

HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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August 26, 2020

Below you will find The Healthcare Council's COVID-19 Update for August 26, 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:

- CMS issued an interim final rule that, among other provisions, makes collecting and reporting COVID-19 data a condition of participation (CoP) for hospitals that participate in Medicare. [Full Special Bulletin from the American Hospital Association.](#)
- (CMS) has also implemented a national nursing home training program for frontline nursing home staff to strengthen nursing home infection control practices. [Full CMS press release.](#)
- The AHA has released their analysis of CMS's Physician Fee Schedule proposed rules for CY 2021. [Read the 'Key Takeaway's' here.](#)
- In Hong Kong, a 33-year-old man was infected with two different versions of the coronavirus more than four months apart in what is believed to be the first confirmed case of COVID-19 reinfection, according to researchers.
- White House coronavirus coordinator Dr. Deborah Birx said [hospitals will once again report critical COVID-19 information](#) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, reversing a policy implemented in July that directed providers to report data through a Health and Human Services Department-run system.
- The Infectious Diseases Society of America said hospitals should not use hydroxychloroquine to treat COVID-19 patients, reversing its previous call for limited use of the anti-malarial drug in trials. [Full story here.](#)
- A study published this week in the Journal of Pediatrics found that children who tested positive for COVID-19 had higher levels of virus in their airways than adults who needed intensive care, indicating they may play a major role in the spread of the virus even when they have no or mild symptoms. [Journal of Pediatrics summary report.](#)
- Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar issued a temporary emergency directive enabling pharmacists in all 50 states to provide vaccinations to children ages 3 and older in an attempt to prevent future outbreaks of preventable diseases such as measles amid the coronavirus pandemic. [Report here.](#)
- The Supreme Court set Nov. 10 as the date it will hear a case concerning a lawsuit that seeks to strike down the Affordable Care Act in its entirety.
- The AHA released new developments in its 'Wear a Mask' initiative. [See more details here.](#)

Education, Learning, and Resources

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

- In their latest newsletter, the AHA Center for Health Innovation looks at forecasting shifts in strategic priorities among healthcare organizations during COVID-19. [Full newsletter is here.](#)

- Healthcare organizations were geared-up for a rebound that included telehealth, then the pandemic had another surge. [Editorial from Managed Healthcare Executive](#)
- An update on the state of telehealth today. [Read the report here.](#)
- **August is National Immunization Awareness Month:** To see how aware you (or your employees) are, take a look at the CDC's Adult Vaccine Assessment Tool [which can be found here.](#) <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam/index.html>
- Takiya Reavis-Benjamin, Chairperson of The Healthcare Council's Patient Experience Division, shares an invitation to join other Patient Experience professionals to get ideas, thoughts, resources and feedback as we all navigate the COVID-19 waters. The weekly virtual meeting series is sponsored by Emory Healthcare in Atlanta, GA.

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

https://emoryhealthcare.zoom.us/meeting/tJEude6qrjovH9BxI7WTo40Ibf2e_Uq9gilw/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCtrTktGNSUtRyDRowMA4joKOrziH5Ygvp_hDayNBRcNIP6NOQQN41KAYHX

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://emoryhealthcare.zoom.us/j/95327201554?pwd=R2J6ZWNUWW9VMFJRZTRMS00wWEtGQT09>

Meeting ID: 953 2720 1554 **PASSWORD** IS P TXP

Topic: PX Coffee, COVID and Convo: Touchbase

Time: 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Tuesday until Sep 15, 2020, 3 more occurrences – September 1, September 8, September 15

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](#)