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e-News for Friday, January 30, 2015

## Upcoming Events

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### Beyond Checking the Box: Legalities & Practicalities of HIT

February 17, 2015 Troy Marriott - Troy

There's more to Health information technology (HIT) than Meaningful Use. HIT is creating many challenges for physicians and other health care professionals as they work to understand how to marry technology with practice transformation goals. These sessions will provide physicians, Physician Organization leaders, medical practice managers, and medical practice consultants with practical advice. Register now for everyday practical strategies around EHR legalities, staffing, patient engagement and more.

[Details & Registration >>](#)

### 1. HHS Announces Goals & Timeline to Move Medicare to New Payment Models



Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell this week announced measurable goals and a timeline to move the Medicare program, and the health care system at large, toward paying providers based on the quality, rather than the quantity of care they give

patients, according to a news release from HHS.

HHS has set a goal of tying 30 percent of traditional, or fee-for-service, Medicare payments to quality or value through alternative payment models, such as Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) or bundled payment arrangements by the end of 2016, and tying 50 percent of payments to these models by the end of 2018, according to the HHS announcement.

The full news release can be seen at: [www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/01/20150126a.html](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/01/20150126a.html)

"Physicians have many ideas for redesigning and improving the delivery of high-quality patient care in this country," said American Medical Association president Robert M. Wah, MD, in response to the HHS announcement. "We strongly support reform of the

### PCMH: Supporting Patients through Population Health

March 4, 2015 Troy Marriott - Troy

Medicare payment system, including elimination of Medicare's flawed sustainable growth rate formula, which provides a pathway for physicians to innovate and develop new models of health care delivery for our patients. We look forward to hearing more details behind the percentages HHS put forward as well as their plans to reach these percentage targets."

Doctor Wah's full statement can be seen at: [www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/news/news/2015/2015-01-26-hhs-shifting-medicare-reimbursements-volume-value.page](http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/news/news/2015/2015-01-26-hhs-shifting-medicare-reimbursements-volume-value.page)

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## 2. SAVE THE DATE: GME Day and New Lawmaker's Reception is February 18

The Michigan State Medical Society will kick off our new legislative year with our New Lawmakers Reception on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 from 5-7 pm at MSMS Headquarters. This event is a premier networking event for our physician members.

All MSMS members are welcome to attend and we have invited Michigan government officials, as well as the members of the Michigan Legislature.

The event will follow Graduate Medical Education Advocacy Day where GME advocates will visit Lansing to educate legislators on the vital role of teaching hospitals and the benefits of GME funding. GME directors, program administrators and physician residents are encouraged to attend this important event to urge full funding of GME.

To RSVP please contact Anne'ka Marzette, Government Relations Coordinator at [amarzette@msms.org](mailto:amarzette@msms.org) or 517-336-5736. Should you have any questions, please contact Colin J. Ford, Senior Director, State and Federal Government Affairs, at 517-336-5737.

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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 a considered a pilot.

"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."

An announcement about the officers running for re-election will be forthcoming.

The House of Delegates is the official policy-making body of the

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[Details & Registration >>](#)

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**MDPAC** 

MICHIGAN DOCTORS'  
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

**Activate Your Voice**

Michigan State Medical Society. Resolutions and Board Action Reports are the vehicles used to debate and determine the policies, priorities, and direction of MSMS during the ensuing 12 months and beyond. Resolutions are presented to the MSMS House of Delegates by voting delegates on behalf of their county delegation, specialty society, ethnic medical society, MSMS membership section, or as individual delegates.

All resolutions must be submitted online via the Online Submission Form. Go to the House of Delegates Webpage at [www.msms.org/hod](http://www.msms.org/hod) to submit a resolution. Resolutions need to be submitted to MSMS by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2015, to be included in the 2015 House of Delegates handbook. Resolutions received after March 2, 2015, will be considered late resolutions and will be referred to the Committee on Rules and Order of Business, which meets on Saturday morning.

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#### 4. MEMBER VALUE: Free "Lunch and Learn" Webinar Series Resumes in February

The Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) Foundation is now offering webinars as part of our online education and training initiative. Join us from the comfort of your desk for this free upcoming session:

##### **Stumped with Your Student Loans? What You Need to Know about Refinancing**

Wednesday, February 18, 2015  
12:15 - 1:00 pm  
No cost, but registration is required

**Presenter:**

Daniel Schefer, Social Finance Inc.

This webinar will provide:

- An introduction to student loan debt
- Review government repayment programs
- Introduction to SoFi and the MSMS joint program, as well as advanced debt reduction technique applicable to physicians.

[Register now >>](#)

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#### 5. 2015 Healthcare.gov Open Enrollment Ends Soon

The Health Insurance Marketplace Open Enrollment period ends on February 15, 2015. If you enroll by this date, your coverage can begin as soon as March 1, 2015. After February 15, 2015, you will not be able use the Marketplace to enroll in or change plans for 2015 unless you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period (e.g., you've lost health coverage or your family status has changed due to certain life events such as marriage or birth of a child). If you qualify for and want to utilize the premium subsidy, you must purchase from the Marketplace.

You can enroll online at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) (quicker and provides real-time results) or by mail at:

Health Insurance Marketplace

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It is important to know that the penalty for not having health insurance coverage increased for 2015. The fee is the greater of \$325 per individual or 2% of your income.

If you do not want to enroll in a plan through Healthcare.gov, [MSMS Physicians Insurance Agency](#) can help you find a plan off the Marketplace. Contact [MSMS Physicians Insurance Agency](#) at [msmsagency@msms.org](mailto:msmsagency@msms.org) today to receive a quote.

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

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