

# MSDC

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

eNewsline

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## Head of CMS Announces End to Meaningful Use

Acting Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Andy Slavitt signaled change in the year ahead when he said that [2016 would likely see the end of Meaningful Use](#). In remarks made on Tuesday, he said that the agency is working to change its culture and "We are now in the process of ending Meaningful Use and moving to a new regime culminating with the MACRA implementation."

Last year, the American Medical Association (AMA) along with the Medical Society of DC and 100 state and specialty societies expressed physician and patient concerns on meaningful use and submitted guidance on what to change. This advocacy will continue in order to enforce the message that the problems inherent in meaningful use must not return as the new system is implemented. The *AMA Wire* reports [several themes that will be guiding implementation of the new system](#):

**Emphasis will be placed on outcomes.** "The focus will move away from rewarding providers for the use of technology and towards the outcome they achieve with their patients," Slavitt said.

**Health IT will be about physician needs.** "Providers will be able to customize their goals so tech companies can build around the individual practice needs, not the needs of the government," he said. "Technology must be user-centered and support physicians, not distract them."

**Vendors will need to unlock data.** Slavitt said requirements will be put in place to "allow apps, analytic tools and connected technologies to get data in and out of an EHR securely."

**Vendors will need to make health IT interoperable.** "We are deadly serious about interoperability," he said. "We will begin initiatives in collaboration with physicians and consumers toward pointing technology to fill critical use cases like closing referral loops and engaging patients in their care."

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## TOP STORIES

- > [Top Issues to Watch in 2016](#)
- > [AMA Leads Physician Fight on Opioid Abuse](#)
- > [MSDC News: New Member, Member Updates and Recognition](#)
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## Top Physician Issues to Watch in 2016

What issues should you follow closely in the year ahead? Crucial developments have already emerged in health care regulations, legislation and the health insurance market—and many of them will profoundly impact your practice and patients. In addition to meaningful use, here are the *AMA Wire's* [top issues you'll want to watch in 2016](#), including Medicare reform, insurance mergers and prescription drug abuse.

## Physician Foundation Releases Top Trends to Watch in 2016

While many of the developments that occurred in 2015 will continue to affect the U.S. healthcare system in 2016 and beyond, [Physician Foundation President Dr. Walker Ray identifies four distinct areas](#) that the physician community, policy makers, media and other healthcare influencers need to closely monitor in the upcoming year, including:

- Evidence-based regulation
- Insurance consolidation
- Value-based care
- Physician leadership

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## AMA Leads Physician Fight on Opioid Abuse

A [four-fold increase in opioid deaths](#) in the last decade highlights the importance of the opioid overdose epidemic in the year ahead. As part of its national leadership to stem this public health crisis, the AMA sent a [letter to Thomas Frieden, MD, MPH](#), Director, Centers for Disease Control

## MSDC eNewsline

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and Prevention on Proposed 2016 Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain.

### Physician Resources to Address Opioid Abuse

The American Medical Association Task Force to Reduce Opioid Abuse has a comprehensive list of resources for physicians. See [How to Prevent Opioid Abuse: Training and Education](#).



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### MSDC 2015 Overview and Membership Renewal

The Medical Society addressed a host of public health issues impacting patients in metropolitan Washington last year, from the end of the flawed Medicare payment formula to the launch of complex practice changes and the toll that these changes are taking on physician health and wellness. Read about the work done on your behalf in the [2015 Annual Report](#).

#### Renew Your Membership for 2016!

In recognition of these achievements, most MSDC members have already renewed their 2016 dues. We appreciate that show of support for the Medical Society! If you have not yet renewed your membership, please join your colleagues in doing so. Please call Rose Smith at (202) 466-1800 or email [smith@msdc.org](mailto:smith@msdc.org) with questions, or pay your dues online at [www.msdc.org/renew](http://www.msdc.org/renew).

### MSDC Welcomes New Member

The following physician recently joined the Medical Society:

**Mohammed Kalan, MD** (Gastroenterology)  
**Adefolaju Oketokun, MD** (General Practice, Internal Medicine)

### MSDC Member Updates and Recognition

#### Joseph R. Robinson, MD, Moves His Cardiology Practice

Dr. Joseph R. Robinson has closed his cardiology practice in Rockville, MD, and is opening an office in Washington, DC. His office is located at 106 Irving Street NW, Physicians Office Building Suite 3000 North Tower, Washington, DC 20010 and he can be reached by phone (202-877-2570), fax (202-877-2576), or cell (202-812-2920).

#### Sara Imershein, MD, MPH, FACOG Updates Her Medical Practice

Effective December 1, 2015, MSDC member Dr. Sara Imershein closed her private, Foggy Bottom OBGYN practice to focus solely on family planning at local clinics, and teaching. Please see [Dr. Imershein's letter to friends, family and colleagues](#).

[Dr. Alan Birnkrant](#) will continue to provide gynecology services and maintain patients' medical records at the Office of Imershein & Birnkrant, PC, located at 2311 M St. NW, Suite 304, Washington, DC 20037 Tel: 202-466-4800.

Please visit [www.SaralimersheinMD.com](http://www.SaralimersheinMD.com) to learn more.

### Congratulations MSDC Members

Several MSDC members have been honored by the American College of Physicians (ACP) with awards to be presented at the ACP's annual Convocation ceremony on Thursday, May 5, 2016, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, DC. We congratulate the following:

**Alan W. Stone, MD**, has been awarded the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Award for Medical Humanism for his demonstration of compassion and empathy in the delivery of patient care, cultural sensitivity in working with patients and family members of diverse backgrounds and understanding a patient's need for interpretation of complex medical diagnoses and treatments.

**Carole E. Horn, MD**, has been awarded the Ralph O. Claypoole Sr. Memorial Award, which is given to an outstanding practitioner of internal medicine who has devoted his or her career to the care of patients.

**Robert S. Wilkinson Jr., MD**, has been awarded the Outstanding Volunteer Clinical Teacher Award for consistently volunteering his services to teach medical students and residents.

### MSDC Holiday Schedule

The Medical Society offices will be closed on January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

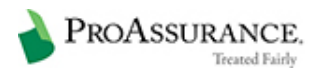
### MSDC Board Meeting

The Medical Society will hold its next Board Meeting on February 22 at MSDC headquarters. Members in good standing who wish to attend may request an invitation from [Ed Shanbacker](#).

### What the State of the Union Said About Health Care Reform

As President Obama enters his last year in office, his signature legislation continues to roll out. With the emergence of the opioid abuse epidemic and personalization of medicine, this editorial by

### MSDC 1817 SOCIETY



### CORPORATE PARTNERS



**MID-ATLANTIC PERMANENTE Medical Group**



Kentucky Medical Association Member Dr. Gregory A. Hood argues that "[health care reform is not a closed folder.](#)"

### DC Board of Medicine Seeks Executive Director

Executive Secretariat Officer, MS-301-14 #JO-1601-4482

[This position](#) is located in the DC Department of Health (DOH), Office of the Senior Deputy Director, Health, Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA). This is an executive level position with the responsibility of leadership and direction for major programs of the District Board of Medicine. The incumbent is responsible for assisting the Board of Medicine and the medical community with following applicable regulations for the practice of medicine according to the Health Occupations Revision Act (HORA) for the District of Columbia. Read more in the [Position Description](#).

### CLASSIFIEDS

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

### Internal Medicine Opportunity

A highly successful private medical practice is seeking a motivated BC/BE Internal Medicine physician to join our practice in Washington, DC. The practice is located in the NW part of the city, near The George Washington and Georgetown hospitals. The benefit package includes a top earning potential, vacation, friendly staff, and malpractice insurance. E-mail your CV to [jpginedamd@aol.com](mailto:jpginedamd@aol.com) or call Practice Administrator Pauline Reynolds at (703)655-7039.

### Referring Physicians: Mental Health Services

Gerald P. Perman, MD, is accepting patients for consultation, psychotherapy and pharmacotherapy. He is a Board-Certified psychiatrist near Washington Circle at 2424 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037. His office is close to the Foggy Bottom Metro and he has a parking space for patients. Go to [drperman.com](http://drperman.com). Call with questions at 202-331-8213 or email at [gpperman@gmail.com](mailto:gpperman@gmail.com).

### EVENTS

#### Therapeutic Approaches to Opiate Use, Alcohol Use and Gambling Disorders

January 24, 2016 • 3:00 - 5:30 PM

#### Residence in Chevy Chase, MD

Washington Psychiatric Society and the American Psychiatric Association are pleased to present this salon focusing on addictions. Speakers are George Kolodner, MD, addiction specialist, WPS 2015 Psychiatrist of the Year, and Medical Director of the Kolmac Clinic; and Mary R. Lee, MD, addiction specialist and clinical researcher at NIAAA in pharmacotherapies for alcoholism. 2 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ Cost is \$35 (Free for residents) See the [Online Registration Form](#).

#### 2016 AMA National Advocacy Conference

February 22-24, 2016

#### Grand Hyatt Washington (Washington, DC)

[Register today](#) for this annual conference that will leave you more well-informed and empowered to advocate for patients, the medical profession and the future of health care. The guest speaker lineup includes former ambassador Ken Adelman, NBC News political director Chuck Todd and MSNBC show co-host Joe Scarborough.

SAVE THE DATE! REGISTRATION MATERIAL WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY FEBRUARY.

#### 2016 Loss Prevention Seminars

March 29, 2016 (Washington, DC)

May 19, 2016 (Washington, DC)

June 14, 2016 (Bethesda, MD)

September 20, 2016 (Washington, DC)

6:00 - 8:00 PM, Sign-in and refreshments begin at 5:30 PM

Washington, DC: American College of Cardiology (2400 N Street, NW, Washington, DC)

Bethesda, MD: Bethesda Marriott (5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda, MD)

Save the date for ProAssurance's 2016 loss prevention seminar series, entitled "Anatomy of a Claim." These 2.0 hour CME seminars help physicians keep up-to-date with the latest risk concerns. MSDC



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PROASSURANCE

Treated Fairly

members receive a 50% discount on registration and participation may qualify physicians for a 5% premium credit.

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## MEDICAL REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

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

### Bethesda Home Office for Sale

Bethesda, MD, home office for sale, near good schools (Burning Tree walking distance), large lot. Office is 4BR, 2Bath with 2 chairs, Ceph Pan lab. \$950K negotiable. Call 301-229-0232.

### 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.

