



CMS Snapshot

July 14-21, 2022

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, July 14 through 2pm Thursday, July 21, 2022

News Releases

*July 14- [Oklahoma State University – Center for Health Services Pays \\$875,000 to Settle Hacking Breach](#). Oklahoma State University – Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS) has paid \$875,000 to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and agreed to implement a corrective action plan to settle potential violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rules. OSU-CHS is a public land-grant research university which provides preventive, rehabilitative, and diagnostic care in Oklahoma.

*July 15- [U.S. Transition to 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Begins Saturday](#). On Saturday, the United States will transition the 10-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to 988 – an easy-to-remember three-digit number for 24/7 crisis care. The lifeline, which also links to the Veterans Crisis Line, follows a three-year joint effort by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to put crisis care more in reach for people in need. This initiative is part of President Biden’s [comprehensive strategy](#) to address our nation’s mental health crisis, and is identified by U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra as a top priority at HHS. Since January 2021, the Biden-Harris Administration has made unprecedented investments to support the 988 transition, investing \$432 million to scale crisis center capacity and ensure all Americans have access to help during mental health crises.

*July 15- [CMS Proposes Rule to Advance Health Equity, Improve Access to Care, and Promote Competition and Transparency](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is proposing actions to advance health equity and improve access to care in rural communities by establishing policies for Rural Emergency Hospitals (REH) and providing for payment for certain behavioral health services furnished via communications technology. Additionally, in line with President Biden’s Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy, the calendar year (CY) 2023 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Payment System proposed rule includes proposed enhanced

payments under the OPPS and the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) for the additional costs of purchasing domestically made NIOSH-approved surgical N95 respirators and a comment solicitation on competition and transparency in our nation's health care system.

*July 15- [HHS orders additional vaccine, increases testing capacity to respond to monkeypox outbreak](#). *Government orders 2.5 million more JYNNEOS doses, makes additional 131,000 doses available immediately to states and jurisdictions.* The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) today placed an order for another 2.5 million doses of Bavarian Nordic's JYNNEOS vaccine to respond to the current monkeypox outbreak and strengthen the country's smallpox preparedness. This order follows a July 1 order for 2.5 million doses that will begin arriving in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) over the next year.

*July 15- [ICYMI: U.S. Surgeon General Visits Texas to Meet with Uvalde Families and Community Leaders, Speaks at UnidosUS Annual Conference on Latino Mental Health](#). ICYMI: On Monday, July 11, United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy visited Uvalde, Texas, in the wake of the tragedy at Robb Elementary School and spoke at the 2022 UnidosUS Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

*July 15- [Eleven Enforcement Actions Uphold Patients' Rights Under HIPAA](#). Today, the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the resolution of eleven investigations in its Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Right of Access Initiative, bringing the total number of these enforcement actions to thirty-eight since the initiative began. OCR created this initiative to support individuals' right to timely access their health records at a reasonable cost under the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

*July 15- [Remarks by Secretary Xavier Becerra in Philadelphia to Launch the Transition of the 988 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#). *As Prepared for Delivery.* "Thank you and good morning, everyone. It's great to be here in Philadelphia to mark the official transition of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to the three-digit number mental health crisis care hotline, 9-8-8."

*July 18- [Five Operation Fly Formula Flights Scheduled for Week of July 18](#). *By July 24, Operation Fly Formula will have transported more than 61 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents to the U.S..* There are five Operation Fly Formula flights currently scheduled for the week of July 18, projected to import more than 6.8 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula to the United States. By July 24, Operation Fly Formula flights will have completed 53 flights and imported more than 61 million 8-ounce bottle equivalents of infant formula.

*July 19- [Statement from HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on the Authorization of Protein-Based Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine](#). In response to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) recommendation to make the protein-based Novavax COVID-19 vaccine available to the American people, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra issued the statement below on the CDC's recommendation of this additional COVID-19 vaccine option. CDC's recommendation followed the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's)

authorization of the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use in individuals 18 years and older as a primary vaccination series against COVID-19, and an Advisory Community on Immunization Practices' (ACIP's) recommendation for use of this vaccine.

*July 19- [HHS Announces Historic Investment of Over \\$49 Million to Increase Health Care Coverage for Children, Parents, and Families](#). Awards to 36 grantees support President Biden's Executive Orders on Strengthening Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, and represent the largest outreach and enrollment investment ever made through Connecting Kids to Coverage program. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), today awarded \$49 million to organizations on the frontlines of reducing uninsured rates and connecting more children, parents, and families to health care coverage. In support of President Biden's Executive Orders on [Strengthening Medicaid](#) and the [Affordable Care Act](#), and HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra's priority of expanding access to affordable, quality health care, these awards represent the largest investment CMS has ever made in outreach and enrollment through the Connecting Kids to Coverage program.

Fact Sheets

*July 15- [Rural Emergency Hospitals Proposed Rulemaking](#). Rural Emergency Hospitals (REHs) are a new provider type established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 to address the growing concern over closures of rural hospitals. The REH designation provides an opportunity for Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) and certain rural hospitals to avert potential closure and continue to provide essential services for the communities they serve.

*July 15- [CY 2023 Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System Proposed Rule \(CMS 1772-P\)](#). On July 15, 2022, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed Medicare payment rates for hospital outpatient and Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) services. The calendar year (CY) 2023 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and ASC Payment System Proposed Rule is published annually and will have a 60-day comment period, which will end on September 13, 2022. The final rule will be issued in early November.

Blog

*July 21- [The Medicare Value-Based Care Strategy: Alignment, Growth, And Equity](#). Douglas Jacobs, Elizabeth Fowler, Lee Fleisher, Meena Seshamani. *Note: This blog was originally posted on HealthAffairs.org on July 21, 2022.* Excerpt: As the nation's largest health care payer, responsible for more than one in five dollars spent on health care within the United States, Medicare plays a key role in transitioning the health care system away from fee-for-service, which incentivizes quantity of care, and towards value-based care, which incentivizes high-

quality care and smarter spending. The passage of the Affordable Care Act served as a catalyst for innovative payment and care delivery models that reward [better care, smarter spending, and health in all facets of life](#). Over the past decade, Medicare has made significant progress in moving towards value and advancing accountable care.

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