



CMS Snapshot

December 15-22, 2022

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, December 15 through 2pm Thursday, December 22, 2022

News Releases

*December 16- [HHS Awards More Than \\$130 Million in 988 Lifeline Grants From the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to Address Nation’s Ongoing Mental Health and Substance Use Crises.](#) *Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff, Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm, and Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Miriam Delphin-Rittmon to tour local 988 call center to see funding in action.* This month, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), will award more than \$130 million in 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline grants – part of the \$800 million provided to SAMHSA under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to address the nation’s ongoing mental health and substance use crises. Today, Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff, HHS Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm, and Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use and the leader of SAMHSA Miriam Delphin-Rittmon will visit [Community Crisis Services, Inc.](#), a local 988 call center, to see the grant funding in action and highlight the importance of these investments. In total, the Biden Administration has invested nearly \$500 million to get the 988 Lifeline up and running – through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and other funding streams.

*December 19- [HHS Proposes to Standardize Electronic Health Care Attachments Transactions and Electronic Signature Processes to Improve the Care Experience for Patients and Providers.](#) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), on behalf of, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), issued the proposed rule, “Adoption of Standards for Health Care Attachments Transactions and Electronic Signatures, and Modification to Referral Certification and Authorization Transaction Standard (CMS-0053-P).” If finalized, the proposed rule, would adopt standards for “health care attachments” transactions, such as medical charts, x-rays, and provider notes that document physician referrals, and office or telemedicine visits.

*December 19- [After Halting Rapid Rise in Homelessness, Biden-Harris Administration Announces Plan to Reduce Homelessness 25% by 2025.](#) “All In” Is the Most Comprehensive Federal Plan to Systemically Prevent Homelessness and Address Racial and Ethnic Disparities in

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Homelessness. Today, the Biden-Harris administration released a federal plan for ending homelessness in America that starts with the ambitious goal of reducing homelessness 25% by 2025. *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* builds on the success of previous plans and will do more than any previous federal effort to systemically prevent homelessness and combat the systemic racism that has created racial and ethnic disparities in homelessness.

*December 19- [HHS Emphasizes Addressing Disparities and Risk Reduction for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias](#). *Updated National Plan highlights 2022 achievements, 10 years of accomplishments, and plans for a Risk Reduction Summit in May 2023.* U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra today announced the annual release of the Department's [National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2022 Update - PDF](#). Through the National Plan, HHS and its federal partners work to improve the trajectory of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) research, support people living with dementia and their caregivers, and encourage action to reduce risk factors.

*December 20- [Biden-Harris Administration Continues Unprecedented Efforts to Increase Ownership Transparency in Health Care Settings](#). *For the first time ever, HHS is making ownership data for all Medicare-certified hospitals publicly available.* The Biden-Harris Administration has made promoting competition and protecting consumers a top priority. Today, in support of President Joe Biden's Executive Order [on promoting competition](#) and the Administration's commitment to transparency, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is releasing ownership data for all Medicare-certified hospitals. Now, for the first time ever, anyone will be able to review detailed information on the ownership of more than 7,000 hospitals certified to participate in the Medicare program on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

*December 21- [HHS Increases Access to Tamiflu through the Strategic National Stockpile](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), announced that they are making additional supply of Tamiflu available to jurisdictions to respond to an increased demand for the antiviral during this flu season, including through the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). Jurisdictions will work with their [ASPR Regional Teams](#) to evaluate any requests for Tamiflu through the SNS, ensuring that states, territories, and tribes receive the assistance they need without affecting our nation's preparedness for a future pandemic flu.

*December 22- [Readout: Secretary Becerra and Commissioner Califf Speak with Pediatric Medicine Manufacturers Amid Rise of COVID-19, RSV, and Flu This Winter](#). *The call with medicine manufacturers is part of a series of ongoing HHS actions and engagements with key stakeholders amid the rise of respiratory illnesses this winter.* On Tuesday, December 20, 2022, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Robert Califf convened conversations with senior

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leadership from major medicine manufacturers and distributors on the current production and distribution of over-the-counter pediatric medicines.

Fact Sheet

*December 19- [Administrative Simplification: Adoption of Standards for Health Care Attachments Transactions and Electronic Signatures, and Modification to Referral Certification and Authorization Transaction Standard](#). The Adoption of Standards for Health Care Attachments Transactions and Electronic Signatures, and Modification to Referral Certification and Authorization Transaction Standard (CMS-0053-P), if finalized, would adopt standards for “health care attachments” transactions, which would support health care claims and prior authorization transactions; adopt standards for electronic signatures to be used in conjunction with health care attachments transactions; and adopt a modification to the standard for the referral certification and authorization transaction.

Blogs

*December 16- [Don't delay! Open Enrollment ends in 1 month](#). Attention: The January 15 deadline to apply for, re-enroll in, or change 2023 health insurance will be here soon. This holiday season, don't leave health insurance and the peace of mind that comes with it off your shopping list.

*December 22- [Public Education Campaign on Access to Reproductive Health Care](#). By: [Jessica Swafford Marcella](#), Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population Affairs and Director, Office of Adolescent Health. Summary: OPA's public education campaign on access to reproductive health care services currently on digital platforms in five states across the U.S. In November, HHS launched a public education effort to communicate the availability of free and low-cost reproductive health services, as well as provide information regarding privacy and the right to access these services. We are emphasizing two important messages: 1) women should make their own decisions about their health care and 2) reproductive health care is available.

*December 22- [Pay your premium to start your coverage](#). Before you can start using your new 2023 Marketplace coverage, you have to pay your first premium. Your premium is the amount you pay every month directly to the health insurance company (not the Marketplace).

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