

# Hospice and Palliative Care Resources for the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



## NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 03/08/21

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links. Please note, these Updates are published when there is helpful news to share.

**"There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."**

– Michelle Obama

### Provider Update

#### **When You Have Been Fully Vaccinated Guidance from CDC**

[COVID-19 vaccines](#) are effective at protecting you from getting sick. Based on what we know about COVID-19 vaccines, people who have been [fully vaccinated](#) can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic.

#### **Why has Coronavirus Testing Slumped in the U.S.?**

[The New York Times](#) reports, "Widespread testing is crucial in controlling the spread of the coronavirus and squashing new outbreaks, experts say. But the amount of testing in the United States has fallen by 30 percent in recent weeks. From a high of nearly 14 million tests a week in early January, the pace fell to fewer than 10 million — a level not seen since October — in the week ended Feb. 24, according to the [Covid Tracking Project](#)."

#### **FDA Authorizes Adaptive Biotechnologies T-Detect COVID Test**

The [FDA issued an emergency use authorization](#) (EUA) for the T-Detect COVID Test developed by Adaptive Biotechnologies. The T-Detect COVID test will be a useful tool to help determine if a person previously had COVID-19. This is especially important for people who may have exhibited symptoms previously or believe they have been exposed but have not tested positive for COVID-19 using a molecular or antigen diagnostic test. The test is indicated for use by qualified healthcare professionals on samples from individuals who are 15 days or more post-symptom onset.

#### **Here's How Close the US is to Possible Covid-19 Surge**

[CNN reports](#), "Experts project the country is about to see [another dangerous Covid-19 spike](#). One that will be fueled by the B.1.1.7 variant, first spotted in the UK, and will come over the next six to 14 weeks. While there are multiple variants of coronavirus circulating in the US, experts have been particularly concerned with the highly contagious B.1.1.7 UK variant's dangerous potential."

#### **Covid-19 Pill Shows Promise in Preliminary Testing**

[The Wall Street Journal](#) reports, "An experimental Covid-19 drug that promises to be a kind of Tamiflu for the pandemic had positive results in a preliminary study, one of the drug's developers said. The pill, which is being developed by Ridgeback Biotherapeutics LP and Merck & Co., significantly reduced infectious virus in subjects in a mid-stage study after five days of treatment."

## Resources

### **Healthcare System Cybersecurity Response: Experiences and Considerations - Webinar**

Presenters on this webinar from ASPR/TRACIE will discuss their experiences and tangible lessons learned in responding to cybersecurity incidents. This webinar builds upon the recently released [Healthcare System Cybersecurity: Readiness and Response Considerations](#) document and accompanying [overview presentation](#) that describes how to use the resource. The webinar will take place on Thursday, March 18, 2021 from 1:30-2:45 PM ET. [Learn more and register](#).

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All who register for NHPCO's 2021 [Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#) will receive access to a special program and downloadable workbook, ***Let's Talk About Equity: A Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Microlearning Module***. [Learn more](#) and find a link for a preview.

