

HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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Below is our Weekly Update for July 29, 2020. We continue to provide a variety of information about the COVID-19 pandemic and how it affects healthcare organizations in our region.

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:

- The State of Maryland announced it will soon stop paying for mandatory coronavirus testing for nursing home staff. [Story from the Washington Post.](#)
- Virginia Governor Northam announced new restrictions for areas in the Southeastern part of the state as cases in that region begin to rise.
- CMS has issued an update on the impacts of COVID-19 on Medicare beneficiaries. The updated data confirms that the COVID-19 public health emergency is disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, particularly racial and ethnic minorities. [Read the full update here.](#)
- The American Hospital Association is monitoring the progress of the new COVID-19 Relief Bills as they work their way through the U.S. Senate. [Read their analysis here.](#)
- The Trump Administration has announced the allocation of more resources to help protect nursing home residents during the COVID-19 crisis. [Read more about these measures here.](#)
- CMS has created a new Tip Sheet designed to assist Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility (IRF) providers in understanding the status of the IRF Quality Reporting Program (QRP) during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). [Details can be found here.](#)
- Research by famed AIDS researcher Dr. David Ho, suggests that the sickest patients could hold the key to combating COVID-19. [Read more about Dr. Ho's findings here.](#)
- Moderna, Inc. is getting nearly \$500 billion to further its coronavirus vaccine efforts. [Details on their vaccine progress here.](#) More info on Phase 3 clinical trials by Moderna and NIAID can be found here.
- According to a survey by Premier, Inc., 88% of Premier member hospitals and health systems are building up safety stocks of medications to prepare for another coronavirus patient surge. The survey was conducted June 11-29 and included almost 90 U.S. health systems. Fifty-one percent said they are building at least a one-month supply, while 25% of members say they are planning to stock up with a two-month supply.
- Fears of a second wave of coronavirus are rising in several European countries. This comes as cases have been on the rise in the United States. Hospitals and healthcare facilities on both continents are preparing for more cases. [Story here.](#)

Education, Learning, and Resources

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

- **The Healthcare Council Rehabilitation Division Virtual Meeting**, Wednesday, July 29, 2020 from 12:00pm to 1:00pm
Daren Moat will deliver a special education presentation on the following topics: Transitions: Moving from Clinician to Leadership Understanding the 6 Influencers to the Transition, Identify the COR.E Disciplines of High Leadership Potential. Join using this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82922984104?pwd=cmtMRHVha2lwdytQUjZBRXRINmRpQT09>
- *Watch live on AHA's website Thursday, July 30, at 2:30 p.m. ET - Leadership Rounds: A Conversation with AHA Chair Dr. Melinda Estes and SBH Health System President and CEO Dr. David Perlstien* – [Please click here for more information](#)
- Healthcare providers have received billions of dollars in funding from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Provider Relief Fund and other CARES Act programs over the past few months. This barrage of federal funding is unprecedented in both volume and velocity, and in many cases has resulted in more questions than answers. With the funding being subject to a Single Audit under the Uniform Guidance, it is critical that finance officers and their teams understand the regulatory, accounting and auditing implications and start preparing now. Please join **Dixon Hughes Goodman** on Tuesday, August 4 for a webinar on **Accounting for the Provider Relief Funds – What Healthcare Providers Need to Know** [Register Now](#)

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](#)
- [Morning Consult Resource Page](#)

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