

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 12/16/20

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.

“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”
— John Holmes

Provider Update

FDA Authorizes First Over-the-Counter At-Home COVID-19 Test

The [FDA issued an emergency use authorization](#) (EUA) for the first over-the-counter (OTC) fully at-home diagnostic test for COVID-19. The Ellume COVID-19 Home Test is a rapid, lateral flow antigen test, a type of test that runs a liquid sample along a surface with reactive molecules. The test detects fragments of proteins of the SARS-CoV-2 virus from a nasal swab sample from any individual 2 years of age or older.

Webinar - Caring for Your Caregiving Team

Axxess is offering a recording of a webinar, [“Caring for Your Caregiving Team,”](#) available on YouTube. A resilient hospice team is key to your success in 2021. Learn how to thrive through these challenging times.

Podcast on Value of Self-Care and Resiliency

In episode #101 of the NHPCO Podcast, [“Making the Business Case for Resiliency,”](#) Carla Cheatham of the Carla Cheatham Consulting Group, LLC, and NHPCO Chief Operating Officer Ben Marcantonio discuss concrete takeaways for leaders to manage their teams and themselves as mindfully as possible. The importance of self-care and burnout has long been prominent in our field, but this year has put more of an emphasis on it than ever before. As Dr. Cheatham tells us in this episode, providers not prioritizing self-care makes you "ineffective at best and dangerous at worst."

Resources

Pandemic Resources to Guide End-of-Life Care and Bereavement

The pandemic has forced professionals and their organizations to practice without a relevant playbook. Proactive dialogues on pain relief, symptom management, and quality of life have been replaced by reactive attention to suffering for high volumes of critically ill patients. Ellen Fink-Samnack, [lists a series of resources](#) offering information to facilitate bereavement support with patients and families, colleagues, and own support systems.

Palliative Care During the COVID-19: A Research Roundup

The Harvard Kennedy School Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy published an article summarizing some of the research that has been reported in involving palliative care and COVID-19. The article is available on the center's [Journalist's Resource website](#).