



CMS Snapshot

November 5-12, 2020

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, November 5 through 2pm Thursday, November 12, 2020.

News Releases

*November 6- [OCR Settles Tenth Investigation in HIPAA Right of Access Initiative](#). The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces that it has settled its tenth enforcement action in its HIPAA Right of Access Initiative. OCR announced this initiative as an enforcement priority in 2019 to support individuals' right to timely access to their health records at a reasonable cost under the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

*November 6- [KidneyX COVID-19 Kidney Care Challenge Seeks Replicable Frontline Solutions](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the American Society of Nephrology (ASN) launched the [KidneyX COVID-19 Kidney Care Challenge](#). The \$300,000 challenge seeks solutions that reduce the transmission of coronavirus among people living with kidney disease and/or reduce the risk of kidney damage among people who contract the virus.

*November 6- [2021 Medicare Part B Premiums Remain Steady](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the 2021 monthly Medicare Parts A and B premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts in which the Medicare Part B monthly premium remains steady. This news comes as Medicare Open Enrollment started on October 15, 2020 running through December 7, 2020, and follows the announcement that Medicare Advantage (or private Medicare health plans) and Part D prescription drug plan premiums are at historic lows, with hundreds of Medicare Advantage and Part D plans now offering \$35 monthly co-pays for insulin starting in January 2021.

*November 9- [Trump Administration Announces Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care Final Rule, Continues Commitment to Transform Medicaid by Delivering Greater Flexibility to States](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2020 Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Managed Care final rule. The final rule fulfills one of the Trump Administration's earliest commitment to states by reducing unnecessary administrative burden and federal regulatory barriers. The purpose of the rule is to ensure state Medicaid and CHIP agencies are able to work effectively to develop and implement managed

care programs that better serve each state's growing number of Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries.

*November 10- [HHS allocates Lilly therapeutic to treat patients with mild to moderate COVID-19](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services today announced plans to allocate initial doses of Eli Lilly and Company's investigational monoclonal antibody therapeutic, bamlanivimab, which received [emergency use authorization](#) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration November 9 for the treatment of non-hospitalized patients with mild or moderate confirmed cases of COVID-19.

*November 10- [CMS Takes Steps to Ensure Medicare Beneficiaries Have Wide Access to COVID-19 Antibody Treatment](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services announced that starting today, Medicare beneficiaries can receive coverage of monoclonal antibodies to treat coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) with no cost-sharing during the public health emergency (PHE). CMS' coverage of monoclonal antibody infusions applies to bamlanivimab, which received an emergency use authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration yesterday.

*November 12- [OCR Settles Eleventh Investigation in HIPAA Right of Access Initiative](#). The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces its eleventh settlement of an enforcement action in its HIPAA Right of Access Initiative. OCR announced this initiative as an enforcement priority in 2019 to support individuals' right to timely access to their health records at a reasonable cost under the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

Fact Sheets

*November 6- [2021 Medicare Parts A & B Premiums and Deductibles](#). On November 6, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2021 premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts for the Medicare Part A and Part B programs.

*November 9- [Medicaid & Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) Managed Care Final Rule - CMS-2408-F](#). The announcement of the 2020 Medicaid & CHIP Managed Care final rule highlights the Trump Administration's continued commitment to reduce administrative burden and cut red tape, support state flexibility, and promote transparency and innovation in the Medicaid and CHIP programs for the growing number of people in Medicaid and CHIP managed care. This final rule finalizes policies from the Notice of Proposed Rule Making issued in November 2018.

Blogs

*November 5- [3 reasons to enroll in 2021 health insurance today](#). You have until **Tuesday, December 15, 2020** to enroll in or change 2021 Marketplace health coverage that starts January 1, 2021. Enrolling at HealthCare.gov may be easier than you think. Here are 3 reasons to enroll today.

*November 6- [Catch early signs of Alzheimer's disease and take action!](#) There are more than 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, irreversible brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills. Take action against early Alzheimer's by visiting your doctor each year to catch symptoms to find out early. Early signs of Alzheimer's disease may include memory loss, difficulty solving problems, and confusion with time.

*November 6- [Get peace of mind with your Medicare coverage](#). Having health coverage that meets your needs can help keep you healthy and give you peace of mind. Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) help cover [many necessary items and services](#), like [preventive services](#) and [surgical procedures](#). But, there are other benefits that Part A and Part B don't cover. The good news is you have these options to consider.

*November 12- [Smoke-free is the way to be](#). Every year, more people die from lung cancer than any other type of cancer, and smoking is the leading cause. In addition to lung cancer, smoking can cause other health problems, like heart disease and respiratory diseases. More than 34 million people in the U.S. still smoke tobacco, but quitting smoking can help prevent these health problems. You can quit smoking today, and Medicare can help.

*November 12- [Will you save on a 2021 Marketplace health plan?](#) Open Enrollment for 2021 health insurance ends Tuesday, December 15, 2020. Before you apply, you can get an idea of what your costs may be by answering a few quick questions. The results may surprise you!

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