

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 05/07/21

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.

"We relish news of our heroes, forgetting that we are extraordinary to somebody too."

– Helen Hayes

Policy Update

FEMA COVID-19 Update

FEMA is working toward the goal President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. set yesterday of wanting 70% of American adults to have at least one shot by July 4 and administering an additional 100 million vaccines in the next 60 days. [Read the FEMA Update](#) online.

Provider Update

Pfizer/BioNTech Seek Full FDA Approval for their Covid-19 Vaccine

[CNN reports](#), "Pfizer/BioNTech has initiated its application to the US Food and Drug Administration for full FDA approval of its Covid-19 vaccine for people ages 16 and older, the companies said Friday. This is the first Covid-19 vaccine in the United States to be assessed for full approval from the FDA."

True COVID-19 Death Toll is Double the Official Numbers

"There have been twice as many deaths from COVID-19 around the world as have been reported, according to the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), which analyzed excess mortality and other factors." Learn more on the [Axios website](#).

CDC Says Coronavirus Could be Under Control this Summer

[The Washington Post](#) reports, "Coronavirus infections could be driven to low levels and the pandemic at least temporarily throttled in the United States by July if the vast majority of people get vaccinated and continue with precautions against viral transmission, according to a strikingly optimistic paper released Wednesday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

Resources

FDA Full Committee Hearing: An Update from Federal Officials on Efforts to Combat COVID-19

This will be offered on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m. ET. Access the [live video feed](#) to watch the hearing.

HHS TRACIE Express – May 2021

View the new edition of ["TRACIE Express"](#) for COVID-19 topics presented by HHS's TRACIE.

Supporting COVID-19 Vaccine Access

Access to a vaccine should not be an obstacle for someone to get vaccinated. Here are three vaccine tools to bring to your communities right now:

1. Visit vaccines.gov (English) or vacunas.gov (Spanish) to search and find a vaccine near you.
2. Text GETVAX (438829) for English or VACUNA (822862) for Spanish to receive three vaccine sites on your phone within seconds.
3. Call the National COVID-19 Vaccination Assistance Hotline at 1-800-232-0233 for those who prefer to get information via phone call.

Use these tools as resources for any conversations you're having with patients, friends, or even family members. You can also remind them that many pharmacies and other vaccination sites are now offering walk-in appointments and that vaccinations are free of cost and do not require ID.

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