



## CMS Snapshot

March 15-22, 2019

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group

### Blog Entries

\*March 16- [Knowledge is power when it comes to kidney health](#). Blog by Medicare.gov. “Did you know that approximately 90% of people with kidney disease don’t even know they have it? The best treatment is early detection when kidney disease can be slowed or stopped. But, if you’ve already been diagnosed, Medicare is here to help you make informed decisions about your care.”

\*March 21- [2 steps to ‘reconcile’ your premium tax credit on 2018 taxes](#). Blog by Healthcare.gov. “If you had a Marketplace plan and used [advance payments of the premium tax credit \(APTC\)](#) to lower your monthly payment, you’ll have to ["reconcile"](#) when you file your 2018 taxes.”

### News Releases

\*March 20- [HHS releases additional \\$487 million to states, territories to expand access to effective opioid treatment; 2019 SOR grants will total \\$1.4 billion](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released an additional \$487 million to supplement first-year funding through its State Opioid Response (SOR) grant program. The awards to states and territories are part of [HHS’s Five-Point Opioid Strategy](#) and the Trump administration’s tireless drive to combat the opioid crisis.

\*March 22- [OCR Issues Notice of Resolution to the State of Hawaii After Hawaii Takes Action in Safeguarding Conscience Protections for Pregnancy Care Centers](#). The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it issued a Notice of Resolution to the State of Hawaii after Hawaii took corrective action in response to OCR’s investigation of complaints of discrimination by the state against non-profit pregnancy resource centers.

\*March 22- [CMS Issues New Guidance on State Implementation of Home and Community Based Services Regulation](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued updated

guidance to State Medicaid Directors on implementation of the 2014 Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) regulation. The HCBS regulation impacts older adults and individuals with disabilities eligible for Medicaid HCBS (including intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities, as well as behavioral health conditions).

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### Upcoming Events of Interest:

\*March 28- Ambulance Open Door Forum from 2pm-3pmET. The proposed agenda is as follows: Overview of the ET3 Model (ET3 model website:

<https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/et3>; The ET3 model team can be reached at: [ET3Model@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:ET3Model@cms.hhs.gov)) Ambulance Inflation Factor for Calendar Year 2019 and Productivity Adjustment. If you wish to participate dial 1-800-837-1935 Conference ID 6574306.

For more information please email [partnership@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:partnership@cms.hhs.gov)