

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



## NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 11/04/20

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.

*“Do all the good you can, for all the people you can,  
in all the ways you can, as long as you can.” — Hillary Clinton*

### Policy Update

#### **CMS New Nursing Home Resource Center Assists Providers, Caregivers, Residents**

On October 30, CMS launched a new online platform - [the Nursing Home Resource Center](#) - to serve as a centralized hub bringing together the latest information, guidance, and data on nursing homes that is important to facilities, frontline providers, residents, and their families, especially as the fight against COVID-19 continues. The Resource Center consolidates all nursing home information, guidance, and resources into a user-friendly, one-stop-shop that is easily navigable so providers and caregivers can spend less time searching for critical answers and more time caring for residents. Moreover, the new platform contains features specific to residents and their families, ensuring they have the information needed to make empowered decisions about their health care. With the new page, people can efficiently navigate all facility inspection reports and data – including COVID-19 pandemic and Public Health Emergency (PHE) information. This tool will remain active through and beyond the COVID-19 PHE.

### Provider Update

#### **Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination**

Although CDC does not have a role in developing COVID-19 vaccines, CDC has been working closely with health departments and partners to develop vaccination plans for when a vaccine is available. CDC is working with partners at all levels, including healthcare associations, on flexible COVID-19 vaccination programs that can accommodate different vaccines and scenarios. This document, [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#), includes commonly asked questions.

#### **FDA Issues Warning Letters Related to Fraudulent COVID-19 Products**

As part of the FDA’s effort to protect consumers, the FDA and the Federal Trade Commission [issued warning letters](#) to two companies for selling fraudulent COVID-19-related products. There are currently no FDA-approved products to prevent COVID-19.

- The first company, [Spartan Enterprises Inc. dba Watershed Wellness Center](#), sells “Dissolve BioActive Silicate” and products labeled to contain silver with misleading claims that the products can mitigate, prevent, treat, diagnose or cure COVID-19 in people.
- The second company, [NovaBay Pharmaceuticals, Inc.](#), sells “AVENOVA® ANTIMICROBIAL LID & LASH SOLUTION, PURE HYPOCHLOROUS ACID, 0.01%, 20 ml” (also referred to as Antimicrobial Avenova Direct 20 ml Spray Solution and Antimicrobial All-Natural Facial Spray) with misleading claims that the products can mitigate, prevent, treat, diagnose or cure COVID-19 in people.

## **Resources**

### **Attitudes of Front-Line Nurses Toward Hospice Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The aim of this study, [Attitudes of Front-Line Nurses Toward Hospice Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (*AJHPM*, Oct 2020), was to understand the attitudes of front-line clinical nurses toward hospice care in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide a source of reference for hospice care education and training in hospitals treating patients with COVID-19.

### **Impact of COVID-19 on the Hospice and Palliative Care Workforce**

Findings in a study published in [Public Health Nursing](#) suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic has strained the palliative and hospice care workforce as it provides increased services at an unprecedented rate to patients and families. The implications of these findings are important for public health nurses who are skilled in disaster management and quickly responding to emergencies. The expertise of public health nurses can be leveraged to support palliative care agencies as they strive to manage the pandemic in the communities they serve.

### **Bloomberg Government Article for Subscribers**

A useful article, [“Understanding the Virus and Its Unanswered Questions: Quick Take,”](#) was published on the Bloomberg Government website on November 2, 2020. It is available exclusively to subscribers - if you have access, this is an article you may find helpful.

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