

HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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October 7, 2020

Below you will find The Healthcare Council's COVID-19 Update for October 7, 2020

We work with local organizations to help with supply needs through our ShareSource (formerly NCASS) division. Please contact us directly at **301-731-4700** if there are ways we can help you get the supplies you need.



Guidelines, Information, and Policies Updates:

- In a surprise move on Tuesday, President Donald Trump instructed his staff to stop all COVID Relief negotiations until after the elections, leaving future aid for hospitals up in the air. [Story from Washington Post.](#)
- However, The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) also announced this week the forthcoming distribution to all hospitals, as well as other providers, of \$20 billion in funds from the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund. [Details in the latest AHA Coronavirus Report.](#)
- Our region is now in midst of a potential COVID-19 outbreak and officials are rushing to contact-trace those in the White House who have tested positive. Not everyone is cooperating, however, leading some local officials to express concern. [Read story here.](#)
- One question coming from the outbreak of COVID-19 at the White House is the reliability of quick-results testing. [Story from this Tuesday's USA today here.](#)
- CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield expressed concern that Dr. Scott Atlas, a neuroradiologist who joined the White House coronavirus task force last month. [Story here from NBC news.](#)
- Political contributions to Democrats from the pharmaceutical and health products industries rose to the highest level in at least two decades in the 2019-2020 U.S. [Read the full story here.](#)
- Most hospitalized COVID-19 patients experience neurological symptoms that can range from mild to severe and include headaches, dizziness and altered brain function, according to a new study in the journal Annals of Clinical and Translational Neurology. [Story and analysis here.](#)
- What is the state of health system and health services deals in the COVID era? PwC [takes a look.](#) [Read here for full story.](#)
- Approximately 70% of hospital and health system leaders are preparing for an increase in post-COVID-19 self-pay consumers and Medicaid beneficiaries, and a decrease in commercial reimbursement. This is according to a new analysis by Guidehouse Center for Health Insights. [Read the full analysis here.](#)
- Finally, as we look for positive local stories to come out of this pandemic, it appears the DC area had the best summer air quality on record this year. The Capital Weather Gang attributes this to generally good weather and, of course, the restrictions caused by COVID-19. It's always a good look to look for the positive in any situation. [Capital Weather Gang report.](#)

Education, Learning, and Resources

A look at some of the upcoming meetings and webinars in the weeks ahead.

The Healthcare Council invites you to an educational opportunity on Health System Specialty Pharmacy Services, Friday, October 23, 2020 at 2:00pm EST. Panel guest speakers will include:

Meghan D. Swarthout, PharmD, MBA, BCPS
Division Director, Ambulatory and Care Transitions
Department of Pharmacy – The Johns Hopkins Health System

Scott Canfield, PharmD, CSP
Assistant Director, Clinical Program Development
Johns Hopkins Home Care Group

Danielle Pennock, PharmD
PGY2 Community-based Pharmacy
Administration & Leadership (CPAL) Resident
Johns Hopkins Home Care Group

Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYlcOGqzlvE9zQwyhm8FfkJoAAICY0s-JR>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The Healthcare Council Pharmacy Division is chaired by JoAnn Neuffer. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Christopher Howard, Director of Education for The Healthcare Council at cnhoward@healthcare-council.org.

- The Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA) has its August issue of 'Review' magazine available in PDF form. [Download the August issue here.](#)
- CDC Weekly Podcast: The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) has developed a weekly podcast to update readers on the latest scientific information from CDC's COVID-19 response. In each episode, MMWR's Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Charlotte Kent provides an overview of the latest scientific information published in MMWR. New episodes are posted every Monday. Information and download instructions can be found here.
- 3rd Patient Safety and Quality Summit: Register now for this conference, sponsored by the DCHA and taking place in mid-October. [Registration details here.](#)
- RAPID COVID-19 TESTS: The Healthcare Council and ShareSource are teaming with Healgen to provide COVID IgM tests that will provide results in 10 minutes. Each test will cost \$12.00. Below are two forms with more information and details about how to order. Please contact us for more information.

General Information and Data Sources:

Resources for National and Regional Up-to-the-Minute Data and Information:

- [Johns Hopkins University global COVID-19 Tracker](#)
- Latest Case data for each state can be found at these websites:
 - [Maryland](#)
 - [Virginia](#)
 - [District of Columbia](#)
 - [West Virginia](#)
- State Hospital Association information can be found at these websites:
 - [Maryland Hospital Association](#)
 - [Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association](#)
 - [DC Hospital Association](#)
 - [West Virginia Hospital Association](#)