

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 06/03/20

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

"You are there for your community. NHPCO is there for you."

Provider Updates

CMS Announcement on Models

Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center [announced](#) model delays and adjustments to address the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). More details can be found in [this CMS document](#). Important changes announced about Innovation Center models include:

- Delaying implementation of the start of the **Serious Illness component of Primary Care First to April 1, 2021**, while starting the Primary Care First only component on time on January 1, 2021.
- Delaying the first performance period of **Direct Contracting will be delayed until April 1, 2021**. CMS will offer an application cycle for a second cohort to start in 2022.
- The Next Generation (Next Gen) ACO Model will be extended through December 2021. Similar to the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP), CMS will reduce losses by the percentage of months for which the COVID-19 public health emergency is in effect and will remove episodes of care for the treatment of COVID-19.

NHPCO is reviewing this news and will provide more information and updates as they become available. For more information, please visit our [Models and Demos page](#).

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