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e-News for Friday, September 12, 2014

Upcoming Events

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HIPAA Security Compliance: Be Prepared

September 17, 2014
 St. Mary's of Michigan - Saginaw

October 24, 2014
 Somerset Inn - Troy

[Details & Registration >>](#)

ICD-10-CM Boot Camp: The Clock is Ticking

September 18-19, 2014
 FireKeepers Casino - Battle Creek

November 6-7, 2014
 Weber's Inn - Ann Arbor

[Details & Registration >>](#)

[More Events >>](#)

1. Voice of Medicine Heard Loud and Clear at SB 2 Hearing



MSMS President-elect Rose Ramirez, MD, testifying on behalf of MSMS.

The House Health Policy Committee took testimony on Senate Bill 2 on Tuesday morning with MSMS President-elect Rose M. Ramirez, MD, testifying on behalf of MSMS. Also attending was MSMS Immediate Past President Kenneth Elmastian, DO.

Doctor Ramirez, a family physician and former nurse, told the committee that the bill would greatly reduce the education and training requirements of the individuals who would then be legislatively empowered to lead a health care team.

"It is a genuinely dangerous move that puts patient health--perhaps even patients' lives--at risk," Doctor Ramirez said.

MSMS was joined by physicians from the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, the Michigan Osteopathic Association, and the Michigan Radiological Society who also testified in opposition to

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Senate Bill 2. Collectively, the voice of organized medicine was clear that Senate Bill 2 is not a solution that should be pursued by the legislature. The committee adjourned without taking a vote on the bill.

The agendas for the House Health Policy Committee are full until after the November elections, so it is unlikely any formal action on Senate Bill 2 will occur prior to the end of the year. MSMS will continue to aggressively advocate against Senate Bill 2 and carefully monitor developments throughout the lame duck session to assure that Senate Bill 2 does not gain any momentum.

2. Michigan Monitoring for Cases of Enterovirus, None Yet Confirmed



The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is receiving reports indicating an increase in severe respiratory illness in children ages 5-17 across the state. MDCH is working with local health departments and hospitals to investigate these cases. At this time, Michigan has no confirmed cases of

Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) associated with the national outbreak, but MDCH is forwarding samples to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for testing.

The majority of those affected nationally had a previous medical history of asthma or prior wheezing. Symptoms of EV-D68 infection can include wheezing, difficulty breathing, fever and racing heart rate. Most people infected with enteroviruses have no symptoms or only mild symptoms, but some infections can be serious requiring hospitalization.

Young residents with asthma are encouraged to be vigilant in taking their asthma controlling medications and using general hygiene precautions. Additional information about human EV-D68 can be found in the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6038a1.htm>

3. AMA Symposium: Resources for International Medical Graduates



AMA and MSMS are hosting a free networking and educational event for medical students, ECFMG-certified individuals, residents, and physicians interested in international medical graduate issues and learning about AMA and MSMS resources on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 9-11 a.m. at the Somerset Inn in

Troy. Breakfast will be provided.

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Those interested also may attend optional mock interviews at 8:00 a.m.

During the symposium program panelists will discuss topics including:

- AMA and AMA-IMG Section resources
- Michigan Conrad 30 Program
- Successfully navigating the match

"The AMA and MSMS IMG Sections are working hard to address the difficulties IMGs endure and we are making great progress," said Mouhanad Hammami, MD, chair of the MSMS IMG Section. "Michigan is fortunate to have the AMA present this program here, so we hope new and established IMGs will attend to learn more and network with each other."

A Q&A session will follow the presentations. Space is limited, [register today](#). The deadline to register is Oct. 21. Visit ama-assn.org/go/amasympodium for more information.

4. Healthy Michigan Plan HRA Education Module Available



The Michigan Department of Community Health has developed a voluntary, web-based training module for physicians and other health care providers on the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP) Health

Risk Assessment (HRA) and related incentives and processes that will be available in the near future. To access this training, visit the Department's Healthy Michigan Plan website at www.michigan.gov/healthymichiganplan.

As reported in a recent Medigram, physicians will receive a financial incentive for each HRA that is completed in full and returned to the HMP member's health plan. Because incentive amounts vary by health plan, it is important to check with the respective Medicaid health plans for specific amounts and submission procedures.

If you have questions regarding the Healthy Michigan Plan or the Health Risk Assessment, contact Stacey Hettiger at (517) 336-5766 or shettiger@msms.org.

5. Be Cybersecure: Explicit Photos Are Nothing Compared to This

Cybercrime costs the U.S. economy billions of dollars each year and causes organizations to devote substantial time and resources to keeping their information secure.

It's especially important for health care organizations, the



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most frequently attacked form of business. Cybercriminals target health care for two main reasons: health care organizations fail to upgrade their cybersecurity as quickly as other businesses, and criminals find personal patient information particularly valuable to exploit.

The repercussions of security breaches can be daunting. A business that suffers a breach of more than 500 records of unencrypted personal health information (PHI) must report the breach to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights (OCR). This is the federal body with the power to enforce the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and issue fines. To date, the OCR has levied more than \$25 million in fines, with the largest single fine totaling \$4.8 million. A health care organization's brand and reputation also are at stake. The OCR maintains a [searchable database](#) (informally known as a "wall of shame") that publicly lists all entities that were fined for breaches that meet the 500-record requirement.

If you think you may not be fully compliant with HIPAA privacy and security rules, [click here to learn more](#) through an infographic created by The Doctors Company. For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety.

6. First Lady Joins Physicians and Nurses Urging Immunizations



Lansing pediatrician Dr. Mary Mora, center is flanked from left by Dr. Rachel Christensen of the Michigan Osteopathic Association, First Lady Sue Snyder, and Dr. Pamela Rockwell of the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians. Not pictured is Patricia Bednarz, RN, from the Michigan School Nurses Association.

Michigan's First Lady Sue Snyder joined a coalition of Michigan physicians and nurses at a news conference on Wednesday urging parents to help make sure their children are ready to learn this fall by updating their immunizations.

Speakers pointed out that cases of measles and whooping cough in the U.S. are higher than they've been in a generation because children are not getting vaccinated appropriately.

In 2011, the last year for which statistics are available, less than 72 percent of Michigan's two-year-old children and only 63 percent of adolescents only were up- to-date on their recommended vaccines.

The CDC reports that Michigan has the fourth highest non-medical exemption rate in the nation. More than 5.3 percent of Michigan parents simply choose not to immunize their children.

Dr. Mary Mora, a Lansing pediatrician who spoke for MSMS and the Michigan AAP said "it's impossible for me to understand" when a parent says they "want to go natural."

"If parents have any questions about their children's immunizations they should speak with their primary care physician," Doctor Mora said. "By working together as a team-- parents, physicians, nurses, scientists, school staff, and public health officials, we can create a safer, healthier environment for our children."

[Watch the full news conference on YouTube >>](#)

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Michigan State Medical Society, 120 West Saginaw Street, East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 337-1351 | msms@msms.org | www.msms.org



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