Progress Notes

December 2019
MSMA Reporting the Progress of Missouri’s Medicine
www.msma.org

Legislative Forecast 2020
Missouri’s General Assembly will convene on January 8 and adjourn on May 15, 2020. Your MSMA lobbyists will be advancing a pro-physician agenda, while simultaneously heading off attempts to interfere with your profession.

The November/December Missouri Medicine has complete forecast.

Visit www.msma.org/2020-legislative-forecast

Legislative Report Moves to Email!
Must Opt in for Print Copy
IMPORTANT: If you want to receive a paper copy of the Legislative Report, please email cwilliams@msma.org or call 800-869-6762.

Advocacy App Connects You!
When there’s an issue that impacts the medical profession and patient care, MSMA will notify you via text message. The message will contain a link that, when clicked, sends an email, a Tweet, or places a phone call to your state representative or senator.

Sign up to Start: Text MOMEDICAL to 52886 (message and data rates may apply)
• Watch for notifications on legislation or policy changes
• Act (click a link) to connect with your legislators

CDC Public Health Incidents on EVALI and Legionella
CDC’s Health Alert Network (https://emergency.cdc.gov/han) is CDC’s primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents. Recent postings include EVALI and Legionella stemming from hot tubs.

Will You Be Paid by Medicare on January 1?
The transition period for using the MBI number on Medicare claims is coming to an end. As of January 1, 2020, ALL claims must use the MBI number or they will be rejected. As of November 89% of all Missouri claims were begin filed using the MBI. You can find more information about MBI numbers and can look up patient MBI numbers at med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jddme/topics/mbi. If your Medicare patient doesn’t want to give their SSN, tell your patient to log into mymedicare.gov to get their MBI.

Opioid Prescriber Advisory Council Update
MO HealthNet convened the OPAC Nov. 20 to discuss recent policy changes. New Pharmacy Director, Joshua Moore, PharmD, heard input from Drs. Naveed Razzaque, Bob Twillman, Daniel Millsbaugh, Heidi Miller, Steve Halpin, Don James, and Bridget Early. The agenda included new edits placed on opioids and tapering MMEs. Visit dss.mo.gov/mhd/cs/pharmacy.
A resolution from the 2018 MSMA Annual Convention has resulted in the American Medical Association (AMA) modifying its policy H-295.924 “Future Directions for Socioeconomic Education.” The resolution asks for AMA to encourage LCME to ensure accreditation includes socioeconomic subjects in the medical curriculum. More details can be found on the AMA’s Policy Finder website after it is updated for the actions from the recent AMA meeting.

Your MSMA lobbying team is busy reading prefiled bills for the upcoming legislative session, and several themes are already starting to emerge.

A handful of bills will be of particular interest to our members who work in pediatrics. Legislative topics include old favorites like a ban on tanning bed usage for children under 18 and a ban on texting while driving. Relatively new topics like parental informed consent requirements for vaccines, prohibiting vapor products in schools, and bans on tobacco products for people under the age of 21 also will be discussed during the legislative session.

Be on the lookout for the MSMA Legislative Report in January through mid-May for updates on these bills and many others. Make sure we have your email or contact MSMA if you want a hard copy: cwilliams@msma.org.
MSMA Reaching Out and Representing YOU!
Want MSMA to come to you? Email Haley Wansing at hwansing@msma.org or Stephen Foutes at stephen@msma.org or call 800-869-6762.

$40,000 in MSMA Scholarships Awarded to Medical Students

Ten medical students from the Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, each were awarded $4,000 MSMA Scholarships from the Missouri State Medical Foundation. Participating in the awards ceremony were, from left: Meg Guard, Thomas Van Horn, Alex Shimony, and Samantha Lund.

Saint Charles-Lincoln

Congratulations to Colin Dolan, a medical student at Saint Louis University School of Medicine, on being awarded the 14th William Jones McElhiney Medical School $7,500 Scholarship by the Saint Charles Lincoln County Medical Society on Dec. 3, 2019. Pictured, from left, are Patrick Mills, Kevin Weikart, MD, MSMA President James DiRenna, DO, Colin Dolan, Martin Willman, MD, Society President Tom Tyree, MD, and Bill Sill, MD.

Buchanan

Members of Buchanan County Medical Society and Alliance (below) heard from MSMA President James DiRenna, DO, and Pat Dillon, who updated the group on the Mosaic Downtown Mission.

James Reynolds, MD, was installed as BCMS President and Robert Corder, MD, as Secretary/Treasurer. BCMS recently donated $5,000 to the MSMA Foundation to be matched by MSMA for medical student scholarships, as well as $1,000 to the Missouri Physicians Health Program.

Greene

Greene County Medical Society partnered with Missouri State University Masters of Public Health Program and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department to present a program on medical marijuana. Lyndal Fraker, Director of Missouri’s Section for Medical Marijuana Regulation, presented an overview of Missouri’s program. Pictured, from left, are Greene County Medical Society member Jim Blaine, MD, David Claborn, PhD, Director, Masters of Public Health Program at MSU, Fraker; and Amy Moore, Deputy Director and Counsel for the Missouri Section for Medical Marijuana Regulation.

WPS Social Media

The Women Physicians Section social media pages are now live. If you’re interested in news and information for and about female physicians, or just want to keep up-to-date on the section’s activities, please follow WPS on Twitter at @wpsmsma, on Facebook by searching “MSMA WPS”, or on Instagram at @wpsmsma.

MU Partners with Board of Healing Arts to Collect Physician Workforce Data

The Missouri Board of Healing Arts and the MU School of Medicine are collaborating to collect workforce data to better understand Missouri’s physician workforce. Physicians receive a link to the survey when completing their license renewal. The survey link is also available below. The portal to renew physician licenses is open until January 31, 2020.

The survey results will be used in conjunction with other health care workforce data to inform local and state policymakers, public and private health care providers, and health care workforce training programs to better meet Missourians’ health care needs and outcomes.

Access the survey: https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_50gEEULSPgnf48IL. Contact Jill Lucht at luchtj@health.missouri.edu.
Advocate! Educate! Participate!
www.msma.org/physician-of-the-day

There are still dates available to volunteer for Physician of the Day at the Missouri State Capitol! The Physician of the Day serves as an on-call doctor for legislators and their staff for a day during the legislative session. During your visit, you’ll get to see the House and Senate chambers, touch base with your MSMA lobbyists, and maybe take in a hearing or two. If you’re interested in volunteering for this much-loved program, sign up at www.msma.org/physician-of-the-day and choose a date that is convenient for you. All specialties are welcome!