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

NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 03/24/21

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.

"Since we cannot change reality, let us change the eyes which see reality." — Nikos Kazantzakis

Provider Updates

CDC Director Warns Coronavirus Variants Could Spark Another Avoidable Surge

CNN reports that Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is concerned about another surge of COVID-19 if mitigation measures -- such as mask-wearing, social distancing and avoiding crowds or travel -- are not followed. "Increasingly, states are seeing a growing proportion of their COVID-19 cases attributed to variants," Walensky said. She said two newly identified variants -- B.1427 and B.1429 -- are estimated to account for 52% of cases in California, 41% in Nevada and 25% in Arizona.

COVID Cases Rise Across More than Half of the U.S.

As of March 21, CNBC reports "the seven-day average of new cases rose by 5% or more in 27 states, according to a CNBC analysis of data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Across the U.S., the nation logged an average of 54,308 new cases per day over the past week — a 1% rise from the prior week after months of rapidly declining case numbers, according to the data."

Pfizer Testing Oral Antiviral Drug in U.S. to Treat COVID-19

Pfizer announced Tuesday it's beginning a U.S.-based early-stage study of an oral antiviral drug to treat COVID-19. The Phase 1 trial will focus on healthy adults to evaluate safety and tolerability of the drug. Read more from UPI.

Resources

Smartphone App to Help Understand 'Long COVID Syndrome'

A recent post (03/23/21) on the NIH Director's Blog looks at the use of the COVID Symptom Study's smartphone app. New research from the COVID Symptom Study will help shed light on Long COVID Syndrome.

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