Your MSMA lobbying team monitors hundreds of healthcare-related bills every legislative session. This year, we’re expecting to see many bills that seek to address and prevent substance abuse disorders.

One such piece of legislation is House Bill 240 from Rep. Schroer. If passed, HB 240 would create the Joint Committee on Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment. The committee would be tasked with examining current substance abuse issues in the state and identifying new ways to improve substance abuse education and treatment. Along with several legislative members, the committee would include a health care professional, a first responder or law enforcement officer, a member of the judiciary or prosecuting attorney, and a member of a substance abuse prevention advocacy group.

We’ll keep you updated on this and many other bills throughout the legislative session, which began on January 9. Make sure you have signed up for the weekly Legislative Report via email!

**Got a Headache from Prior Authorization? Contact MSMA!**

We’ve heard from many MSMA members about their increasing exasperation with the prior authorization process in Missouri. More frequently now insurers are requiring physicians to obtain prior approval before providing medical services and pharmaceuticals to their patients. Legislation that would streamline the process, improve patient care, and decrease administrative headaches is in the works so physicians and their staff can spend valuable time treating their patients. Your own story about a prior authorization headache always helps so the MSMA lobbying team can share a few short anecdotes when talking with legislators about an issue.

Contact heidi@msma.org/800-869-6762 with your prior authorization experiences/concerns

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**MSMA: Advocating for ALL Medical Specialties**

New MO HealthNet Provider Revalidations Portal Open

Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance announced a new Provider Revalidation Portal opened January 7. Federal and state regulations require all physicians to revalidate their Medicaid enrollment at least every five years. Physicians should complete their revalidation applications using the same EMOMED portal that is used to submit electronic claims to MO HealthNet.

Starting January 7, 2019, emails were sent to physicians and administrators directing the physicians and administrators to sign onto EMOMED and access the Revalidations Portal to see which of their physicians need to revalidate. View current enrollment information, edit any outdated or incorrect information, verify the updated information, and upload any required documentation needed to complete the revalidations process to be able to submit the completed revalidation application to MMAC via EMOMED.

Visit https://mmac.mo.gov

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**DON’T MISS OUT!**

It moves to email this month. You **MUST** “opt-in” for a paper copy.

Opt-In for paper OR get Legislative Report by email!

Email cwilliams@msma.org or call 800-869-6762
General Sessions & Events

Saturday, April 6 | 10:00 am
Alcoholics in the Hospital: Patients, Not Staff
Joan Shaffer, MD
Adult Intensivist
Mercy St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

Saturday, April 6 | 1:30 pm
Physician Suicide: The Silent Epidemic
Amanda Kingston, MD
Assistant Professor
Psychiatry
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Saturday, April 6 | 3:30 pm
OMSS PRESENTATION
Data & Leverage in Physician Employment Negotiations
Kyle Claussen, Vice President
Resolve Physician Agency
Columbia, Missouri

Friday, April 5 | 1:30 pm
The Science of Near-Death Experiences
John C. Hagan, III, MD
Editor, Missouri Medicine
Ophthalmologist
Kansas City, Missouri

Friday, April 5 | 3:30 pm
Gen Nation: Making Sense of Generational Differences in the Workplace and Beyond*
Michael Wood, Co-Founder
747 Insights
Des Moines, Iowa

*No ABIM/MOC Points offered for this session

Saturday, April 6 | 8:00 am
Non-Opioid Pain Medicine
(The Other Pills Used to Cure the Ills)
Nicholas Madaffer, MD
Assistant Professor
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Make Hotel Reservations Now!

Online at www.msma.org/annual-convention or call the Westin Crown Center at 1-888-625-4988 and mention “2019 Missouri State Medical Association Annual Convention” Group rates available until March 4, 2019. Rates start at $151 per night plus charges and taxes.

Guide to Controlled Substances

The Resource Guide to Prescribing, Administering, and Dispensing Controlled Substances is based on the most current state law sourced from Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) guidelines.

• www.msma.org/guide-to-controlled-substances
• health.mo.gov/safety/medical-marijuana

Save the date!
“What’s New in Medicare in 2019”

Learn what’s new in Medicare in 2019 via conference call by WPS Government Health Administrators staff, January 24, 2019 from 9-11 a.m. Details will soon be available on www.msma.org.
Ten Medical Students Receive $3,000 MSMA Scholarships

Ten MSMA member medical students from the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis each received a $3,000 MSMA Scholarship from the Missouri State Medical Foundation. Scholarship Recipients must be an MSMA student member and a graduate of a Missouri high school.

MSMA Scholarship recipients from Washington University School of Medicine, from left: Ron Evens, MD, presenter, recipients Devon Camp, Joseph Roh, Melissa Thorton, Wesley Hodges, and Elizabeth Graesser. Not pictured: Nathan Adams, Nick Becker, Brian Cusworth, Lena Jia, and Nicholas Karlow.

MIPS Data Submission Now Open

CMS has officially opened the data submission period for Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) eligible clinicians who participated in Year 2 (2018) of the Quality Payment Program. With the exceptions noted below, data can be submitted and updated through April 2, 2019. CMS Web Interface users need to report their Quality performance category data between Jan. 22 and March 22, 2019.

Also, for clinicians who reported Quality measures via Medicare Part B claims throughout the 2018 performance year, CMS will receive your quality data from claims processed by your Medicare Administrative Contractor, and claims for services furnished during 2018 must be processed within 60 days after the end of the 2018 performance period.

Call 866-288-8292 or email QPP@cms.hhs.gov if you have questions or need more information.

MSMA Reaching Out and Representing YOU!

Want MSMA to come to you? Email Haley Wansing at hwansing@msma.org call 800-869-6762.

• ATSU MSMA Medical Student Section had a record number of donations at their blood drive this year. The goal was 50 units, which they surpassed by collecting an astounding 75 units of blood on Dec. 5. Seventy-three people came to the drive and eight people made Power Red donations (double red/packed RBCs). The ATSU President, Craig Phelps, DO, stopped by and said the school enjoyed seeing students, faculty, staff and the Kirksville community volunteers come together for the holidays. With those 75 units, up to 225 lives could be saved.

• Members of Buchanan County Medical Society met on Dec. 5. They watched a presentation created by Robert Corder, MD, entitled Martian Medicine. MSMA President Joe Corrado, MD, gave the oath of installation to BCMS Officers Drs. Robert Corder, President, and Ross Shuman, Secretary/Treasurer. Dr. Corrado also provided an update to BCMS members about the advocacy work MSMA is doing.

• Mike Carpenter and Ryan Miener of Moneta Investment Services spoke on Nov. 29 to residents, medical students, and faculty about debt management at Truman Medical Center - Lakewood. MSMA appreciates our 30-plus-year partnership with Moneta and them taking time to share their knowledge with our members.

• Members of Kansas City Medical Society & Foundation on Nov. 28 welcomed Dr. Corrado to their annual meeting, where U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, MD, MPH, served as keynote speaker.

• MSMA staff, along with District 9 Councilor Lirong Zhu, MD, and Vice Councilor Fola Fasuyi, MD, spoke to Mercy physicians about MSMA membership on Dec. 6 in Rolla.

• MSMA staff spoke about MSMA membership and legislative advocacy to a quarterly meeting of Boone Hospital staff on Dec. 11 in Columbia.

Get involved with the MSMA advocacy team this year is to volunteer as the Physician of the Day at the state capitol. The Physician of the Day helps legislators and their staff with minor aches and sniffs every Tuesday through Thursday during the legislative session. While visiting, MSMA volunteers almost always get to meet their local legislators and get introduced in the House or Senate chambers. It’s a great experience and a great service to our legislators. All specialties are welcome and encouraged to serve!

Sign up!
www.msma.org/physician-of-the-day
Already Breaking Your New Year’s Resolutions? Here Are Some You Can Keep

It’s still January, and it’s not too late to make some resolutions for 2019. Considering your profession and your practice, you can resolve to pick from this important list from MSMA:

☑️ Pay your 2019 dues. It’s easy, it’s quick, it’s convenient.
   Go online to www.msma.org/joinrenew.

☑️ Be a Physician of the Day at the Capitol during this Legislative Session. Visit www.msma.org/physician-of-the-day.

☑️ Commit to read the Legislative Report regularly and contact your area lawmakers when a “call to action” appears for a pending issue.

☑️ Make a habit of referring regularly to www.msma.org for news and information.

☑️ Attend the MSMA Annual Convention, April 5-7, at the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center.

☑️ Learn something new to help your practice. Attend an MSMA seminar or workshop.

☑️ Recruit one new colleague to become an MSMA member.

☑️ Reach any staff member by calling 800-869-6762 or email Patrick Mills, Executive Vice President, at pmills@msma.org.