



## CMS Snapshot

**June 3-10, 2021**

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, June 3 through 2pm Thursday, June 10, 2021.

### News Releases

\*June 3- [Day One Readout of Secretary Xavier Becerra's Two-Day Meeting with G7 Health Ministers](#). Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra today joined fellow G7 health ministers for the start of the two-day G7 Health Ministers' Meeting, hosted by the United Kingdom in Oxford, England, to discuss a range of issues, including G7 members' response to the COVID-19 pandemic, future global health security preparedness, international collaboration on clinical trials, antimicrobial resistance, and digital health.

\*June 4- [Day Two Readout of Secretary Xavier Becerra's Two-Day Meeting with G7 Health Ministers](#). Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra today participated in Day Two of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting, hosted by the United Kingdom in Oxford, England. The meeting addressed G7 members' response to the COVID-19 pandemic, future global health security preparedness, international collaboration on clinical trials, antimicrobial resistance, and digital health.

\*June 4- [CMS Announces \\$80 Million Funding Opportunity Available for Navigators in States with a Federally-Facilitated Marketplace](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the 2021 Navigator Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which will make \$80 million in grant funding available to Navigators in states with a Federally-Facilitated Marketplace (FFM) for the 2022 plan year. This is the largest funding allocation CMS has made available for Navigator grants to date. With the additional funding, CMS encourages current and past Navigators to apply, especially those that focus on education, outreach and enrollment efforts to underserved and diverse communities.


\*June 5- [New HHS Data Show More Americans than Ever Have Health Coverage through the Affordable Care Act](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a new report that shows 31 million Americans have health coverage through the Affordable Care Act – a record. The report also shows that there have been reductions in uninsurance

rates in every state in the country since the law's coverage expansions took effect. People served by the health Marketplaces and Medicaid expansion have reached record highs.

\*June 8- [Biden Administration Recommends Policy Changes to Secure U.S. Pharmaceutical Supply Chain](#). The White House, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) today released a series of policy recommendations to address the vulnerabilities in U.S. pharmaceutical supply chains. Led by FDA and ASPR, the White House [report - PDF](#) and its recommendations have been accepted by President Biden.

\*June 9- [Biden Administration Continues Efforts to Increase Vaccinations By Bolstering Payments for At-Home COVID-19 Vaccinations for Medicare Beneficiaries](#). As part of President Biden's commitment to increasing access to vaccinations, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today announced an additional payment amount for administering in-home COVID-19 vaccinations to Medicare beneficiaries who have difficulty leaving their homes or are otherwise hard-to-reach. This announcement further demonstrates continued efforts of the Biden-Harris Administration to meet people where they are and make it as easy as possible for all Americans to get vaccinated. There are approximately [1.6 million adults 65](#) or older who may have trouble accessing COVID-19 vaccinations because they have difficulty leaving home.

\*June 9- [Biden Administration announces U.S. government procurement of Merck's investigational antiviral medicine for COVID-19 treatment](#). The Biden Administration today announced that the U.S. government will procure approximately 1.7 million courses of an investigational antiviral treatment, molnupiravir (MK-4482), for COVID-19 from Merck, pending emergency use authorization (EUA) or approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

\*June 9- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra to Insurers & Providers: COVID-19 Vaccines and Testing Must be Free for Patients](#). To COVID-19 vaccination and testing providers and insurers: Since we took office, the Biden-Harris administration has made combatting the COVID-19 pandemic our top priority. Central to our national plan to protect Americans and end the pandemic has been increasing testing and vaccinations. In light of [recent reports of consumer cost concerns](#) , I am reminding health care providers of their signed agreements to cover the administration of COVID-19 vaccines free-of-charge to patients, and group health plans and health insurers of their legal requirement to provide coverage of COVID-19 vaccinations and diagnostic testing without patients shouldering any cost.

## Blog

\*June 7- [After 40 Years of Progress, It Is Time to End the HIV Epidemic](#). As we mark the 40th anniversary of the first official report about AIDS on June 5th, 1981, we pause to honor the

more than 32 million people who have died from AIDS-related illnesses globally, including 700,000 people in the U.S.

*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)*