

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 10/21/20

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 never really learn much from hearing yourself speak.” – George Clooney

Policy Update

White House Optimistic on COVID Package as Election Looms

White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows said this morning that he expects to come to a deal with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on the next COVID-19 relief package within the next 48 hours. Though the parties have been working towards a deal for months, Meadows intimated that they are closer to a deal than before; though the parties remain conflicted both about the ultimate price tag of a bill, and funding for state and local governments. Nonetheless, he says that the quality of the conversations has changed over the last day, and that negotiations have reached a technical phase, zooming in from the big picture. President Trump has indicated that he is open to increasing both the Paycheck Protection Program and direct payments to Americans, though it remains unclear whether Senate Republicans would agree to such a deal. Read more about the state of negotiation in [The Hill](#).

Provider Update

PPE Preservation Planning Toolkit (HHS ASPR)

This [toolkit from HHS ASPR](#) is designed to aid any PPE-using organization to plan and implement preservation strategies. It provides estimates of the value of implementing preservation actions to reduce (use of), to reuse, or to repurpose PPE, as described in the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic: Personal Protective Equipment Preservation Best Practices¹ fact sheet, in conventional, contingency, or crisis capacity conditions (as defined in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Optimizing Supply of PPE and Other Equipment during Shortages). Users enter data on their current or prospective PPE use practices. The toolkit assists users to understand types of preservation strategies their organizations may implement and provides estimates of positive impacts of using those strategies in increasing the duration of a specified PPE supply.

Resources

[Ensuring Adequate Palliative and Hospice Care During COVID-19 Surges](#) (AMA, 2020)

An ethical approach to pandemic surge planning requires recognizing and addressing threats of scarcity throughout the community, including for patients whose primary goals are symptom relief and comfort at the end of life. Failure to plan for adequate palliative and hospice care when a substantial increase in disease and death is expected is unconscionable, and it risks undermining patient family trust, long-term emotional health, and the core values of society.

Fright of Covid-19 and its Future: A Review (*JPCM*, 2020)

There are mainly two broad categories of test for the diagnosis of Covid-19s, e.g. the RT-PCR test and Antibodies detection test. There is no specific treatment, but the symptomatic treatment must be categorized like symptomatic treatment, oxygen therapy, treatment of co-infections, prevention of complications and septic shock.

Religion and Faith Perception in a Pandemic of COVID-19 (*Journal of Religion and Health*, 2020)

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted religion and faith in different ways. Numerous restrictions have been implemented worldwide. Believers are in conflict with authorities' warnings that gatherings must be limited to combat the spread of the virus. Religion has always played a role of the balm for the soul, and the regular religious participation is associated with better emotional health outcomes. In our study, we examined whether the exposure to COVID-19 enhances the faith. The instrument used was a survey verifying the power of spirituality in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

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