

Medical Association Update | September 1, 2020

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Scam Alert from the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ALBME)

Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and Medical Licensure Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ALBME) and the Medical Licensure Commission (MLC) has always placed the personal and business identity of our licensees as that of the utmost importance. However, criminals continue to pose as representatives of the ALBME and the MLC in an attempt to extort money from our licensees.

The ALBME and the MLC will never contact you to demand immediate payment to maintain your license. We do not demand or accept wire transfers. The only website we will ever ask you to log into is the ALBME and MLC licensee portal.

Read the entire alert here

Calling All Health Care Workers!

Join Senator Doug Jones for a Health Care Tele-Townhall



Thursday, September 3, at 6:00 p.m. CDT

Alabama's health care workers have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic from the start. It is no secret they play an important role—now more than ever—in helping to keep our communities healthy and safe. As we continue to battle the pandemic and also approach flu season, we need to ensure we are prepared for what comes next.

That's why Senator Jones wants to hear from you about your experiences, thoughts and to address any questions you might have. He will be hosting a tele-townhall on Thursday, September 3, to hear from Alabama's dedicated health care heroes.

Register Here

Physicians Perspective: Dr. Chris Adams Talks Telemedicine



Adversity and necessity mandate invention.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, telemedicine has been transformed almost overnight into a necessary medical tool for remaining connected to our patients. Without warning, physicians suddenly found themselves in the position of adding communication technologies, learning regulatory requirements, and adapting to an entirely new way of interacting with patients, sometimes reinventing their standard clinic procedures. Similarly, government and private health care had to modify longstanding obstacles and prohibitions by allowing interstate practice and revising reimbursement policies.

I doubt there is a physician in our state who believes they could have managed their patients through this pandemic without the benefit of telemedicine. Having said that, telemedicine is not a panacea.

Read more on NewsCenter

Discussions with Decisionmakers: Senator Dan Roberts



During the last legislative session, you were a leading voice in bringing awareness to the need for expanding access and funding for telemedicine in Alabama. Tell us a little about why this issue is so important to you.

I've been fascinated with the field of medicine nearly my entire life. Not only does healthcare play a major role in my district, I also have many friends and family who work in the healthcare sector.

As far as telemedicine goes, I really was not aware on the impact this type of technology plays (and can play) in healthcare until I was elected to the Alabama Senate. While telemedicine has always been out there, I had never thought of it as a legislative opportunity to help address healthcare needs and disparities.

Read the full interview on NewsCenter

Alabama adds almost 1,000 new coronavirus cases



Alabama added almost 1,000 new coronavirus cases overnight.

The Alabama Department of Public Health's Sept. 1 10 a.m. numbers show 118,134 cases in the state, an increase of 982 from yesterday. The state also added 576 probable cases, a diagnostic analysis that can provide quicker results but also carries a risk of false negatives. Those results are listed separately by the state.

The state's death toll is 2,102, an increase of 19 from yesterday. Data from ADPH shows roughly 4% of Alabama's coronavirus deaths were among people with no underlying conditions, a figure that has remained fairly constant since the pandemic began. Just under 70% of those deaths with no underlying conditions were those aged 65 and older, with the median age of 72. The age range for those with no underlying conditions is 32-103.

See the full story at AL.com



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Op-Ed: Alabama Medical Practices Hit Hard by COVID-19, Survey Finds



The coronavirus pandemic has changed the way we function as a society and has fundamentally altered our healthcare delivery system. In an effort to understand these changes and their effects, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama released a survey summary detailing the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on medical practices and care delivery. The survey identified several key findings:

- Public Health Concerns
- Severe Financial Impact
- Patient Volume Reductions
- Telemedicine Increase
- Liability Concerns

For more information on the survey findings and to continue reading the op-ed from Medical Association President, Dr. John Meigs, click the button below.

Read the Op-ed Here



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WHAT WE'RE READING

- Another 481 COVID-19 cases found at University of Alabama
- AstraZeneca bolsters COVID-19 vaccine supply with new deal
- Data show coronavirus cases are increasing at a faster rate in children and teenagers than general public
- FDA expands emergency use authorization of remdesivir for people hospitalized with COVID-19
- The Affordable Care Act Federal Upper Limits Have Been Updated











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