



CMS Snapshot

November 3-10, 2022

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, November 3 through 2pm Thursday, November 10, 2022

News Releases

*November 4- [Disability Community Remembers Pioneering Advocate Lois Curtis](#). The Administration for Community Living, Office for Civil Rights, Office of General Counsel, and HHS leadership and staff join the disability community in mourning the loss of one of our nation's greatest advocates, Lois Curtis, who passed away last evening. Her impact on our nation's effort to achieve justice for all cannot be overstated. Because of her advocacy, millions of people with disabilities can live in their own homes and fully participate in their communities, with the services and supports they need.

*November 9- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Takes Action to Ensure Effective Communication for Those Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#). The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has entered into a Voluntary Resolution Agreement with CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs to ensure effective communication with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act of 2010 (Section 1557). CHI St. Vincent Hot Springs is a faith-based, not-for-profit hospital, with more than 280 licensed beds, serving the health care needs of Hot Springs, Ark., and surrounding communities.

*November 9- [HHS and the Cohen Foundation Announce Phase 1 Winners in LymeX Diagnostics Prize](#). *Transformative innovations are advancing the next generation of Lyme disease diagnostics.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation (Cohen Foundation) announced 10 Phase 1 winners in the [LymeX Diagnostics Prize](#) , a [LymeX Innovation Accelerator](#)  (LymeX) competition to accelerate the development of Lyme disease diagnostics. Phase 1 called on scientific, technical, and clinical experts to submit innovative methods for detecting active Lyme disease infections in people. The ultimate goal of the multiphase competition is to nurture the development of diagnostics toward Food and Drug Administration review.

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

*November 10- [HHS Shares Health Sector Emissions Reduction and Climate Resilience Announcements at COP27](#) (Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt) – A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) delegation to the United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) announced that more than 100 health care organizations have signed the [White House/HHS Health Sector Climate Pledge](#) to meet bold targets for emissions reduction and climate resilience. The delegation also described plans to collaborate with the National Health Service (NHS) of England on developing proposals for aligned procurement requirements as part of a larger update on progress and future plans.

Blogs

*November 7- [The CMS Innovation Center’s Strategy to Support Person-centered, Value-based Specialty Care](#). *Liz Fowler, JD, PhD, Purva Rawal, PhD, Sarah Fogler, PhD; Brian Waldersen, MD, MPH; Meghan O’Connell, MPH; Jacob Quinton, MD, MSHS.* Background- In 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) established a goal to have 100 percent of Original Medicare beneficiaries and the vast majority of Medicaid beneficiaries in accountable care relationships by 2030 as part of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation’s (Innovation Center) [strategic refresh](#). This means that beneficiaries should experience longitudinal, accountable care with providers that are responsible for the quality and total cost of their care. Accountable care requires access to and coordination of primary care and specialty care to meet the full range of patient needs. As the Innovation Center enters the second year of its strategic refresh, testing models and tools to improve access to high-quality, value-based specialty care is an area of critical focus.

*November 10- [The Path Forward: Improving Data to Advance Health Equity Solutions](#). *LaShawn McIver, M.D., MPH Director of the CMS Office of Minority Health A True Focus on Data to Advance Health Equity.* As we look back over the last few years and reorient our perspective to the future of health care in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, one lesson is clear. Many individuals, families, and communities will continue to experience health disparities as their true needs and barriers to achieving optimal health are left hidden by inadequate sociodemographic and social determinants of health (SDOH) data vital to drive solutions. As the largest payer for health care in the United States, CMS recognizes it must set the bar for meaningful health equity data collection and use across the health care system and is, for the first time making meaningful plans for transparency, accountability, and improvements to allow for data to better inform and shape policies across CMS programs.

*November 10- [Check out 2023 Marketplace coverage options – find out if you can save](#). Act by December 15 for Marketplace coverage that starts January 1, 2023. Before you enroll or renew coverage, browse plans and get an idea of what your costs may be. Just answer a few quick questions – you don’t even have to log in!

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