

April 28, 2017

2017 Dividend News: \$16 Million to be Shared by All ISMIE Policyholders Renewing as of July 1

ISMIE Mutual is pleased to announce that \$16 million in dividends will be distributed starting in July for the 2017-18 policy year.

Since 2007, a total of \$226.6 million has been paid out to ISMIE policyholders.

Said ISMIE Mutual Chairman Harold L. Jensen, MD, "For 11 years, we've paid annual dividends, a testament to ISMIE's stability and operating standards which have made us unique in the medical liability industry." He added, "In our 41st year, we have great plans ahead."

Unlike previous years, this distribution will be made to all current ISMIE policyholders renewing as of July 1, 2017.

What do you need to do?

Nothing.

Your dividend will be automatically applied as a premium credit at your renewal.



Don't Waste an Afternoon Renewing Your Medical License Online – Save Money and Time by Calling ISMIE!

In case you missed your email reminder from the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR), the 2017 medical license renewal process is now open.

Let ISMIE do the work and we'll save you a few dollars too!

Start with a call to our renewal hotline at 800-632-7478. Friendly ISMIE staff members are standing by to speed you through the process from 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. each business day through the July 31 deadline.

As we've mentioned, renewal reminders have gone paperless via email – by now, you should have received yours with an individual PIN to start the renewal process. However, if IDFPR doesn't have your email address or if you've missed that reminder, don't worry. You can still renew by providing your medical license number, Social Security Number and date of birth.

The cost of a three-year medical license renewal is \$690. Also, you **must renew** your controlled substances licenses at this time, which many physicians forget to do. A \$15 fee is required for each controlled substance license renewal.

You can certainly go online to renew at www.idfpr.com, but the ISMIE hotline will not only save you the IDFPR's online processing fees, you'll be able to process your controlled substance number(s) right over the phone.

So why wait? Call the hotline today or email us if you have questions at licensure@ismie.com.





They're at it Again ...

I Can't Believe It's Not Butter ... So I'll Sue

Restaurateurs, take heed. Behind every customer who's unhappy with their order, there might be a plaintiff's attorney hungry for a big payday.

Consider a lawsuit filed last month in Boston against Dunkin' Donuts. A central Massachusetts man who ordered butter with his bagel was disappointed to get margarine instead. He sued 20 area locations of the chain for allegedly making the switch and was awarded \$500 in a settlement that also provided 1,400 other Dunkin' Donuts customers three buttered baked goods free of charge.

Sounds sweet, right? Here's what spoiled our appetite: Their attorney was able to scarf up court-approved fees of \$90,000.

Tune Up Your Patient Follow-Up Procedures – Read This New ISMIE Case Study

Poor follow-up with patients – or follow-up not done in a timely manner – increases the risk of diagnostic error.

And that can lead to a lawsuit.

A 2012 study in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* found that missed test results affected patient outcomes in more than 35 percent of reviewed studies, with more than 20 percent of those involving missed cancer diagnoses.

The latest ISMIE Lesson from the Field, titled "Follow-Up," is designed to help you and your staff do a better job tracking test results, specialist referrals and other key information important to your patients' care.

ISMIE policyholders can find the case study online at www.ismie.com/follow.

Medicaid Managed Care in Illinois: Free May 23 ISMIE Webinar

If your medical practice has faced significant hassles with the Illinois' Medicaid managed care transition, you won't want to miss this event. Register for the May 23 webinar, "Medicaid Managed Care in Illinois: Where Have We Been, and Where Are We Going?" from noon - 1 p.m.

You'll learn the background and current status of Medicaid managed care in Illinois, hear about efforts underway to address current administrative barriers, and identify key elements of the new managed care organization (MCO) contracting process and their potential impact on delivery of care.

The webinar is free to all ISMIE policyholders and staff – all others must pay \$150 to attend. To register, go to www.ismie.com/medicaid.

The Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) designates this live activity for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. ISMS is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.



FREE ISMIE Webinar **MAY 23**