Urge Your Lawmaker to Vote Against Senate Bill 68

Earlier this week, Anita R. Avery, MD, member of the Michigan State Medical Society's (MSMS) Board of Directors, and Patrick J. Haddad, MSMS attorney with Kerr Russell Attorneys and Counselors, testified in front of the Senate Health Policy Committee regarding Senate Bill 68. This dangerous legislation would undermine the team-based health care model, causing physicians to be stripped from many health care teams while reducing educational requirements for those who practice medicine.

Bill 68. This dangerous legislation would undermine the team-based health care model, causing physicians to be stripped from many health care teams while reducing educational requirements for those who practice medicine.

This Bill seeks to create legislative and regulatory parity for advanced practice nurses and physicians despite the significant differences in the amount of training required by the two professions.

What Senate Bill 68 does, is provide a legislative shortcut for training that should be acquired by experience and education. Quality and safety within health care is not an accident. It is the result of intense education and many years of preparation.

Senate Bill 68 is not about access, it is not about patient care, it is not about education and training, but rather it is about the legislative priorities of advanced practice nurses.

Please urge your lawmaker to put the needs of Michigan patients first by voting NO on Senate Bill 68 >>

Activate Your Political Voice - Join MDPAC >>

MSMS President James D. Grant, MD: Cut Through Red Tape on Prescriptions

It happens far more often than it should.
A patient goes to the pharmacy to pick up a refill of an important medication prescribed by her physician only to be told by the pharmacist that her insurance plan no longer covers that drug.

Situations like these leave patients facing difficult decisions. Does she pay full price out-of-pocket for a prescription that's always been covered before? Does she try to work it out with her insurance carrier or call the physician's practice to have them change the prescription, leaving the prescription behind and missing critical doses of the drugs she needs?

Read more in The Detroit News >>

Urge your lawmakers to support Michigan Department of Community Health's plan to fix Michigan's Medicaid drug formulary problem >>

Rising Number of Measles Cases Creates Numerous Patient Safety Issues

As more measles cases are diagnosed, physicians should implement effective screening protocols, infection control techniques, and patient education to reduce liability risks and promote patient safety. Since initial presenting symptoms of measles are similar to those of upper respiratory infections, measles may be misdiagnosed before a patient presents with the familiar red rash.

Exposure to measles in a medical office or facility is a serious patient safety issue because of the potential for complications from the disease, including death. The disease is airborne and extremely contagious. An infected individual is considered contagious from four days before to four days after the rash appears. The rash usually appears 14 days after a person is exposed; however, the incubation period ranges from 7 to 21 days.

Read more >>

WEDI 2015 Survey on the Value of Health Information Exchange

The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI), the nation's leading nonprofit authority on the use of health IT to create efficiency in health care information exchange, announced the release of a health information exchange value and return-on-investment (ROI) survey.

This survey is in response to the roadmap recently released by the Office of the National Coordinator of Health IT, and is intended to take the pulse of current electronic information exchange efforts among health plan, provider, and vendor organizations.

Industry stakeholders are invited to participate in this critical initiative to assist WEDI in identifying obstacles to interoperability

path to success when the October 2015 switch occurs'? This one hour course will cover what physicians need to know for ICD-10 implementation.

Details & Registration >>

More Events >>
and developing recommendations to improve the flow of data. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

You may complete the survey by visiting https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/valueHIE.

The final submission deadline is March 23, 2015 after which the survey results will be evaluated and compiled into a report for the industry. Results of the survey will be de-identified and aggregated before being publicly shared to document progress and inform policy.

You Can Help Your Patients Prevent Diabetes STAT

AMA and CDC launch new physician practice tools/resources

Eighty-six million American adults have prediabetes, which means it is likely that you have patients with this common but treatable condition. To help these patients and improve outcomes for your practice, without adding burden to your workflow, you can take advantage of new physician practice tools and resources from the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

On March 12, 2015, the AMA and CDC launched a national, multi-year initiative called "Prevent Diabetes STAT: Screen, Test, Act - Today™."

The goal of Prevent Diabetes STAT is to raise awareness about prediabetes and to increase physician screening, testing and referral to evidence-based diabetes prevention programs that are part of the CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program.

Read more >>