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Stay Current with Laws & Regs; Deal with Work Stress

Take time to attend a live [Practice Management Day](#), an educational program traveling the state featuring these two sessions:



Hot Topics in Legislation and Regulation

The morning session will cover current laws and regs, and how to reduce risk by complying with these requirements. Subjects include medical cannabis, concealed carry, direct patient access to lab reports, unaccompanied minors seeking care, handicap parking and more.

Coping Well with Stress at Work

In the afternoon session, you'll learn how to recognize burnout; to identify strategies that prevent, reverse burnout; and to use techniques to promote positive interactions with colleagues and patients.

[Sign up today](#) for a date and location that best fits your schedule:

- **July 16** - Oak Brook
- **September 10** - Peoria
- **October 15** - Collinsville
- **November 12** - Northbrook

This event is designed for physicians and their staff at no cost; breakfast and lunch will be served.

The Practice Management Day series offer continuing nursing education (CNE) and CME.

Questions? Contact ISMIE's Risk Management Division at 800-782-4767 ext. 3300 or email riskmanagement@ismie.com.

Obtaining Higher Limits for Cyber Liability Protection Just Got Easier!



Seems like hardly a day goes by without a report of yet another data breach in government, retail or health care. Is your medical office taking steps to protect patient data and prepare should an unfortunate breach occur?

ISMIE Mutual offers all policyholders basic cyber coverage - at no additional cost. And policyholders may also *increase* their cyber liability protection at any time.

Effective July 1, 2015, obtaining higher cyber liability limits will become simplified for individual physician policyholders and for groups with up to 10 physician affiliates.

Learn more by accessing ISMIE's [brochure](#) and [web page](#).

To purchase higher limits, please contact the Underwriting Division [via email](#) or at 800-782-4767 ext. 3350. If your medical office utilizes an insurance broker, you may also wish to contact him or her.

Apply for a Hardship Exception by July 1

If your practice participates in Medicare's EHR Incentive Program, note an upcoming deadline regarding hardship exceptions.

Physicians who were unable to successfully participate in Medicare's EHR Incentive Program in 2014 may apply for a [hardship exception](#) by **July 1, 2015**, to avoid a payment cut in 2016.

To file a hardship exception,

- Show proof of a circumstance beyond the physician's control.
- Explicitly outline how the circumstance significantly impaired the physician's ability to meet meaningful use.

Review hardship exception [instructions](#); access applications for [individuals](#) and [group practices](#).

Go Paperless With Your Policy Documents Today

Does your medical office want to cut down on receiving "snail mail"? Policyholders now have the option to *go paperless* with important ISMIE policy documents.

Here's how:

- Log into [MyISMIE](#).
- Click on Policyholder Information.
- Click on Document Preferences.



From there, individual policyholders may switch their preferred method of receiving ISMIE policy documents to a "paperless option." Note that clinic insured physicians must have the practice administrator or person who has access to the clinic's username and password make this change on behalf of the entire clinic policy.

Policyholders who continue to receive paper copies in the mail may also access important ISMIE policy documents online.

Questions? Contact the Underwriting Division [via email](#) or at 800-782-4767 ext. 3350. If your medical office utilizes an insurance broker, you may also wish to contact him or her.

Study Crowns Illinois as "Lawsuit Abuse Capital of the Midwest"

The Illinois Civil Justice League recently [announced](#) the release of its comprehensive study, [Litigation Imbalance III](#), which pulls back the curtain on Illinois' flawed legal environment.

The study highlights the disparity of case filings and verdict totals in Cook, Madison, St. Clair and three other downstate counties compared to the state's other 96 counties. While there was improvement in a significant portion of the state, lawsuit abuse had a boost in Cook, Madison and St. Clair counties. And Jackson, Jefferson and Williamson counties became newcomers to the lawsuit abuse list.

Litigation Imbalance III also reveals how Madison County likely handles one-third to one-half of all asbestos-related cases filed in the entire United States each year.

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Let us know how we can make **PM Update** more useful to you.
Please send your comments to pmupdate@ismie.com

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