



## CMS Snapshot

**September 5-12, 2019**

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, September 5 through 2pm Thursday, September 12

### News Releases

\*September 9- [Secretary Azar to Lead U.S. Delegation to Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda Regarding Ebola Outbreak](#). In the coming days, [Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar](#) will lead a delegation on behalf of the Trump administration to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda, and Uganda regarding one of the most serious global health challenges facing the world right now: the Ebola outbreak in the eastern DRC.

\*September 9- [OCR Settles First Case in HIPAA Right of Access Initiative](#). The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is announcing its first enforcement action and settlement in its Right of Access Initiative. Earlier this year, OCR announced this initiative promising to vigorously enforce the rights of patients to receive copies of their medical records promptly and without being overcharged.

\*September 10- [HHS Announces Health IT Awardees Focused on Innovative Interoperability Solutions](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) today announced two awards under the Leading Edge Acceleration Projects in Health Information Technology (LEAP in Health IT) funding opportunity. The LEAP in Health IT awardees play a critical role in advancing the development and use of interoperable health information technology (health IT) and ultimately in improving health care for all Americans.

\*September 10- [HHS Awards \\$9 Million to Develop New Models to Improve Obstetrics Care in Rural Communities](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded nearly \$9 million to launch the Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) program. Recipients from three states, Missouri, New Mexico and Texas, will receive up to \$600,000 in a planning year and up to \$800,000 in three implementation years to pilot, test, and develop models that improve access to and continuity of maternal obstetrics care in rural communities.

\*September 10- [Remarks by Administrator Seema Verma at the American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board Meeting](#). “Today, America is at an inflection point – a crossroads of two profoundly different paths for the future of our health care. Our choices are clear, we can choose Medicare for All or a public option, doubling down on government and a one-size-fits-all, socialist approach, with government price setting...threatening our world-class system of innovation and top-notch care, and replacing it with long lines and rationing.”

\*September 11- [Trump Administration Combating Epidemic of Youth E-Cigarette Use with Plan to Clear Market of Unauthorized, Non-Tobacco-Flavored E-Cigarette Products](#). The Trump Administration announced that as part of its ongoing work to tackle the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use, the FDA intends to finalize a compliance policy in the coming weeks that would prioritize the agency’s enforcement of the premarket authorization requirements for non-tobacco-flavored e-cigarettes, including mint and menthol, clearing the market of unauthorized, non-tobacco-flavored e-cigarette products. The FDA plans to share more on the specific details of the plan and its implementation soon.

\*September 11- [HHS Awards More than \\$50 Million to Establish New Health Center Sites](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded more than \$50 million to fund 77 health centers across 23 states, Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This funding provides operational support for new organizations to become HRSA Health Center Program grantees and for existing health centers to establish new service delivery sites.

\*September 12- [HHS Awards \\$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced approximately \$351 million in funding to 56 states, territories, and nonprofit organizations through its Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV Program) and approximately \$23 million in funding to three new programs aimed at improving maternal health outcomes.

\*September 12- [Continue to Guard Your Card!](#) As Medicare Open Enrollment approaches the Trump Administration through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is protecting Medicare beneficiaries by reminding them to be vigilant and take precautions to avoid falling victim to healthcare fraud. Scammers are after medical insurance and financial account information and passwords for their monetary gain and may use the increased public outreach activities during Open Enrollment as an opportunity to strike.

### Upcoming Events and Items of Interest:

\*[CMS Open Door Forums](#)

[Open Door Forum: Long-Term Services and Support:](#) Tuesday, September 17, 2019, from 2:00pm-3:00pm ET. If you wish to participate, dial 1-888-455-1397 Conference Passcode: 4676500

[Open Door Forum: Home Health, Hospice and DME:](#) Wednesday, September 18, 2019, from 2:00pm-3:00pm ET. If you wish to participate, dial 1-888-455-1397 Conference Passcode: 4676500

[Open Door Forum: Skilled Nursing Facilities/Long Term Care:](#) Thursday, September 19, 2019, from 2:00pm-3:00pm ET. If you wish to participate, dial 1-888-455-1397 Conference Passcode: 4676500

[Open Door Forum: Employers:](#) Tuesday, September 24, 2019, from 2:00pm-3:00pm ET. If you wish to participate, dial 1-888-455-1397 Conference Passcode: 4676500

#### **\*Back-to-School and School-Based Outreach on Medicaid and CHIP**

Before and during the school year, there are a variety of ways to let parents and caregivers know that their children and teens may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). With health insurance, they can get the immunizations, check-ups, eye exams, dental visits and other care they may need to fully participate in classroom, after-school and summer activities. Schools are great partners to help reach and enroll families with children who are eligible for Medicaid and CHIP.

The Insure Kids Now Campaign has outreach tools and materials to support school-based outreach efforts. Below are outreach materials specifically tailored for Back-to-School and other school-based outreach. You can learn about how others have used these and other campaign materials in our eNewsletters, webinars and videos.

The School-Based Outreach and Enrollment Toolkit can be found [here](#). Tips and ideas, palmcards, posters, social media messages, sample newsletter articles and Public Service Announcements (PSAs) scripts can be found [here](#).

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