



CMS Snapshot

December 5-12, 2019

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

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

News Releases

*December 5- [CMS Office of the Actuary Releases 2018 National Health Expenditures](#). Total national healthcare spending in 2018 grew 4.6 percent, which was slower than the 5.4 percent overall economic growth as measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP), according to a study conducted by the Office of the Actuary at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and published today ahead of print by Health Affairs.

*December 5- [IHS and AAP Release Clinical Recommendations to Improve Care of American Indian, Alaska Native Women and Infants Impacted By Prenatal Opioid Exposure](#). Today, the [Indian Health Service](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Native American Child Health](#) released clinical recommendations on neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome, or NOWS, for IHS, tribal, and urban Indian organization health care facilities. These recommendations provide standards of care surrounding screening, diagnosing, and treatment of pregnant mothers and infants affected by prenatal opioid exposure.

*December 9- [HHS Invests in Modernizing U.S. Manufacturing Capacity for Pandemic Influenza Vaccine](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a six-year, \$226 million contract today to increase capacity to produce recombinant influenza vaccine in the United States. The contract is in accordance with the Sept. 19 presidential [executive order](#) to enhance national security and the public health by modernizing influenza vaccines and technologies.

*December 9- [Deputy Secretary Hargan to Lead U.S. Delegation to WHO Commission on Non-Communicable Diseases](#). In the coming days, [Health and Human Services Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan](#) will lead the U.S. delegation to the Sultanate of Oman to attend the World Health Organization's (WHO) Independent High-level Commission on non-communicable diseases (NCD) on behalf of the Trump Administration.

*December 9- [Secretary Azar Praises Service of Acting Inspector General Joanne Chiedi](#). Secretary Alex Azar issued the following statement on the retirement of Joanne Chiedi, the Department's Acting Inspector General (effective December 31).

Fact Sheets

*December 11- [Effectuated Enrollment for the First Half of 2019](#). This report provides average monthly effectuated enrollment and premium data for the individual market Federal and State-Based Exchanges for the first six months of the 2019 plan year. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) publishes effectuated enrollment data semiannually to provide a more accurate picture of enrollment trends for the Exchanges than indicated by the number of individuals who simply selected a plan during Open Enrollment. For coverage to be considered effectuated, individuals generally must pay the first month's premium for the plan.

*December 11- [Federal Health Insurance Exchange Weekly Enrollment Snapshot: Week 6](#). In week six of the 2020 Open Enrollment, 1,005,673 people selected plans using the HealthCare.gov platform. As in past years, enrollment weeks are measured Sunday through Saturday. Consequently, the cumulative totals reported in this snapshot reflect one fewer day than last year.

Blogs

*December 5- [Time's running out! Update & compare Marketplace plans by December 15](#). If you enrolled in Marketplace health insurance for 2019, you can renew, change, or update your plan for 2020 until Sunday, December 15, 2019. That's less than 2 weeks away! If you miss the deadline, you may be automatically enrolled for 2020, but that's not your best option.

*December 8- [Make your next Medicare premium payment online](#). If you get this bill from Medicare for your premiums, you may be able to pay it online with a credit or debit card.

For more information please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov