



CMS Snapshot

August 13-20, 2020

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, August 13 through 2pm Thursday, August 20, 2020.

News Releases

*August 14- [Trump Administration to Begin Distributing \\$1.4 Billion in Relief Funds to Certain Children's Hospitals](#). Today, under the leadership of President Trump, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), is announcing an additional \$1.4 billion in targeted distribution funding to almost 80 free-standing children's hospitals nationwide.

*August 14- [Trump Administration Collaborates with McKesson for COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution](#). Under the leadership of President Trump, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Department of Defense (DoD), in support of [Operation Warp Speed \(OWS\)](#) announced today that McKesson Corporation will be a central distributor of future COVID-19 vaccines and related supplies needed to administer the pandemic vaccinations.

*August 14- [Trump Administration Has Issued More Than \\$15 Million in Fines to Nursing Homes During COVID-19 Pandemic](#). Under the leadership of President Trump, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today announced that the agency has imposed more than \$15 million in civil money penalties (CMPs) to more than 3,400 nursing homes during the public health emergency for noncompliance with infection control requirements and the failure to report coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) data. This is part of the Trump Administration's commitment to safeguarding nursing home residents from the ongoing threat of COVID-19 and holding nursing homes accountable for the health and safety of the residents they serve.

*August 17- [CMS NEWS ALERT AUGUST 17, 2020](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is issuing updated guidance to ensure medical providers are able to provide essential surgical, life-sustaining procedures while continuing to reinforce and bolster infection control precautions at dialysis facilities in states and communities located in coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) hotspots witnessing a surge or resurgence of the virus to help prevent and minimize the risk of transmission among dialysis patients.

*August 17- [HHS Reports Progress on President Trump's 'Advancing American Kidney Health' Initiative](#).

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), released a report describing the progress made over the past year since President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order launching the *Advancing American Kidney Health* initiative.

*August 18- [HHS Releases Healthy People 2030 with National Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Objectives for the Next Decade](#).

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released [Healthy People 2030](#), the nation's 10-year plan for addressing our most critical public health priorities and challenges. Since 1980, HHS's Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion has set measurable objectives and targets to improve the health and well-being of the nation.

*August 18- [HHS Secretary Azar Statement on Review of Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy](#).

On Tuesday, the U.S. Departments of State, Defense, and Health and Human Services and the United States Agency for International Development released the second report that reviewed the implementation of the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance (PLGHA) Policy. The report shows that the policy, which aims to ensure that U.S. taxpayer funding does not support foreign non-governmental organizations that perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning, was implemented with minimal effect on services provided by grantees across the government.

*August 18- [Celebrating 30 Years of the Ryan White CARE Act](#). Today marks the [30th anniversary](#) of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. Signed into law on August 18, 1990, this landmark legislation created the largest federal program focused exclusively on providing care and treatment to people with HIV, called the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.

August 19- [HHS Expands Access to Childhood Vaccines during COVID-19 Pandemic](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [issued a third amendment - PDF](#) to the Declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to increase access to lifesaving childhood vaccines and decrease the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks as children across the United States return to daycare, preschool and school.

*August 19- [Assistant Secretary for Health Admiral Brett P. Giroir, M.D., Statement on FDA EUA for LumiraDx UK Ltd.'s - LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Test](#). This week the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for LumiraDx UK Ltd.'s LumiraDx SARS-CoV-2 Ag Test. LumiraDx is a rapid point-of-care antigen test that is used with the LumiraDx Platform for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 directly from nasal swab specimens.

*August 19- [Trump Administration Issues Joint Informational Bulletin Intended to Improve Health and Housing Outcomes for Older Adults and People with a Disability in Rural America](#).

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a Joint Informational Bulletin with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S.

Department of Agriculture (USDA), and three other U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies—the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The Bulletin provides state Medicaid agencies, state and local housing agencies, state and local public health agencies, and other health and housing entities with information on existing federal resources available to help improve health and housing outcomes for older adults and those with disabilities in rural America.

*August 20- [OCR Resolves Complaint with Utah After it Revised Crisis Standards of Care to Protect Against Age and Disability Discrimination](#). Today, the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing it has reached an early case resolution with the state of Utah after it revised its crisis standards of care ("CSC") guidelines to ensure that such criteria do not discriminate against persons on the basis of age and disability. This is OCR's seventh resolution with a state regarding discrimination concerns during COVID-19.

*August 20- [HHS Awards over \\$35 million to Increase Access to High Quality Health Care in Rural Communities](#). Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded over \$35 million to more than 50 rural organizations across 33 states as part of a sustained federal effort to increase access to high quality care in rural communities. The awards reflect investments in key areas including telehealth, health workforce training, health research, technical assistance for vulnerable rural hospitals and HIV care and treatment.

Blogs

*August 13- [Recently lose health coverage? You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period](#). You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in or change health plans if you or anyone in your household lost qualifying health coverage in the past 60 days or expects to lose it in the next 60 days.

*August 13- [Now is the time: Catch-up to Get Ahead on Childhood Immunizations](#). During National Immunization Awareness Month, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is urging healthcare providers and parents to “catch-up to get ahead” on childhood immunizations.

*August 17- [Organ Donation and Transplantation: We're All Needed](#). Did you know that certain medical conditions, such as diabetes and high blood pressure, can put a person at increased risk for organ failure, especially kidney and heart failure? Minorities, including Black and Hispanic

Americans, suffer higher rates of these conditions and are less likely to experience optimal levels of control.

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