

# MSDC

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*eNewsline*

October 2, 2015

Vol. 22, No. 16

## The ICD-10 Deadline Has Passed; Here Is What Physicians Need to Know

The U.S. health care system has now shifted to the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision – ICD-10, but physicians and their staff may still have unanswered questions or new questions may have arisen. How do I ease hassles during this transition to a new, more specific code set? To whom do I report problems? The Medical Society has assembled the information below to help answer physician questions.

### How to Ease ICD-10 Hassles

- Read "[Welcome to ICD-10](#)" from Sean Cavanaugh, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicare
- Visit the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services ICD-10 website, <http://www.cms.gov/icd10>
- See the American Medical Association's revised [online ICD-10 information and resources](#).

### How to Report Problems

If physicians experience any problems with the processing of their claims or other administrative transactions, they may take the following steps.

- **Medicare:** The AMA has created an [ICD-10 complaint form](#) to report problems with Medicare claims. Physicians can also contact their Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) or monitor their MAC's website for information on problems with ICD-10. The MAC for Washington, DC and Maryland is [Novitas Solutions](#) and it has an [ICD-10 webpage](#) with additional information.
  - Physicians may contact CMS directly by emailing the ICD-10 ombudsman Dr. William Rodgers, whose contact email is [ICD10\\_Ombudsman@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:ICD10_Ombudsman@cms.hhs.gov). Laura DeVirgilio and Mike Massimini will be the Region 3 (Washington, DC Area) points of contact for ICD-10 related inquiries. If physicians have questions or concerns regarding ICD-10, please send them to the following email address: [ROPHICFM@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:ROPHICFM@cms.hhs.gov).
- **Medicaid:** The DC Medicaid Program has confirmed by email to the Medical Society of DC that it will accept "a valid ICD-10 code regardless of the level of specificity."
- **Commercial Payers:** Check the payer's website for information about ICD-10 implementation and a method of contact for issues.
  - o For UnitedHealth Group, physicians can use the following email address [ICD10questions@uhc.com](mailto:ICD10questions@uhc.com)
  - o For CareFirst, physicians can check the website: <https://provider.carefirst.com/providers/resources/icd-10.page>
  - o For Humana, physicians can use the following email address [ICD10Inquiries@humana.com](mailto:ICD10Inquiries@humana.com)

### Good News About Maintenance of Certification

The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) recently [announced a collaboration with the American Board of Internal Medicine \(ABIM\)](#) intended to remove some physician concerns regarding Maintenance of Certification. The collaboration will make it easier for CME providers to offer activities that qualify for ABIM Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credit. The Medical Society of DC continues to work with the AMA and other state medical societies to improve the MOC process for physicians.

### *MSDC eNewsline*

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### **2014-15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Catherine S. May, MD**  
*Chair of the Board; At-large*

**John W. Larsen, MD**  
*President*

**Carla C. Sandy, MD**  
*President-elect*

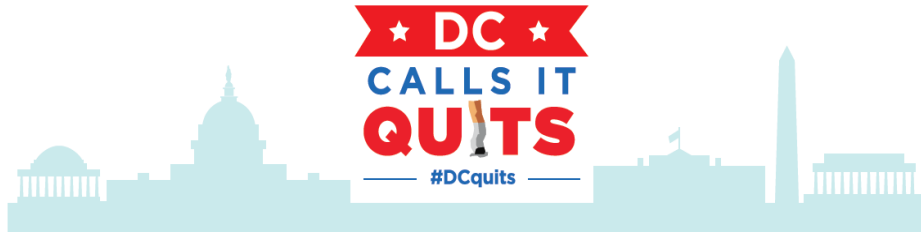
**Laura L. Tosi, MD**  
*Immediate Past President*

### **MSDC To Support Affordable Access to Prescription Medications at Public Hearing**

Incoming MSDC President Carla C. Sandy, MD, of the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group will

testify on a panel at a Public Hearing on B21-32, the Specialty Drug Copay Limitation Act. The legislation is specific to specialty drugs and would cap a patient's out of pocket cost at \$150 per month for a thirty day supply of that medicine. The Public Hearing on the bill is scheduled to take place at 2:00 PM on October 28, 2015, and patients who have been impacted by excessively high specialty drug copays are encouraged to submit testimonials (See the [Public Notice](#) for details).

## DC Calls It Quits Campaign Raises Awareness of How and Why to Quit Smoking



During the week of September 21-25, 2015, MSDC partnered with the DC Tobacco Free Coalition, the DC Department of Health and more than 40 local health organizations in a campaign called "DC Calls It Quits" which was aimed at informing residents about the importance of quitting smoking. The campaign included publication of a [Washington Post editorial](#) and highlighted some stark statistics:

- Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in the U.S. Smoking kills more than 700 District of Columbia residents each year.
- Smoking costs Washington, DC \$391 million annually, with a total cost to DC Medicaid of \$94.4 million.
- Nearly seven in ten adult smokers would like to quit smoking, and over 61% of DC smokers have made an attempt to quit in the last year.

The Medical Society has informational posters available free of charge to MSDC members on the benefits of quitting smoking and available resources. Contact [Pia Duryea](#) for an easy to hang poster for your office.

## The MSDC Annual Meeting Is Taking Place in Less Than One Month

### Register Today!

The Medical Society's Annual Meeting and Reception will take place **from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM on October 28, 2015, at the Kaiser Permanente Center for Total Health.** [Register today](#) for the Medical Society's all-member event, which includes socializing with MSDC member physicians from across the metropolitan Washington area. The meeting will also include:

- >Keynote Address by DC Department of Health Director LaQuandra Nesbitt, MD, MPH
- >"Year in Review" by MSDC President John W. Larsen, MD, of The GW Medical Faculty Associates
- > Installation of 2015-16 President Carla C. Sandy, MD, of The Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group.

For more information on the meeting or to register, see the [meeting website](#).



## MSDC Will Recognize the DC Tobacco Free Coalition at the MSDC Annual Meeting

The DC Tobacco Free Coalition has been selected by the MSDC Board of Directors to receive this year's John Benjamin Nicholas Award. The John Benjamin Nicholas Award is presented to an organization in recognition of outstanding contributions to the health of the community. The award will be presented

**Joseph E. Gutierrez, MD**  
*Treasurer; AMA Delegation Chair*

**Peter E. Lavine, MD**  
*AMA Delegate*

**J. Desiree Pineda, MD**  
*AMA Alternate Delegate*

**Raymond Tu, MD**  
*AMA Alternate Delegate, At-large*

**Reginald L. Robinson, MD**  
*Secretary, At-large*

**Susanne Bathgate, MD**  
*At-large*

**Julian R. Craig, MD**  
*At-large*

**Alice Fuisz, MD**  
*At-large*

**Barry Lewis, MD, MBA**  
*At-large*

**Stuart F. Seides, MD**  
*At-large*

**K. Edward Shanbacker**  
*Executive Vice President*

## MSDC 1817 SOCIETY



## CORPORATE PARTNERS



at the Medical Society's Annual Meeting on October 28.

### Thank You to Our Meeting Supporters

The Medical Society would like to thank its 2015 Annual Meeting Sponsors for their generous support: **Medical Society Services, Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group, ProAssurance, Nixon Medical Wear and Uniform Services, Johns Hopkins Healthcare, Favorite Healthcare Staffing and Zane Networks**. For information on how you can participate in Medical Society's meetings, contact [Pia Duryea](#).



### MSDC Welcomes New Member

*The following physician recently joined MSDC:*

**Timothy Arling, MD** (Internal Medicine)

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### MSDC Annual Election Ballots Are Due on October 7

Electronic ballots for MSDC's Annual Election are due by 4:00 PM on October 7, 2015. Voting members are encouraged to cast their ballots, if they have not already done so. If you have a question about the elections or the electronic ballot, call the Medical Society at 202-466-1800 or email [Pia Duryea](mailto:duryea@msdc.org) at [duryea@msdc.org](mailto:duryea@msdc.org).

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### CDC HAN Alert

#### **Immediate Need for Healthcare Facilities to Review Procedures for Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Sterilizing Reusable Medical Devices**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are alerting healthcare providers and facilities about the public health need to properly maintain, clean, and disinfect or sterilize reusable medical devices. Recent infection control lapses due to non-compliance with recommended reprocessing procedures highlight a critical gap in patient safety. Healthcare facilities (e.g., hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, clinics, and doctors' offices) that utilize reusable medical devices are urged to immediately review current reprocessing practices at their facility to ensure they (1) are complying with all steps as directed by the device manufacturers, and (2) have in place appropriate policies and procedures that are consistent with current standards and guidelines. [Read more.](#)

### October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. According to the [National Cancer Institute](#), about 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point. See the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Breast Cancer Awareness website](#) for more information.

### **GAO: More Oversight Needed Over Medicare Advantage Provider Networks**

*Source: Kaiser Health News (KHN), Phil Galewitz*

The federal government needs to increase its oversight over private Medicare health plans to make sure seniors have adequate access to doctors and hospitals, according to a report released this week by congressional auditors. The [General Accountability Office study](#) found the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, which administers Medicare Advantage plans, primarily relies on complaints from consumers to determine if they are having trouble getting appointments with providers. The government reviews less than 1 percent of the information filed annually by provider networks for adequacy and accuracy. It looks only at the networks of plans entering new markets and not at those in existing markets, the GAO said. [Read more](#) at KHN.

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### **CLASSIFIEDS**

*Brought to you by MSDC's 1817 Society Member and Personnel Provider*  
[Favorite Healthcare](#). Contact [Favorite Healthcare](#) for your staffing needs.



#### **Board-Certified Rehabilitation Physician for Hire**

A Board-Certified Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physician is available for hire. Licensed to practice in Maryland, the physician has five years of interventional spine and pain management experience. For more information on this doctor, call 202-407-9936 or email [MedicalStaffing@FavoriteStaffing.com](mailto:MedicalStaffing@FavoriteStaffing.com).

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### **EVENTS**

## 2015 Loss Prevention Seminars

**\*FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO GET 2016 PREMIUM DISCOUNT!\***

October 6, 2015 (Washington, DC)

American College of Cardiology (2400 N St., NW | Washington, DC 20037)

The practice of medicine has always been dynamic, but rarely has our U.S. healthcare system experienced the scale of change presented during the last two years. This seminar will expand your knowledge of liability concerns related to healthcare's changing landscape, including: Use of patient portals integrated with electronic record systems; Allied healthcare professionals' expanding role in medicine; Increased attention on diagnostic errors.

MSDC members receive a 50% discount and may earn up to 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Register or read more in the [online brochure](#).



## MEDICAL REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

Brought to you by MSDC Corporate Partner GZ Medical Realty. Contact [Pete Papantoniou](#) for your real estate needs

### 1145 Medical Office Building

1145 19th St NW

Washington, DC 20036

The medical office building is within walking distance to hospitals and metro stations. Please contact [Peter Papantoniou](#) at 301-961-1941 or see the [online listing](#) for more information.



### Alexandria Professional Center

4660 Kenmore Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22304

Alexandria Professional Center is a 119,000 SF medical office building with over 30 medical and dental practices that offers close proximity to INOVA Alexandria Hospital and I395. Contact [Peter Papantoniou](#) at 301-961-1941 or see the [online listing](#) for more information.



2015 Medical Society of the District of Columbia.