

MSDC

Message From MSDC President Daniel I. Perlin, M.D.

July 30, 2013

Dear Colleague,

Greetings and Happy Summer!

Last month, I had the honor of representing you at the Annual Business Meeting of the American Medical Association in Chicago and of taking part in decisions regarding health care policy that affect us all. Being there was truly amazing and made clear to me the point that we need to unite and be present whenever and wherever decisions related to medicine and physician reimbursement are made. This has been the most wonderful and exciting year for me as the president of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia. So much is happening with American Medicine right now and it has made me very proud to represent you, the physicians of the District of Columbia.

MSDC is working at the local, regional and national levels

Many physician leaders were discussing the SGR and how to ensure fair reimbursement for physicians going forward. As you are probably aware, the AMA and over 100 other national specialty medical associations, including MSDC, have been working with Congress to develop legislation that repeals the SGR and replaces it with reforms that transition from the SGR to a high performance Medicare Program. Going forward, MSDC is committed to educating physicians on what is necessary to ensure fair reimbursement under any new guidelines, and we have already sent out multiple references to the requirements of the proposed repeal. More attention has been paid to repealing the SGR than in previous years and it is heartwarming to see the commitment that physician leaders around the country have to ensure physicians' interests are protected. ***I would like to appeal to you to continue to call Congress to encourage them to keep working toward the repeal of the SGR this year.***

We need to unite and be present whenever and wherever decisions related to medicine and physician reimbursement are made.

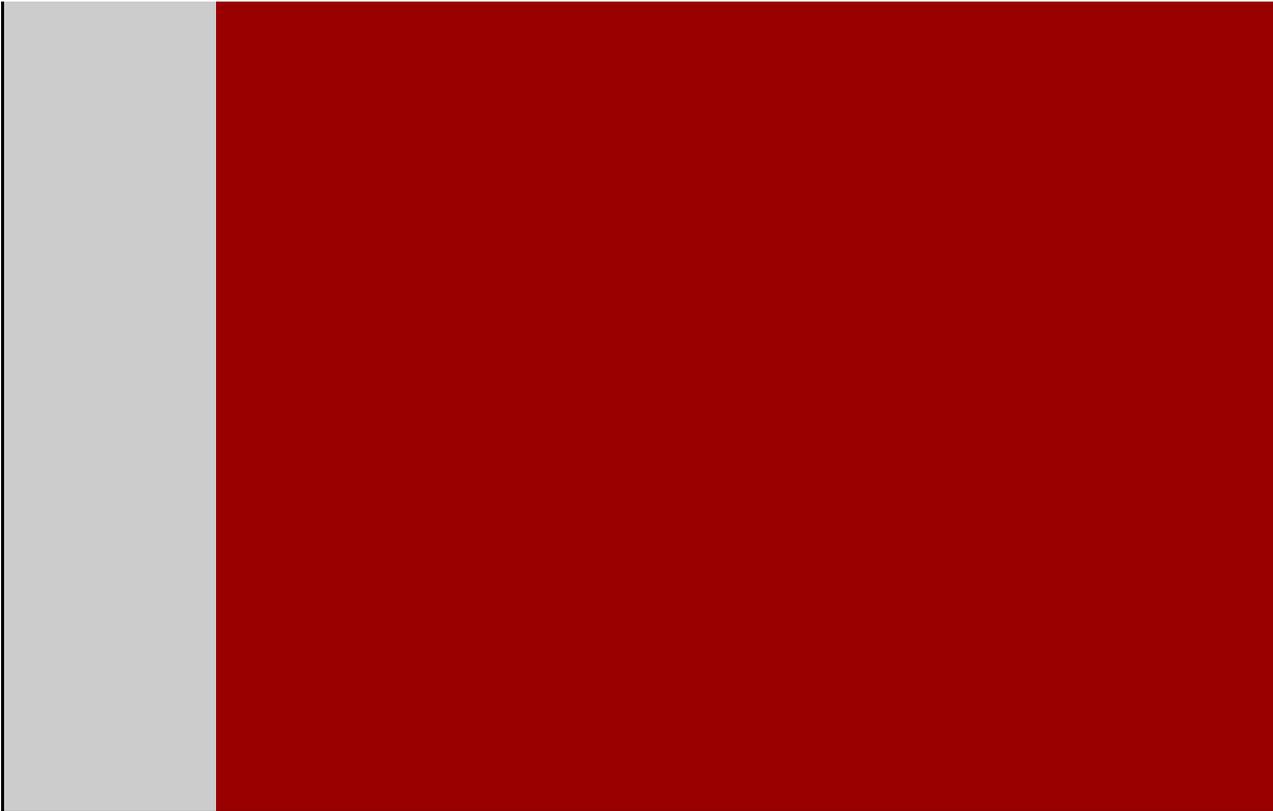
In addition, medicine in the District of Columbia this year has been particularly interesting because DC Chartered Health Plan has been in receivership for the past nine months and DC physicians and hospitals who provided care to patients are owed millions of dollars. It's worthy to note that MSDC has been hard at work collaborating with key stakeholders and continues to put pressure on the city to help yield an agreement that will make DC physician and hospital providers whole. We will be watching closely as impacted health care providers are due to receive 18 million dollars in payment on unpaid claims and the balance is to be paid by the District Department of Health Care Finance through an emergency grant program. ***Rest assured, MSDC is acutely aware and intensively involved in negotiating for your best interests.***

Over these last few months, I have visited many of you at your Medical and Dental Staff meetings and told DC doctors and administrators of the excellent work that MSDC does. I have been well received and made to feel welcome by many of you and I would like to thank you for that support. If anyone is interested, I can give you Zagat reviews of DC hospital medical staff meeting meals! (All excellent, 5 stars!) Also, if you didn't see my interview on Channel 7 News on Medical Marijuana, please feel free to check out [this link](#).

I hope to see all of you at our Annual Meeting on October 23rd!! This will be an amazing event and CMS Administrator Marilyn Tavenner is our invited guest speaker. You also will have the opportunity to talk to me and our incoming President, Laura Tosi, M.D., and let us know how we can best support you. Not to mention, the reception at the Whittemore House will be wonderful. Please don't forget to call over to the MSDC offices and **reserve your seats when registration opens in August!!**

Sincerely,

Daniel I. Perlin, M.D.
President, Medical Society of the District of Columbia



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