



## CMS Snapshot

### April 23-30, 2020

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, April 23 through 2pm Thursday, April 30, 2020.

#### News Releases

- \*April 23- [HHS Announces More Time for Hospitals to Apply for COVID-19 High-Impact Payments](#). As part of its work to support frontline healthcare providers fighting COVID-19, the Department of Health and Human Services has extended the deadline for hospitals to submit data that will inform how \$10 billion is distributed to areas of high impact from COVID-19.
- \*April 24- [The Administration for Children and Families to Release Funding to Support Child Welfare Services](#). On March 27, the President signed a \$2 trillion emergency relief bill aimed at providing economic relief to the nation's families, workers, and businesses. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) with \$6.3 billion in additional funding that will aid in the continuation of work protecting, supporting, and uplifting our vulnerable communities during this public health crisis.
- \*April 24- [Secretary Azar Statement on President Trump's Signing of New Coronavirus Relief Package](#). On Friday, President Trump signed into law the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, which provides \$75 billion in aid to hospitals, \$25 billion for the federal government and states to expand coronavirus testing, \$310 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program, and \$60 billion in new disaster loans.
- \*April 26- [CMS Reevaluates Accelerated Payment Program and Suspends Advance Payment Program](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it is reevaluating the amounts that will be paid under its Accelerated Payment Program and suspending its Advance Payment Program to Part B suppliers effective immediately. The agency made this announcement following the successful payment of over \$100 billion to healthcare providers and suppliers through these programs and in light of the \$175 billion recently appropriated for healthcare provider relief payments.
- \*April 27- [SAMHSA Awards Grants Expanding Community-Based Behavioral Health Services, Strengthens COVID-19 Response](#). The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced Friday that grants have been awarded to increase access

to and to improve the quality of community mental and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services through the expansion of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). The Fiscal Year 2020 CCBHC Expansion Grants include \$200 million in annually appropriated funding and \$250 million in emergency COVID-19 funding.

\*April 27- [HHS Launches COVID-19 Uninsured Program Portal](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), launched a new COVID-19 Uninsured Program Portal, allowing health care providers who have conducted COVID-19 testing or provided treatment for uninsured COVID-19 individuals on or after February 4, 2020 to submit claims for reimbursement. Providers can access the portal at [COVIDUninsuredClaim.HRSA.gov](#).

\*April 27- [CMS News Alert April 27, 2020](#). Here is a summary of recent Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) actions taken in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), as part of the ongoing White House Task Force efforts. To keep up with the important work the Task Force is doing in response to COVID-19, click here [www.coronavirus.gov](#). For information specific to CMS, please visit the [CMS News Room](#) and [Current Emergencies Website](#). CMS updates these resources on an ongoing basis throughout the day; the information below is current as of April 27, 2020 at 10:45 a.m.

\*April 28- [Eligible Providers Can Submit Information to Receive Additional Provider Relief Fund Payments](#). The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has begun the distribution of an additional \$20 billion of the \$50 billion general distribution to Medicare facilities and providers impacted by COVID-19, augmenting the \$30 billion that was allocated earlier this month.

\*April 29- [Secretary Azar Statement on Positive Results from NIH Remdesivir Trial](#). On Wednesday, the National Institutes of Health announced that hospitalized patients with advanced COVID-19 and lung involvement who received Remdesivir—an investigational broad-spectrum antiviral treatment administered via daily infusion—recovered, on average, faster than similar patients who received placebo, according to a preliminary data analysis from a randomized, controlled trial involving 1063 patients.

\*April 30- [HHS Awards \\$20 Million to Combat COVID-19 Pandemic through Telehealth](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded \$20 million to increase telehealth access and infrastructure for providers and families to help prevent and respond to COVID-19. The funds will increase capability, capacity and access to telehealth and distant care services for providers, pregnant women, children, adolescents and families, and will assist telehealth providers with cross-state licensure to improve access to health care during the pandemic.

\*April 30- [Trump Administration Issues Second Round of Sweeping Changes to Support U.S. Healthcare System During COVID-19 Pandemic](#). At President Trump's direction, and building on its recent historic efforts to help the U.S. healthcare system manage the 2019 Novel

Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services today issued another round of sweeping regulatory waivers and rule changes to deliver expanded care to the nation's seniors and provide flexibility to the healthcare system as America reopens. These changes include making it easier for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries to get tested for COVID-19 and continuing CMS's efforts to further expand beneficiaries' access to telehealth services.

## Blog

\*April 23- [Sending documents to confirm Special Enrollment Period eligibility](#). If you applied for 2020 Marketplace coverage through a Special Enrollment Period, you may be asked to provide documents to confirm the life events that make you eligible. You must send them before you can start using your coverage.

\*April 29- [5 things to know about the Medicare appeals process](#). If you disagree with a coverage or payment decision made by your Medicare health or prescription drug plan, you can file an appeal. Here are 5 key things to know about the Medicare appeals process.

## Items of Interest

\*April 21- CMS Office of Minority Health- Deadline Extended to Review and Comment on Rural Maternal Health Care. The deadline has been extended to submit comments to a Request for Information (RFI) to seek public comments regarding rural maternal and infant health care. To review the RFI, please visit [go.cms.gov/ruralhealth](https://go.cms.gov/ruralhealth). CMS encourages all stakeholders to review the RFI at [go.cms.gov/ruralhealth](https://go.cms.gov/ruralhealth) and submit comments to [RuralMaternalRFI@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:RuralMaternalRFI@cms.hhs.gov). Comments will be collected until Sunday, May 31 at 11:59pm ET.

*CMS has developed a [Virtual Toolkit](#) to help you stay informed on CMS and HHS materials available on the COVID-19. Please share these materials, bookmark the page, and check back often for the most up-to-date information.*

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