

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



## NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 03/22/21

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.

"It always seems impossible until it's done." — Nelson Mandela

### Provider Update

#### **Covid Cases Rising in 21 States as Health Officials Warn Against Reopening Too Quickly**

[CNBC reports](#) that "Even as the pace of vaccinations accelerates in the U.S., Covid-19 cases are increasing in 21 states and highly infectious variants are spreading as governors relax restrictions on businesses like restaurants, bars and gyms. Public health officials warn that while roughly 2.5 million people nationwide are receiving shots every day, infection levels have plateaued this month and some states have failed to reduce the number of daily cases."

#### **Percent of Delivered First Vaccine Doses Administered by States & Territories**

Read [more about the CDC commitment](#) to making sure that safe, effective vaccines are distributed and administered as quickly as possible. Because the supply of vaccine is currently limited, CDC made vaccine rollout recommendations. Each state then makes its own plan for who will be vaccinated first and how people can get a vaccine once it is available to them. The majority of U.S. states and territories have administered at or above 89% of their first vaccine doses delivered.

#### **A Rapid COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout Backfired in Some U.S States**

The [Associated Press reports](#), "Despite the clamor to speed up the U.S. vaccination drive against COVID-19 and get the country back to normal, the first three months of the rollout suggest faster is not necessarily better. A surprising new analysis found that states such as South Carolina, Florida and Missouri that raced ahead of others to offer the vaccine to ever-larger groups of people have vaccinated smaller shares of their population than those that moved more slowly and methodically, such as Hawaii and Connecticut."

#### **Five Reasons Why COVID Herd Immunity is Probably Impossible**

An article [published on the website Nature.com](#) reports, "As COVID-19 vaccination rates pick up around the world, people have reasonably begun to ask: how much longer will this pandemic last? It's an issue surrounded with uncertainties. But the once-popular idea that enough people will eventually gain immunity to SARS-CoV-2 to block most transmission — a 'herd-immunity threshold' — is starting to look unlikely."

#### **More than 4 in 10 Healthcare Workers Have Not Been Vaccinated**

According to a [Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation poll](#), barely half of front-line health-care workers (52 percent) said they had received at least their first vaccine dose at the time they were surveyed. More than 1 in 3 said they were not confident vaccines were sufficiently tested for safety and effectiveness. Read more in an article on [The Washington Post](#) website.

## **Resources**

### **How the Covid-19 Pandemic has Changed Sense of Mortality**

In an [article from CNN](#), Allison Hope shares an analysis how people have come to terms with mortality.

### **The Johns Hopkins Weekly 30-Minute COVID-19 Briefing**

Join experts from the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center for timely, accessible updates on the state of the pandemic and the public health response. Every Friday, 12:00-12:30 p.m. ET. [Find the recording](#) of the March 19 update and tune in on Friday's new briefing online.

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