

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



NHPCO COVID-19 Update – 09/28/20

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.

“Come what may, all bad fortune is to be conquered by endurance.”

— Virgil

Policy Update

NHPCO Invited to COVID-19 Testing Briefing at White House

NHPCO Chief Advocacy Officer Hannah Yang Moore was honored to attend a briefing at the White House this afternoon hosted by President Trump. The President and members of his Administration marked this event by highlighting steps taken to address the COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide testing needs, including the forthcoming distribution by the Department of Health and Human Services of 10 million COVID-19 rapid point of care test kits for hospice and home care providers. By including the organization at today's event in the Rose Garden, the Administration recognized NHPCO's role in prioritizing coronavirus testing for health care providers. Read the [NHPCO press release](#).

House Expected to Pass New COVID-19 Stimulus Package

With both the Senate and House in session this week, the House is expected to vote on a new COVID-19 package. According to [CNBC](#), this \$2.4 trillion package is expected to include enhanced unemployment benefits, funding for Paycheck Protection Program loans, funding for hard-hit airlines, and direct payments for Americans. While this package falls \$1 trillion short of House Democrats' initial proposal; it remains more costly than Republicans have indicated they are willing to support. Nonetheless, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin has indicated that he and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi have agreed to begin negotiations on a new package again, after they fell apart early last month. Meanwhile, the Senate will pass the Continuing Resolution to fund the government through the end of the year.

After these measures are passed, it is expected that members in both chambers will leave town to campaign through the November election, save for if the senate returns to vote on the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, or takes up another stimulus bill, if a bipartisan agreement is reached.

Provider Update

FDA Authorizes First Point-of-Care Antibody Test for COVID-19

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [has approved](#) the first point-of-care (POC) antibody test for COVID-19, under an emergency use authorization (EUA). The antibody test uses fingerstick blood samples. With the new POC authorization, the test can be performed in physicians' offices, hospitals, urgent care centers, and emergency departments. The test eliminates the need to send samples to a central laboratory for testing.

COVID 19 Focused Articles:

- [Cultural Responsiveness and Palliative Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (Palliative Medicine Reports, Aug 2020)
- [Picking Up the Pieces: Healthcare Quality in a Post-COVID-19 World](#) (Health Security Commentary, Aug 2020)
- [COVID-19 Tells Us We Have Work to Do in End-of-life Care to improve medical education](#) (Voices in Bioethics, Aug 2020)

Resources

Hidden Consequences: How the COVID Pandemic is Impacting Children

ASPR TRACIE and [ASPR's Pediatric Centers of Excellence](#) are collaborating on a webinar series focused on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children. Topics will include:

- Child Health and Wellness (September 30, 2020, 1:30-2:45 PM ET)
- Child Emotional and Social Effects (October 16, 2020, 1:00-2:15 PM ET)
- The Effects of Secondary Disasters on Children (October 23, 2020, 1:00-2:30 PM ET)
- The Impact of COVID-19 on Children with Special Healthcare Needs (October 29, 2020, 1:00-2:00 PM ET)

This [one-page summary](#) includes more information and registration links for each webinar.

COVID-19: Optimizing Healthcare Personal Protective Equipment and Supplies

Learn more about PPE preservation strategies, trends, challenges, and lessons learned/promising practices from presenters in the public and private sectors [in this webinar](#) (webinar slides available).

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