



## CMS Snapshot

**September 13-19, 2019**

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, September 13 through 2pm Thursday, September 19

### News Releases

\*September 13- [Secretary Azar Meets with Democratic Republic of the Congo President Felix Tshisekedi about Ebola Outbreak](#). Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, joined by other senior U.S. health officials, met with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) President Felix Tshisekedi and other senior DRC officials as joint efforts continue to contain and end one of the most serious current global health challenges, the Ebola outbreak in eastern DRC. To date, this outbreak has infected more than 3,000 people and led to the deaths of more than 2,000 others. Monitoring the outbreak, coordinating with the DRC and other governments, and providing the necessary financial, technological, and scientific assistance has been one of the top global health priorities for the Trump Administration since this outbreak began in August 2018.

\*September 14- [Secretary Azar Meets with Local Leaders and Visits Ebola Treatment Center](#). *“The U.S.A. is here for you not just for Ebola, but also healthcare after Ebola.”*—HHS Secretary Alex Azar Health and Human Services Secretary [Alex Azar](#), [Dr. Robert Redfield](#), Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); [Dr. Anthony S. Fauci](#), Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID); [Garrett Grigsby](#), Director of the HHS Office of Global Affairs; [Tim Ziemer](#), Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); [Mike Hammer](#), U.S. Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC); and staff of President Trump’s [National Security Council](#) joined World Health Organization (WHO) Director General Tedros Adhanom Gebreyesus and United Nations (UN) Emergency Ebola Response Coordinator (EERC) David Gressly in Butembo, DRC, where they toured an Ebola treatment center near the center of the outbreak.

\*September 15- [Secretary Azar Meets with Rwandan President Paul Kagame on Ebola Preparedness](#). Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, joined by other senior U.S. health officials, met with Rwandan President Paul Kagame and other senior Rwandan officials to address joint efforts to prevent the Ebola outbreak from spreading into Rwanda, which borders the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This is a high priority for the Trump

Administration as cases of Ebola were recently confirmed in Goma, DRC, a city near the Rwandan border and a transit hub for the region.

\*September 16- [Secretary Azar Meets with Ugandan Minister of Health, Tours Public Health Emergency Response Sites](#). [Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar](#), joined by other senior U.S. health officials, met with the Ugandan Minister of Health Jane Aceng and toured key public health response centers. Uganda borders the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where the second-largest Ebola outbreak in history is now occurring, and experiences thousands of cross-border travelers daily. Supported by the United States, Minister Aceng's proactive public health response efforts have helped to control and contain the spread of Ebola from the DRC into Uganda.

\*September 17- [Secretary Azar Meets with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni on Ebola Preparedness](#). Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, joined by other senior U.S. health officials, met with the Republic of Uganda President Yoweri Museveni regarding the multilateral response to contain the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The United States and Uganda have an important, decades-long partnership on public health. During the meeting, President Museveni and Secretary Azar discussed continuing this successful partnership and how to work together to prevent the spread of Ebola and strengthen surveillance efforts.

\*September 18- [HHS Awards over \\$85 Million to Help Health Centers Expand Access to Oral Health Care](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded over \$85 million to 298 health centers to expand their oral health service capacity through new infrastructure enhancements. These investments are the first by HRSA to solely focus on oral health infrastructure and will enable HRSA-funded health centers to provide new, or enhance existing, oral health services.

\*September 19- [HHS Releases First Federal Strategy to Increase Youth Sports Participation](#). *The National Youth Sports Strategy Calls for Action to Make Sports Accessible for All Youth*. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the National Youth Sports Strategy, the first federal roadmap that outlines steps that the Nation can take to ensure that all youth have the opportunity, motivation, and access to play sports – regardless of their race, ethnicity, sex, ability or ZIP code. The Strategy aims to achieve this goal by increasing participation in sports, increasing awareness of the benefits of sports participation, monitoring and evaluating youth sports participation, and recruiting and engaging volunteers in youth sports programming. The Strategy was announced at Fort Dupont Ice Arena with Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump, HHS Secretary Alex Azar, and members of the President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition.

## Blog

\*September 13- [Thank Obamacare for the Rise of the Uninsured](#). The U.S. Census Bureau [released their annual report](#) on health insurance coverage in the United States which shows the number of uninsured Americans rose from 2017 to 2018. As usual, critics of President Trump have been quick to blame the Administration's healthcare policies for this increase. But a review of key facts suggests the rising uninsured rate stems largely from Obamacare's failure to deliver affordable health insurance premiums and has created a new class of uninsured.

## 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)