News Releases

*November 12- CMS Administrator Seema Verma’s Speech to the National Association of Medicaid Directors in Washington, DC.  “Thank you. It was two years ago, a mere seven months into my tenure as administrator, that I spoke to all of you about Medicaid’s critical role in the fabric of our nation’s healthcare system. And as our nation vigorously debates the role of government in healthcare, one thing we all agree on is that government’s duty to protect the vulnerable is a sacred responsibility.”

*November 12- Trump Administration Proposes Historic Steps to Strengthen Oversight and Fiscal Integrity of the Medicaid Program.  Today, the Trump Administration and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to strengthen the fiscal integrity of the Medicaid program and help ensure that state supplemental payments and financing arrangements are transparent and consistent with all applicable statutory requirements.

*November 14- HHS Advances Development of Tests to Distinguish Bacterial from Viral Infections across Multiple Healthcare Settings.  A novel diagnostics technology that reads gene expression patterns in the immune system to distinguish bacterial infections from viral infections and determines the severity within minutes will receive advanced development support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The technology is being designed for use in outpatient and inpatient healthcare settings.

Fact Sheets

*November 12- [Fact Sheet: 2019 Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Regulation (MFAR)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued the proposed Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Rule (CMS-2393-P) to strengthen the fiscal integrity of the Medicaid program and help ensure that state supplemental payments and financing arrangements are transparent and value-driven.

*November 13- [Federal Health Insurance Exchange Weekly Enrollment Snapshot: Week 2](#). In week two of the 2020 Open Enrollment, 754,967 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**

*November 7- [Quickly find your 2020 Marketplace costs](#). Open Enrollment for 2020 health insurance is here and ends Sunday, December 15, 2019. Find out in a matter of minutes what your costs may be by answering a few easy questions about you and your household. You don’t even have to log in.

*November 8- [Engaging States and Communities to Support Working Families](#). Since September, HHS has been all over the country listening to parents, employers, child care providers, states and localities, tribal governments, and business leaders about how we can better support working families with regard to child care.

**Upcoming Items of Interest**

*CMS Office of Minority Health

**2020 CMS HEALTH EQUITY AWARD – Call for Nominations**

CMS is excited to announce the [Call for Nominations for the 2020 CMS Health Equity Award](#). Equity is a key component of high-quality healthcare. Health equity is defined by Healthy People 2020 as the attainment of the highest level of health for all people. A measure of health equity is the reduction or elimination of disparities in health that adversely affect vulnerable populations. CMS recognizes the importance of health equity and is working to ensure that disparities in health care quality and access are eliminated. You can visit the CMS Office of Minority Health [website](#) to learn more about some of the efforts underway. Please read the criteria and complete one [Nomination Form](#) per nominee for the CMS Health Equity Award. All Nomination Forms should be submitted to the CMS Office of Minority Health (ATTN: 2020 CMS Health Equity Award, HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov) no later than Friday, November 15th, 2019. Questions about the award can also be submitted to this mailbox.
For more information please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov