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Reasons ISMS Members Get a Good Night's Sleep...

The Illinois State Medical Society...

1 Defends medical liability reform.

We work on your behalf to ensure patients, lawmakers and the Illinois Supreme Court remain aware of the vital importance of medical liability reform. When plaintiff lawyers tried recently to create a new basis for lawsuits – suing doctors for failure to warn third parties about potentially harmful patient behaviors – ISMS successfully weighed in on the legal challenge.

2 Advocates for your interests with health insurance companies to reduce hassles, eliminate payment problems.

Each year we assist scores of member physicians, and save them hundreds-to-thousands of dollars. Our experts consult by phone or in person. They make presentations to member medical groups and staffs across Illinois.

3 Prevents under-trained health professionals from practicing medicine.

We stopped legislative attempts by APNs seeking independent practice, psychologists seeking prescriptive authority, lay midwives seeking licensure, and chiropractors seeking to screen school children for scoliosis.

4 Helps you renew your license, hassle-free.

During the medical licensure renewal period, ISMS operates a member hotline service. You speak with a “live person” here who quickly renews your medical license, at no additional fee. We recognize your time is precious. Our courteous, professional staff is always available to answer your inquiries.

5 Equips your office with tools to improve your practice.

Our newsletters, webinars, seminars and website offer you and your office staff the latest information on electronic health record systems, Medicaid billing and compliance, preventing common payer hassles, the state's new electronic death certificate ... and more.

6 Reverses bad medical policy with sound legislation.

A new ISMS-crafted law affirms physicians' right to engage in common business practices to collect outstanding payments, without violating the medical fee splitting ban. Another protects medical staff rights – requiring hospitals to conduct timely review of summary suspensions and to assure external peer review is conducted in accordance with medical staff bylaws.

7 Stops bad medical policies in their tracks.

Trial lawyers wanted to collect prejudgment interest on lawsuits. Insurance companies wanted physicians to accept a PPO fee schedule for all patients at a PPO-affiliated hospital, even when the physician was not part of the network. Lay midwives wanted a state license to provide prenatal care, deliver babies and treat moms and newborns in the home. Chiropractors wanted to conduct mandatory school scoliosis screenings. ISMS stopped them all.

8 Helps you serve patients through common sense changes to health laws.

New ISMS-backed laws streamline *Do Not Resuscitate* witness requirements, aid nursing home residents in identifying surrogates, and ensure advance directives are durable and move with the patient. We spearheaded a law to expand the allowable time for Schedule II controlled substances to be filled – now 90 days instead of just seven.

9 Delivers important public health alerts.

Through our partnership with the Health Care Notification Network, ISMS members are the first to hear about medication recalls, warnings and national public health emergencies. ISMS works closely with diverse health organizations to keep our members up-to-date on the latest public health news such as vaccination shortages and treating H1N1 patients.

10 Offers money-and-time saving resources for your practice.

ISMS has developed partnerships with office services firms offering potentially significant savings to your practice. Epocrates ... Solveras credit card processing ... Bank of America small business services ... athenahealth Solutions for medical billing and payment ... CTS Language Link interpreter services ... and more!

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