

December 5, 2017

## Do You Prescribe Controlled Substances? Register in the State's Prescription Monitoring Program by Jan. 1

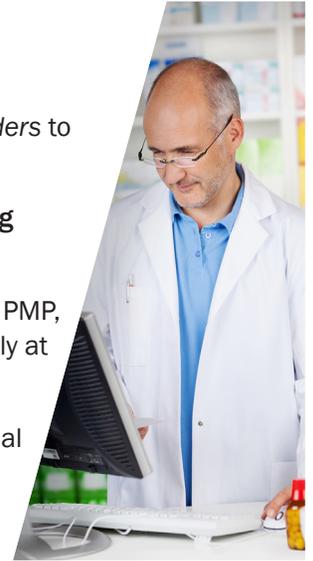
The General Assembly recently passed legislation that will require *all controlled substance license holders* to register in Illinois' Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) by January 1, 2018.

**While the measure is not yet law, our partners at the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) are urging physicians to begin the process for PMP registration now.**

If you are licensed in Illinois to prescribe controlled substances and are not already registered with the PMP, visit [www.ilpmp.org](http://www.ilpmp.org) to begin. If you experience problems with your registration, contact the PMP directly at 217-524-1311 or email [dhs.pmp@illinois.gov](mailto:dhs.pmp@illinois.gov).

Beginning January 1, the expected law will require prescribers to access the PMP before writing an initial prescription for a Schedule II narcotic, such as an opioid, though some exceptions apply.

For general questions, call 800-782-4767 or email [HPResearch@isms.org](mailto:HPResearch@isms.org).



## Don't Forget to Check Your Loss-Free Discount Status

If you've been loss-free for at least three consecutive years, ISMIE offers a premium discount credit regardless of your practice specialty. The discount is automatically applied to policies that qualify and can range from 3% to 19.5% depending on how many consecutive years have been loss-free.

This particular discount is unique – it's based on paid losses rather than pending claims, which means you may qualify for this credit even if you have a pending claim as long as you haven't experienced an indemnity payment for at least the last three years.

You'll see your loss-free discount status on your premium invoice, but here's how to get your full loss history report:

Log in on [ISMIE.com](http://ISMIE.com). Scroll to the "Review My Policy" circle at the lower right, then click on your "Loss History Reports."

**And if you're expanding your practice, keep this in mind.** When physicians join your team, ISMIE will credit their loss-free status with their prior carrier. It's one more advantage that makes switching to ISMIE a good idea.

Questions? Call ISMIE's Underwriting Division at **800-782-4767**, or email [underwriting@ismie.com](mailto:underwriting@ismie.com). If you utilize an insurance broker, you may also wish to contact him or her. For a list of ISMIE's contracted brokers, visit [www.ismie.com/brokers](http://www.ismie.com/brokers).

## Just a Few Weeks to Go Until the Illinois Medical Corporation License Renewal Deadline – Don't Risk a Late Fee!

**December 31 is the deadline** for Illinois medical and professional service corporations and limited liability companies to renew their annual license with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

It's now an all-online process at [www.idfpr.com](http://www.idfpr.com).

Practices that renew after the deadline

may risk a maximum late fee of \$500. As physicians operate under a range of business structures, it's worth contacting your practice attorney or other qualified expert to confirm your status.

Also, ISMS has created an Issue Brief to help guide your first-time or renewal licensing process. It's available for download at [www.ismie.com/corp](http://www.ismie.com/corp).

**Don't wait too long.** The 31<sup>st</sup> falls on a Sunday this year and there won't be phone or online assistance available to help you if you run into problems with your renewal. In the meantime, if you have questions, contact David Porter at 312-580-2468 or email [davidporter@ismie.com](mailto:davidporter@ismie.com).



## In April 2018, All Medicare Patients Will Be Receiving All-New ID Cards ... With One Big Difference



Medicare is finally getting rid of Social Security numbers on their beneficiary cards.

Starting next April, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will ship some 57.7 million new Medicare ID cards, each carrying a randomly selected Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI).

The MBI will take the place of each beneficiary's Social Security number and become the **only identifier accepted on Medicare ID cards after December 31, 2019.**

Our partners at the Illinois State Medical Society offer these tips to prepare your team and patients for the changeover:

1. Advise your Medicare beneficiaries of this change.
2. Verify all of your Medicare patients' addresses.
3. Ensure that your medical office will be ready to use the new MBI format.

As the date gets closer, *ISMIE News* will provide further updates.

## Get Your Maximum Risk Rewards Discount – Finish Up Your Managing Risk Coursework Before Dec. 31 !

Longtime policyholders know that ISMIE Mutual protects you and your practice with some of the richest educational offerings in the medical liability industry – our Managing Risk program.

Your participation offers a very attractive benefit – **up to 15% off your premium.**

If you haven't checked your 2017 qualifying coursework to receive your Risk Rewards discount, start with a visit to **[www.ismiemutual.com](http://www.ismiemutual.com)**. There you can determine what coursework you still need to complete. And if you have questions, there's phone and online support:

### Need Help? Here's Your Managing Risk 'Cheat Sheet'

Live support is available every weekday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. On Monday, December 25, ISMIE will be closed all day.

All after-hours messages will receive a prompt reply the next business day.

#### Password/Web Assistance:

Call 888-476-7776 or email [onlinehelp@ismie.com](mailto:onlinehelp@ismie.com). After business hours, we offer password and login assistance online at [www.ismie.com/help](http://www.ismie.com/help).

#### Questions for our Managing Risk team?

Call the Risk Management division at 800-782-4767 or email [riskmanagement@ismie.com](mailto:riskmanagement@ismie.com).