



## CMS Snapshot

### March 16-23, 2023

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, March 16 through 2pm Thursday, March 23, 2023

#### News Releases

\*March 20- [HHS Strengthens Response to Domestic Violence through the New Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a new office, the Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services (OFVPS), under the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). This new office reflects the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to prioritizing domestic violence prevention and addressing the intersections of domestic violence prevention work across the federal government.

\*March 21- [Readout of HHS Secretary Becerra's Meeting with National Pharmacy Leaders](#). Secretary Becerra reiterated commitment to continued partnership in lowering costs and expanding access to health care for Americans across the country. On Monday, March 20th, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra met virtually with leaders from national pharmacy chains and networks to discuss how HHS will continue to partner with pharmacies across the nation on a variety of critical issues. The Biden-Harris Administration has made lowering health care costs and expanding access to health care a key priority, and Secretary Becerra reiterated HHS' commitment to working together with pharmacy leaders to continue delivering on these goals for Americans across the country.

\*March 21- [HHS and DOC Announce Plan to Review March-In Authority](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Commerce (DOC) announced efforts to pursue a whole-of-government approach to review its march-in authority as laid out in the Bayh-Dole Act, which promotes commercialization of research results, maximizes the potential for federally-funded technologies to become products, and serves the broader interest of the American public. The Interagency Working Group for Bayh-Dole will develop a framework for implementation of the march-in provision that clearly articulates guiding criteria and processes for making determinations where different factors, including price, may be a consideration in agencies' assessments.

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

\*March 22- [HRSA Announces Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Modernization Initiative](#). *Initiative includes the release of new organ donor and transplant data; prioritization of modernization of the OPTN IT system; and call for Congress to make specific reforms in the National Organ Transplant Act.* [March 22, 2023] Today, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announced a Modernization Initiative that includes several actions to strengthen accountability and transparency in the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN).

\*March 23- [Biden-Harris Administration Celebrates the Affordable Care Act's 13th Anniversary and Highlights Record-Breaking Coverage](#). *During 2023 open enrollment a record high 16.4 million people signed up, with 4.4 million more people enrolled for health insurance under the Biden-Harris Administration since 2021. New HHS report shows more than 40 million people are currently enrolled in Marketplace or Medicaid expansion coverage related to provisions of the Affordable Care Act -- the highest total on record.* Today, the Biden-Harris Administration celebrated the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) by highlighting record-breaking enrollment numbers during the 2023 Marketplace Open Enrollment Period and lower health care costs because of President Biden's American Rescue Plan (ARP) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Since 2014, when [HealthCare.gov](#) was launched, enrollment has doubled from 8 million to more than 16 million.

\*March 23- [Biden-Harris Administration Announces the Expansion of Medicaid Postpartum Coverage in Oklahoma; 30 States and D.C. Now Offer a Full Year of Coverage After Pregnancy](#). *Thanks to the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to strengthen maternal health, an estimated 462,000 Americans annually are now eligible for essential care for a full year after pregnancy.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), announced an extension to 12 months of comprehensive coverage after pregnancy through Medicaid for women in Oklahoma. Oklahoma is the 30<sup>th</sup> state to be approved for the extended coverage, made possible by President Biden's American Rescue Plan (ARP) and made permanent by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (CAA, 2023), which President Biden signed into law earlier this year.

## Blog

\*March 23- [Life change? You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period](#). Open Enrollment for 2023 ended on January 15, 2023, but you may still be able to enroll in or change Marketplace coverage if you've had certain life events or income. Life events that may qualify include getting married, having a baby, moving, or losing health coverage. [Get a full list of qualifying life changes](#).

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