



Idaho Medical Association

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IMAgés

November 15, 2019

CDC Identifies Vitamin E Acetate as Chemical of Concern Among Patients with Vaping Lung Injuries

On November 14, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that the agency has identified vitamin E acetate as a chemical of concern among people with e-cigarette, or vaping, product use associated lung injury (EVALI). Recent CDC laboratory testing of bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid samples from 29 patients with EVALI submitted to CDC from 10 states found vitamin E acetate in all of the samples. Vitamin E acetate might be used as an additive, most notably as a thickening agent in THC-containing vaping products.

CDC recommends that people should not use vaping products that contain THC, particularly from informal sources like friends, or family, or in-person or online dealers. Until the relationship of vitamin E acetate and lung health is better understood, vitamin E acetate should not be added to vaping products. In addition, people should not add any substance to vaping products that are not intended by the manufacturer, including products purchased through retail establishments. CDC will continue to update guidance, as appropriate, as new data become available from this outbreak investigation.

As of November 13, 2019, 2,172 cases of EVALI have been reported to CDC from 49 states (all except Alaska), the District of Columbia, and 2 U.S. territories (Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands). Forty-two deaths have been confirmed in 24 states and the District of Columbia.

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Renew Your IMA Membership for 2020!

To renew your membership online, go to www.idmed.org, hover over the "Membership" tab, then click "Join/Renew". Login using your email. From your member portal, you can view and pay your 2020 membership dues. (Every member has a member profile, please do not recreate yours.) For assistance, please contact our Membership Department at 208-344-7888 or membership@idmed.org.

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The Idaho Medical Association Welcomes New Members

A warm welcome to these physicians who have recently joined the IMA:

Ryan D. Applonie, DO, Orthopedic Surgery, Boise

Anthony Aspesi, MD, Family Medicine, Nampa

Eric G. Bluemn, MD, Vascular Surgery, Boise

Jamie L. Faught, MD, Family Medicine, Eagle

Bruce M. Hansen, DO, Anesthesiology, Boise

Brian S. Hoyt, MD, Dermatology, Meridian

Jennifer N. Lillemon, MD, OB/GYN, Boise

Jeffrey Moore, MD, Internal Medicine, Eagle

Matthew Mors, DO, Boise

Edward O. Palmer, MD, Emergency Medicine, Eagle

Amber L. Pedracini, DO, General Surgery, Meridian

Anne Riffle, MD, Pediatrics, Meridian

Peter B. Sheesley, DO, Internal Medicine, Boise

Teisha Shiozaki, MD, General Surgery, Meridian

Lindsay O. Stepp, MD, General Surgery, Meridian

Ryan Thorpe, MD, Dermatology, Meridian

Trent G. Waage, MD, General Surgery, Meridian

Brian S. Wong, MD, Pediatrics, Meridian

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CMS Issue Official Approval of Idaho Medicaid Expansion

On November 14, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) received approval letters from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for four critical Medicaid state plan amendments. Receipt of these approvals finalizes the formal processes DHW will use to work with CMS once people eligible for Medicaid expansion begin receiving services on Jan. 1, 2020.

The four expansion-related state plan amendments receiving CMS approval involved changes to state plan pages on eligibility, federal medical assistance percentage, and two of Idaho Medicaid's benefit packages: The Basic Alternative Benefit Plan and the Enhanced Alternative Benefit Plan.

In November 2018, Idaho voters passed Proposition 2 to add coverage of the adult expansion population to the state's current roster of individuals eligible for Medicaid coverage. During the 2019 legislative session, the Idaho Legislature passed Senate Bill 1204, which added several "sideboards" to Medicaid coverage. The implementation of these sideboards requires additional CMS approval of special waivers, which are in various stages of the review and approval process.

“The department is really excited to announce this landmark news to the Idaho voters,” said Dave Jeppesen, director of DHW. “The approvals received today keep us on track to deliver Medicaid expansion on Jan. 1.”

Coverage will begin January 1, 2020.

For more information on Idaho Medicaid expansion, please visit <https://medicaidexpansion.idaho.gov/>.

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St. Luke’s Health System President and CEO to retire in early 2020

On November 6, Dr. David Pate, president and chief executive officer of St. Luke’s Health System, announced that he will retire at the end of January 2020.

Chris Roth, St. Luke’s senior vice president and chief operating officer, will succeed Dr. Pate, effective in February.

Dr. Pate has guided St. Luke’s for 10 years.

“I wish to thank the St. Luke’s Health System Board of Directors for this amazing, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to lead St. Luke’s through this tremendous time of transformation,” Dr. Pate said. “The board entrusted this precious community asset to me, and I am glad to be able to say that I will leave our organization well positioned, financially, structurally and operationally, and decisively headed into an innovative, integrated and very bright future.”

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IDHW Letter Regarding Maternal Mortality Review Committee

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare asks physicians who care for pregnant women and/or deliver infants to read the following letter about the Maternal Mortality Review Committee:

“The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (Department) would like to inform you of a piece of legislation that passed during the First Regular Session of 2019. Title 39, Section 96, Idaho Code authorizes the implementation of a Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) in Idaho, which went into effect on July 1, 2019.

The Department is afforded access to pertinent records under section 39-9605, Idaho Code: Upon request of the department, all information relating to the incidence of maternal mortality under review shall be provided by health care providers, providers of social services, health care facilities, law enforcement agencies, coroners, medical examiners, emergency medical service personnel, providers of medical transport services, and any other political subdivision or agency of state government having information relevant to the performance of the committee’s duties.

The MMRC was established to identify, review, and analyze maternal deaths in the State of Idaho. The goals of the MMRC are to perform a multidisciplinary review of these cases, identify trends and risk factors, provide recommendations to guide preventive measures and strategies, and disseminate findings and recommendations to stakeholders. Upon case abstraction, which occurs prior to the convening of the committee, all personally identifiable information, such as names of patients, providers, facilities, or communities are removed. No individual providers are identified, nor are individually identified findings released. For each death identified, the committee will examine a case summary, prepared by the nurse abstractor, which includes information about hospitalization(s), vital statistics information, medical records, and autopsy reports. The end result of the MMRC review process is not intended to imply blame or substitute for institutional or professional peer review. Rather, the review process seeks to learn from and prevent future maternal deaths.

Your support of the MMRC review process is vital. As key partners in this process, I urge you to facilitate access to information for review of these cases. I appreciate your cooperation in this endeavor to further promote and protect the health and safety of Idahoans. For additional information on Idaho’s MMRC, please contact Dana McKee at 208-334-5616 or email dana.mckee@dhw.idaho.gov.”

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Grant Funding Available For Gateway Integration Into Electronic Health Records Workflow Systems

Through a federal grant, the Idaho Board of Pharmacy has funding to provide for the integration costs and the first year of license fees for hospitals and clinics to integrate with Gateway. The Idaho State Board of Pharmacy (BOP) officially launched the PDMP Gateway, operated by Appriss, Inc., the Idaho prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) vendor in 2016. This program enables the integration of PDMP data directly into electronic medical records and pharmacy dispensing systems. This integration allows instant access of PDMP data for prescribers and pharmacists without logging in to a separate web portal. The BOP has heard concerns regarding the time associated with logging in to the current PDMP. Integration with Gateway will streamline access and eliminate the time burden on end users. BOP believes this is a terrific tool to assist providers in the fight against opiate abuse.

In addition, the federal grant provided the means for BOP to implement NarxCare into the Idaho Prescription Drug Monitoring Program website. NarxCare is a platform that provides a more comprehensive tool to identify, prevent, and manage controlled substance use. The NarxCare report includes a patient's NarxScores, Predictive Risk Scores, Red Flags, Rx Graph and access to resources. Locations already subscribing to and paying a license fee for NarxCare will no longer be charged.

For additional information about funding availability and the integration process, contact Teresa Anderson at the Idaho Board of Pharmacy at 208-334-2356 or teresa.anderson@bop.idaho.gov

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IMA Education Webinar Series

CPT Changes 2020

Wednesday, December 4

12:15 – 2:30 pm (MT)

Register today to join IMA Reimbursement Director Teresa Cirelli, CPC, CPMA and Reimbursement Specialist Pam McCord, CPC, COC, CPMA on Wednesday, December 4 for the next webinar, CPT Changes 2020 (2 CEU).

Don't miss this valuable webinar! A registration form is available [HERE](#). Questions? Contact the IMA at 208-344-7888 or rebecca@idmed.org.

This program has received prior approval by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) for one (1) continuing education credit. Granting of prior approval in no way constitutes endorsement by AAPC of the program content or the program sponsor.

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Funding Opportunity: Idaho Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support

The Idaho Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Stroke Prevention Program (DHDSPP) is accepting applications from healthcare organizations, including pharmacies, and community-based organizations (hereinafter referred to as organizations) to implement and/or sustain Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) Services recognized by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) or accredited by the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE). Applicants must have the ability to bill insurance. Successful applicants will develop and implement activities that expand access to, and participation in, the evidence-based lifestyle change and self-management education program in areas with limited or no access to these services and in populations that experience high rates of type 2 diabetes.

Funding under this announcement is intended to provide four (4) awards, up to \$12,500 per award, to organizations planning to implement a new ADA/AADE recognized/accredited DSMES program within the

next year or ADA/AADE recognized/accredited DSMES programs seeking to increase participation and/or establish new sites. Factors determining funding amount per subgrantee include the number of applicants, strategy(s) selected, application strength, and funding availability. Funding amount will be negotiated between the Department and the organization.

View the application here: bit.ly/IDHWFundingApplication

Deadline: 5:00 p.m. M.T., December 2, 2019.

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HHS, SAMHSA Announce the Launch of FindTreatment.gov

On November 4, 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced the launch of FindTreatment.gov, a newly designed website that will help connect Americans looking for substance abuse treatment with approximately 13,000 locations across the United States.

Over 19.3 million American adults had substance use disorder (SUD) in 2018, and connecting them with appropriate treatment is a critical step to combating the opioid crisis in America

In 2019, estimates suggest 1.27 million Americans are receiving medication-assisted treatment, a 38 percent increase from an estimated 921,000 Americans in 2016.

FindTreatment.Gov is designed to provide the most relevant information for each individual's recovery needs by creating a modern, user-friendly experience that is visually clear, simple, and welcoming to those in crisis

Visitors can access information on location, treatment options, payment and insurance information, and over 13,000 state-licensed facilities, based on data compiled by SAMHSA

Examples of treatment include:

- Residential treatment - Live-in care, lasting for a month up to one year
- Outpatient treatment - Treatment at a program site while the patient continues to live on their own
- Detoxification - Supervised withdrawal from substance use
- Interim care - When immediate admission to other care isn't available

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Medical Practice Opportunities

Family Practice/OB Provider Opportunity with Valor Health, Emmett, ID

Valor Health is looking for a positive, energetic provider to join our strong team who will be engrained in rural community and practice full spectrum Family Practice from clinic, hospitalist, OB/C-section trained, and managing inpatient/swing bed patients. For more information, contact Nicole Bradshaw at Nicole.bradshaw@valorhealth.org or Bill Vetter, MD at bill.vetter@valorhealth.org. We are doing great work in Emmett at Valor Health, check us out at <http://www.valorhealth.org/>.

To place a Medical Practice Opportunities Classified Advertisement, please contact:

Amika Empey, Director of Communications at 208-344-7888 or by email amika@idmed.org.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

December 4, 2019 IMA Education Webinar Series: CPT Changes 2020 - 2 hour session (2 CEU)

Additional information and registration forms for seminars
are available at www.idmed.org.

Idaho Medical Association

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