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EACH MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.

10th January 2014

Annual General Meeting 2014.

I wish to advise you that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at 11.30am on Friday 11th April 2014 at the New Park Hotel, Kilkenny City, Co Kilkenny. Motions for discussion at the A.G.M. should be forwarded to the Secretary to arrive by 5pm on Friday 28th February 2014.

Vacancy for Position of Trustee.

A vacancy for a position of Trustee of the Society which is open to all members will be filled at the AGM in 2014 – see the provisions of Rule 56 of the Society's rules concerning the method of nomination for the position. Interested members should familiarise themselves with the procedure outlined in Rule 56 which is available to view and/or print on the Society's website at www.medicalaid.ie under the heading "Society Rules" or by contacting the office who will provide you with a copy of the rules. The nomination process will conclude at a meeting of the Committee on 10th March 2014.

BIC and IBAN Numbers.

You will be aware that a new Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) will apply throughout Europe from 1st February 2014 which means that Direct Debits, Standing Orders and Payments can be made to or from any bank account across Europe. The only change you will notice is the replacement of the old Sort Code and Bank Account Number by BIC and IBAN numbers. So, if you are making any changes in the future to your bank details with us, please provide your BIC and IBAN numbers instead of the sort code and account number.

Receipts and Claim Forms.

To receive early payment of your claims, we request you to ensure all receipts submitted are fully itemised and clearly state the patient's name, date and type of treatment and the cost involved. Also, please ensure that you have fully completed all sections of the claim form to avoid returning receipts and or claim forms to you with queries and avoid delays in payment.

Dependant Children in the 23 to 27yrs Scheme.

About three months before your child's 23rd birthday you will receive correspondence from the Society offering you the opportunity to continue their cover to their 27th birthday. If you are taking up the offer, it is most important that you return the opt in form to us immediately but no later than month before your child's 23rd birthday so as to ensure there is no break in his/her cover.

Drugs on Prescription.

It appears from analysis that a substantial number of pharmacies have not passed on reductions in drug costs to private patients who pay for their prescription drugs. If you have a regular drugs bill, it is in your interest to check the prices with other pharmacies in your area and raise any discrepancy with your own pharmacist to make a saving for yourself or consider changing pharmacy if no solution is forthcoming. Also, you could considerably reduce your monthly drugs bill if your G.P. or chemist considered prescribing Generic Drugs as distinct from the same but branded variety drugs which are much more expensive. You could discuss this issue with your G.P. and chemist be advised by him/her as to what best suits your circumstances.

Retirement.

I am retiring from my position as Secretary of the Society and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members for their assistance and courtesy to me over the years and wish you all good health and happiness for the future. The Committee is making arrangements to fill the upcoming vacancy.

JOHN FAHY
SECRETARY