

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 07/08/20

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

“When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on.” -*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Policy

SBA Releases Information on Paycheck Protection Program PPP Awardees

On July 6, 2020, the Small Business Administration (SBA) released [detailed information](#) regarding loans made under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). For loans of \$150,000 and above, the SBA disclosed, among other things, the name of the business, its address, its NAICS code, the lender, the number of jobs retained and the amount of the loan in the following ranges:

- \$150,000-\$350,000
- \$350,000-\$1 million
- \$1 million-\$2 million
- \$2 million-\$5 million
- \$5 million-\$10 million

For PPP loans of less than \$150,000, neither the name of the business, nor the address was listed, but the other information listed above was disclosed.

In releasing the information, the SBA announced that the format was aimed to ensure transparency for taxpayer funded programs and to protect small business' sensitive business information and privacy, including that of their employees. The SBA also made it clear that the release of this information does not mean that the SBA has determined that a borrower is eligible for a PPP loan or is entitled to loan forgiveness. Additionally, the SBA reiterated that all loans over \$2 million will automatically be reviewed.

CMS Home Health and Hospice Stakeholder Call

On July 7, Susan Lloyd, President and CEO of Delaware Hospice was featured on the CMS Home Health and Hospice Stakeholder Call. Thank you, Susan! It was great to hear what your hospice is doing to recognize the work of your employees as well as your attention to keeping staff, patients and families safe. The recording is not yet available on the [CMS website](#), but check back in the coming days to hear Susan's presentation of hospice best practices.

Providers

HQRP COVID-19 PHE Tip Sheet is Available

The HQRP COVID-19 PHE Tip Sheet is now available. This tip sheet provides practical guidance to address hospice quality data submissions starting on July 1, 2020 now that the temporary exemptions from the COVID-19 PHE ended. Hospices are expected to resume timely quality data collection and submission of CAHPS® Hospice Survey and HIS records. The CAHPS® Hospice Survey starts July 1 with July deaths. HIS also starts July 1 with all new HIS admission records and any HIS discharge records that occur on or after July 1, 2020. The CY 2020 data used for meeting the Hospice Quality Reporting Program requirements include July 1-December 31, 2020 since we exempted Q1 and Q2 of 2020 (January 1-June 30, 2020). Please navigate to the [HQRP Requirements and Best Practices](#) page to download this document.

Resources

Article - Quality and safety in the time of Coronavirus: design better, learn faster

The COVID-19 pandemic has required health systems to change much faster than normal. Many staff have experienced training in quality improvement and patient safety methods which can be used to support the design of new systems and to accelerate learning about new and adapted practices. [This article](#) sets out the principles of quality improvement and patient safety science, applying them in a selection of approaches, methods and tools, which may be useful in crisis situations such as the current pandemic. The article also makes reference to several resources which may be of use to those keen to advance their knowledge.

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Participate in the National Data Set Collection

NHPCO has opened data collection for the 2019 National Data Set. The NDS represents a comprehensive compilation of often hard to find, and timely data points on hospice clinical and operations data. All hospice providers are encouraged to participate, it is not limited to NHPCO members. The submission period is open through August 31, 2020. Learn more online at nhpco.org/nds.