

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 03/29/21

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'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down." — Charlie Chaplin

Provider Updates

Study Underway to Determine if Vaccines Prevent Transmission

At a White House news briefing on Friday, Dr. Anthony Fauci, MD said, "We hope that within the next 5 or so months, we'll be able answer the very important question about whether vaccinated people get infected asymptotically," he said, "and if they do, do they transmit the infection to others." Read more in [Medscape](#).

Infected Saliva May Push COVID Through Body

New research of SARS-COV-2 suggests that the virus infects mouth cells. Scientists encourage the mouth to be considered an infection site for COVID-19, along with airways, digestive system, blood vessels, and kidneys. Read more in [Medscape](#).

Optimism for the Future of the Pandemic - With Caveats

Infectious disease experts, epidemiologists, and public health officials are becoming more optimistic about the future of the pandemic in the U.S. However, there are three caveats: as long as too many people don't let their guard down too fast, the more dangerous variants don't cause cases to surge too quickly, and vaccinations continue smoothly. Read more on [NPR](#).

New COVID-19 Cases Not Just Due to Variants

[CNBC reports](#), "The latest rise in new Covid-19 infections can't be pinned on highly transmissible variants alone as more Americans travel for spring break and states lift restrictions, including mask mandates, intended to slow the virus' spread, White House Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci said on Sunday."

Resources

Research Article on Vaccine Hesitancy and Equity

The Journal of General Internal Medicine includes a new article by NIMHD scientific leaders Monica Webb Hooper, Ph.D.; Anna María Nápoles, Ph.D., M.P.H.; and Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D. The article is titled, No Populations Left Behind: Vaccine Hesitancy and Equitable Diffusion of Effective COVID-19 Vaccines. [Read the publication online](#).

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