

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 03/12/21

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.

"You may not control all the events that happen to you,
but you can decide not to be reduced by them." — Maya Angelou

Provider Update

Fauci: US Could Reach Pre-Pandemic 'Normals' by September

[VOA News reports](#), "Top U.S. infectious disease expert Dr. Anthony Fauci said Wednesday that current vaccination levels indicate the United States could reach pre-pandemic levels of "normal life" by late August or early September. Fauci said their best estimates regarding when herd immunity would be reached, and enough people are considered immune from the virus range between 70% to 85% of the U.S. population. He said at current vaccination rates, that level should be reached at the end of the North American summer. But he also said that if the nation is vaccinating 2 million to 3 million people a day, society is increasingly more protected. Fauci also said that a refusal from a significant number of people to get vaccinated will delay when the nation reaches the endpoint of the pandemic."

Death Rate 64% Higher with B117 COVID Variant

The 28-day risk of death for the B117 COVID-19 variant was 64% higher than for previously circulating strains in people older than 30 years, a UK [study](#) finds. The study, led by University of Exeter researchers and published today in BMJ, involved community-based testing and death data from 54,906 matched pairs of participants who tested positive for COVID-19 from Oct 1, 2020, to Jan 29, 2021. Read more in this article from the [Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy](#).

Over 1 in 5 Health Care Workers Experience Depression and Anxiety During Pandemic

[CNN reports](#), "Staggering numbers of health care workers -- more than one in five -- have experienced anxiety, depression or post-traumatic stress disorder during the pandemic, new research has revealed. The pandemic has frontline workers 'running a marathon at sprint speed, with no end in sight,' said emergency physician and CNN Medical Analyst Dr. Leana Wen, who is also a visiting professor at George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health. She explained people need to understand mental health as being no different from physical health and make it a priority."

Women Report Worse Side Effects After COVID Vaccines

WebMD Health News reports, "Women are reporting more severe side effects after receiving COVID-19 vaccines, which could stem from a mix of factors." Find the [article on WebMD](#).

Resources

New NASEM Resource – *Critical Findings on COVID-19*

From the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. In response to the global outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, the National Academies has continued this work by issuing publications related to disease

transmission, preventative measures, vaccinations, and more that can inform the public response to the pandemic. NASEM has released [Critical Findings on COVID-19](#). This document includes summaries and highlights of many of our key publications on COVID-19, including consensus study reports, workshop and webinar proceedings, and rapid expert consultations.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Assessment Tool

The CDC has released an [Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity Assessment Tool](#). The purpose of this document is to guide the country's Lead Public Health Response Agency /Ministry coordinating the COVID-19 response in determining their emergency preparedness and response capacity needs.

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