

## Infectious Disease Spread Prompts Practice Concerns

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e-News for Friday, October 31, 2014

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### 1. It's Not Too Late to Vote, or Contribute to MDPAC



Election Day is next Tuesday, Nov. 4, so you still have time to set your Outlook calendar to remind you to vote in the extremely important mid-term elections. Polls in most places open at 7:00 a.m.

You have the opportunity to make your voice heard in a

number of important races including Michigan Governor, Michigan House of Representatives, and U.S. House and Senate, as well as numerous county and local positions and proposals.

The Michigan Doctors' Political Action Committee (MDPAC) has endorsed three strict-constructionist jurists for the Michigan Supreme Court including incumbent justices David Viviano and Brian Zahra and Judge James Robert Redford. These jurists oppose legislating from the bench, as an activist court did several years ago when it immediately dismantled our nation-leading tort reforms.

A complete, bi-partisan list of MDPAC endorsed candidates is available [here](#).

With only a few days remaining before the election, it's still not too late to contribute to MDPAC. [Click here](#) to participate in the political

### Upcoming Events

#### Maximizing Revenue Cycle Management for the Health of Your Practice

November 5, 2014  
MSU Management Education Center - Troy

Revenue Cycle Management is a set of complex processes culminating in the timely receipt of payment for services resulting in increasing your bottom line. Managing compliance information, collecting and reporting data and outcomes, and procedures to prevent denials are only a few of the strategies to capitalize on incentive dollars and assure that you don't miss out on revenue opportunities.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

#### Mastering Your Accounts Receivables and Collections Processes

Nov. 13, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza - Novi

[Details & Registration >>](#)

#### Advanced ICD-9: ICD-9 Guidelines Compare to ICD-10

Nov. 13, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza - Novi

[Details & Registration >>](#)

#### Michigan Work Comp Rules

Nov. 13, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza - Novi

[Details & Registration >>](#)

process through political action.

"The person who says he or she is above politics is really saying that democracy is beneath them," said the late Thomas Berglund, MD, an MSMS past president and MDPAC chair in 1976. Still true nearly 40 years later.

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## 2. Communication is Key to Improving Diabetic Patient Outcomes and Reducing Liability

Because diabetes has the potential for serious complications and requires immense involvement by patients and physicians for successful outcomes, those who treat diabetic patients may be at risk for malpractice lawsuits, said The Doctors Company at the start of American Diabetes Month in November.

In a study of claims closed from 2007 to 2013, The Doctors Company identified four common allegations made by patients with diabetes: improper management of treatment (37 percent), failure or delay in diagnosis (31 percent), failure to treat (9 percent), and improper management of medication regimens (6 percent).

Diabetic patients' treatment is often managed by a multidisciplinary care team, which may include a primary care physician, endocrinologist, dietician, ophthalmologist, podiatrist, and dentist. When patients file claims, it's not uncommon for them to name the entire care team in the complaint, alleging failure to properly diagnose, supervise, monitor, and/or treat their disease.

To promote patient safety, the health care team should engage the patient in collaborative care planning and problem solving to produce an individualized care plan as well as team support when problems are encountered.

For details, see the complete TDC patient safety article on diabetes management [here](#). For more patient safety articles and practice tips, visit [www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety](http://www.thedoctors.com/patientsafety).

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## 3. Sesquicentennial MSMS House of Delegates Moves to Two-Day Format

To increase efficiency and better respect the time commitment of the delegates, the 150th Annual House of Delegates will be a two-day meeting on Saturday, May 2, and Sunday, May 3, 2015, at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids.

House Speaker Pino D. Colone, MD, said the [revisions to the agenda](#) reflect continued feedback by delegates for many years, but most recently at the 2014 House of Delegates meeting and in a delegate survey in late 2013. The Saturday-Sunday format for 2015 is based on the facility contract and is considered a pilot. Discussions are still on-going regarding a Friday-Saturday or a Saturday-Sunday meeting.

"We believe we were successful in keeping all essential House functions scheduled within the two-day weekend," Doctor Colone said in announcing the change to delegates. "We ask that delegates be open and flexible as we attempt to reinvent the annual meeting to meet the needs of all of our members."

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### Advanced CPT: Don't Lose Focus on CPT Codes

Nov. 13, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza - Novi  
[Details & Registration >>](#)

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[More Events >>](#)

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CFL #6054612

A photograph of a smiling man in a light blue shirt is positioned on the right side of the advertisement.



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The advertisement features a green background with white and yellow text. It includes a logo for Chemical Bank, which consists of a stylized 'C' inside a circle and a house icon.



**MDPAC**

MICHIGAN DOCTORS'  
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Activate Your Voice

The advertisement has a blue background with white text. It features a logo for MDPAC, which includes a stylized caduceus symbol.



**Meaningful Use Consulting**

MSMS experts help you qualify for Medicare & Medicaid EHR incentives

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Special discounts for MSMS members!

[msms.org/hit](http://msms.org/hit)

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

The advertisement features a light blue background with a faint image of a stethoscope. The text is in various shades of blue and green.

#### 4. IMGs Learn Skills, Obtain Resources, and Receive Inspiration at Symposium



More than 30 international medical graduates attended a free networking and educational event for medical students, ECFMG-certified individuals, residents, and physicians last Saturday morning, Oct. 25, presented by the AMA and MSMS at the Somerset Inn in Troy.

Those attending learned about AMA-IMG Section resources, the Michigan Conrad 30 Program, and how to successfully navigate the match. About half of those attending also participated in mock residency interviews.

The event was moderated by MSMS IMG Section Vice Chair Mona Hardas, MD, a Flint obstetrician/gynecologist.

Inspiration to those attending was provided by Busharat Ahmad, MD, the founder of the Michigan and AMA IMG Sections. He urged those attending to "never give up" their dreams and aspirations to attain a residency position.

More resources and information for IMGs can be found at <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/our-people/member-groups-sections/international-medical-graduates/about-us.page>.

#### 5. MSMS "Medical Minute" Podcast for October Now On Line



The MSMS "Medical Minute" podcast for October is now online. You can listen to it in streaming format or download an MP3 audio file by clicking [here](#). It can also be found in the "Podcasts" section of the iTunes store.

Included in the podcast this month are:

- snippets of testimony in the House Health Policy Committee on maternal mortality by Cheryl Gibson-Fountain, MD, a Detroit obstetrician/gynecologist and member of the MSMS Board of Directors;
- a summary of the news conference to encourage flu shots hosted by MSMS, the Michigan Osteopathic Association, and the Michigan Department of Community Health;
- highlights of the state's first-ever Heroin Summit with comments by Corey Waller, MD, an addiction specialist from Grand Rapids; and
- a recap of the 149th Annual Scientific Meeting with ASM Planning Committee chair Christopher Kim, MD, internal medicine and pediatrics, at the University of Michigan.

#### 6. Disability Insurance Crucial to Protect Your Home, Family, Practice, and Income

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A free "Lunch & Learn" webinar about the critical importance of Disability Insurance will be presented on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m. There is no fee, but registration is required.

Presenter will be Heather Hamilton, Benefits Consultant with the MSMS Physician Insurance Agency.

Why do you need Disability Insurance? What is your greatest asset: Your Home? Your Business? They both are vital to your lifestyle and they are the result of your most valuable asset -- your ability to earn an income. If you become injured or too sick to work, what would happen to everything you have worked so hard to build for yourself, your family, and your future?

Join us for a webinar on income protection, one of the most important coverages you need to purchase. [Click here](#) to register.

Registrants will be sent an email with the webinar link and call-in instructions prior to the event.



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

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