

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 06/26/20

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

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.” ~William James

Policy

CMS FAQ Regarding Nursing Home Visitation

On June 23, CMS issued an [FAQ \(PDF\)](#) regarding nursing home visitation during the phased reopening process. This document addresses recommendations regarding when to reopen facilities to visitation, “compassionate care” situations, and factors to consider when making decisions regarding visitation.

NHPCO Urges HHS to Extend COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Today, NHPCO urged the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar to extend the coronavirus (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency beyond its current July 25, 2020 expiration date. HHS through authority granted during the Public Health Emergency which was effective starting on January 27, 2020 has provided resources and flexibilities to the hospice and palliative care community including support for telehealth and flexibility for some Medicare Hospice Conditions of Participation. The waivers have enabled hospice and palliative care providers to respond effectively to the urgent and complex needs of our patients and their families – those suffering from COVID-19 as well as other serious illnesses. These flexibilities allow hospice providers to serve the most vulnerable patients where they are and limit the exposure to COVID-19 by patients, families and staff. [Download the NHPCO letter.](#)

Resources

CDC Press Briefing Transcript on COVID-19

The [CDC held a press briefing](#) on June 25, 2020 to discuss the currently status of COVID-19 in the U.S.

CDC Expands List of People at Risk of Severe COVID-19 Illness

Based on a detailed review of available evidence to date, CDC has updated and expanded the list of who is at increased risk for getting severely ill from COVID-19. [Visit the CDC website](#) for additional information.