

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 05/26/20

NHPCO has created this update for hospice and palliative care providers to share recent news and helpful links.

“In the end, everything will be okay. If it’s not okay, it’s not yet the end.”

– Fernando Sabino

Policy Updates

SBA Issues Promised Guidance on PPP Loan Forgiveness and on SBA’s Loan Review Procedures

[Husch Blackwell](#) has issued detailed information on the new SBA Interim Final Rule guidance issued on May 22, covering PPP loan forgiveness and on the SBA loan review procedures. For providers who have received PPP loans, this latest SBA guidance is a must read as all options are considered.

Hospice Featured on CMS Home Health and Hospice Stakeholder Call

Today, May 26, 2020, Carla Davis, CEO of Heart of Hospice, was featured in the CMS Home Health and Hospice Stakeholder call. Heart of Hospice provides hospice and palliative care in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and South Carolina and today she described the efforts of Heart of Hospice in establishing a temporary hospice inpatient facility specifically for COVID-19 patients in New Orleans. She also discussed the ability of families to be with their loved ones, the importance of PPE, and the commitment of the staff to serve COVID-19 patients.

OIG Issues Plan for Oversight of COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Today the OIG released a strategic plan for the oversight of COVID-19 response and recovery. OIG states that they are “using risk assessment and data analytics to identify, monitor, and target potential fraud, waste, and abuse affecting HHS programs and beneficiaries and to promote the effectiveness of HHS’s COVID-19 response and recovery programs. They use expert staff and modern tools and technologies, including artificial intelligence, to detect trends and patterns of suspicious activity and to shape and strengthen our oversight and enforcement. As appropriate and feasible, we share data analytics and technical assistance with HHS officials to strengthen program integrity, effectiveness, and management practices.” Additional information about OIG work related to COVID-19 is available on the OIG website, [COVID-19 Portal](#).

Provider Updates

FDA Testing Updates:

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the FDA has worked with more than 400 test developers who have already submitted or said they will be submitting EUA requests to the FDA for tests that detect the virus or antibodies to the virus.
- To date, the FDA has authorized 109 tests under EUAs, which include 96 molecular tests, 12 antibody tests, and 1 antigen test.

