the nation, and when considering that about 70-80% of overweight children become obese adults, the need for prevention strategies in adolescents and young children becomes obvious.

That is why MSMS and the American Academy of Pediatrics - Michigan Chapter are teaming up to present the Conference on Child Obesity on Tuesday, May 13, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at The Henry in Dearborn. Experts will look at the "whole" child and will provide resources to help physicians better address the prevention and treatment of child obesity with patients and their families.

[Register >>](#)



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