



CMS Snapshot

February 10-17, 2022

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, February 10 through 2pm Thursday, February 17, 2022.

News Releases

*February 10- [CMS Expands Coverage of Lung Cancer Screening with Low Dose Computed Tomography](#). Today the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is announcing a national coverage determination (NCD) that expands coverage for lung cancer screening with low dose computed tomography (LDCT) to improve health outcomes for people with lung cancer. Lung cancer is one of the most common cancers and the leading cause of cancer-related death in both men and women in the United States. This screening is aimed at early detection of non-small cell lung cancer.

*February 10- [Secretary Becerra Announces HHS Purchase of 600,000 Treatment Courses of New Monoclonal Antibody That Works Against Omicron](#). As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to ensuring Americans who get sick with COVID-19 have access to treatments that work, today U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra is announcing that the federal government has purchased 600,000 treatment courses of a new monoclonal antibody treatment that data shows works against the Omicron variant. The new monoclonal antibody treatment, bebtelovimab, is manufactured by Eli Lilly and Company, and if it receives emergency use authorization (EUA) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), HHS will make the treatment available to states free of charge.

*February 11- [Readout of HHS Secretary Becerra's Roundtable on Child Welfare](#). On Friday, February 11, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra hosted a roundtable with key stakeholders in the child welfare space, including several lived experience consultants, advocacy organizations, and state, tribal and local officials. The Roundtable discussed ideas to help improve the lives of children and families, prevent child abuse and neglect, strengthen the foster care system, and help keep families healthy, safe, and together, whenever possible.

*February 14- [HHS Awards Nearly \\$55 Million to Increase Virtual Health Care Access and Quality Through Community Health Centers](#). Today, the Department of Health and Human

Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded nearly \$55 million to 29 HRSA-funded health centers to increase health care access and quality for underserved populations through virtual care such as telehealth, remote patient monitoring, digital patient tools, and health information technology platforms. This funding builds on over \$7.3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding invested in community health centers over the past year to help mitigate the impact of COVID-19.

*February 14- [Remarks by Secretary Xavier Becerra at the 2022 National Association of Community Health Centers \(NACHC\) Policy & Issues Forum](#). *As Prepared for Delivery*. Henry (Taylor) thank you for that kind introduction. I want to also thank the National Association of Community Health Centers for inviting me to take part in today's forum alongside so many great partners.

*February 17- [Biden-Harris Administration Announces Request for Information on Access to Care and Coverage for People Enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP](#). As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's work to advance health equity and reduce health disparities, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is seeking feedback on topics related to health care access, such as enrolling in and maintaining coverage, accessing health care services and supports, and ensuring adequate provider payment rates to encourage provider availability and quality. This Request for Information (RFI) is one of many actions CMS is taking to develop a more comprehensive access strategy in its Medicaid and CHIP programs.

*February 17- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra Welcomes Robert Califf Back to HHS as FDA Commissioner](#). *This is Dr. Califf's second time serving in the role*. Today, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra released a statement welcoming Dr. Robert M. Califf back to HHS as commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Califf is a prominent cardiologist with extensive clinical research experience who was confirmed on a bipartisan basis. He previously served as commissioner of the agency during the last year of the Obama-Biden Administration. Prior to that, he served as the agency's deputy commissioner of medical products and tobacco. Dr. Califf began work this afternoon right after he was sworn in.

CMS has developed a [Virtual Toolkit](#) to help you stay informed on CMS and HHS materials available on the COVID-19. Please share these materials, bookmark the page, and check back often for the most up-to-date information. For more information, please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov