



## Reimbursement & Policy

### Guidance update ~ testing sites required to post pricing

New **combined guidance** from three federal agencies addressed essential testing and related services. While some elements regarding coverage by health plans for testing and services have been previously shared, an important element was brought to light for those hospitals or organizations doing diagnostic testing.

According to the guidance "*Section 3202(b) of the CARES Act also requires providers of diagnostic tests for COVID-19 to make public the cash price of a COVID-19 diagnostic test on the provider's public internet website. Section 3202(b) of the CARES Act also grants the Secretary of HHS authority to impose civil monetary penalties on any provider that does not comply with this requirement and has not completed a corrective action plan, in an amount not to exceed \$300 per day that the violation is ongoing.*"

## Resources & Equipment

### New Tools for Tracking and Forecasting COVID-19

AHA released a compilation of resources designed to benefit hospitals as they make critical decisions for their communities. The report provides an overview of and links to various models that can help organizations address case projections and capacity planning, community vulnerability mapping and case mapping. Several treatment updates, PPE resources, and additional resources are also provided.

A few highlights include:

- Identifying New Clusters - Mount Sinai Health System has enlisted its data scientists, engineers and clinicians to develop a new app — **STOP COVID** — aimed at halting the spread in New York City. Data collected will help health care professionals become more informed about growing clusters of outbreaks in specific communities across the city.
- Facebook Tracking Maps - Facebook has launched three maps in its Data for Good program to **track the potential spread of COVID-19**. A new co-location map determines the probability that different Facebook users will come into contact with each other in person. The Movement Range Map shows if people are staying near home on a county-by-county level, and the Social Connectedness Map provides insights around Facebook connections across geographic lines.
- Data Dashboards - Hospital IQ launched the **COVID-19 Regional Forecast Dashboard**, a free tool to help hospitals plan for surges of COVID-19 patients.

### Idaho's PPE stockpile

Governor Brad Little visited the staging area in Boise today where Idaho is accepting and distributing hundreds of thousands of medical supplies provided by private donors, the federal government, and other sources.

"Right now, Idaho has enough personal protective equipment for our healthcare workers' needs, and we are continuing to secure more medical supplies to further prepare us," Governor Little said. "The protection of our healthcare workers is a big part of preserving healthcare capacity, and ample personal protective equipment keeps them healthy and safe. Our goal from the start has been to slow the spread of coronavirus to protect lives and preserve healthcare capacity so we can get back to normal as quickly as possible."

There are enough supplies in stock to meet the projected demand for another two weeks based on mitigation strategies currently in place, and Idaho can secure additional resources as needed. Supplies have been received through the Strategic National Stockpile, private donations, and secured through state and federal procurement. The supplies are overseen by the Idaho Office of Emergency Management and continue to be distributed throughout the state. The supplies received in Idaho to date are:

- Gowns - 36,842
- Face shields - 44,888
- Gloves - 887,975
- Coveralls - 5,518
- N95 Masks - 100,690
- Surgical Masks - 215,358
- Safety Goggles - 88,992

### Funds available for hospitals to improve telehealth access

For hospitals needing to improve bandwidth or secure additional equipment to improve their telehealth capabilities, the FCC is offering funding support. The **COVID-19 Telehealth Program** will make available \$200 million in funding to "support health care providers' use of telehealth." This is a unique opportunity which will provide funding directly to health care providers and not to vendors. Funds will be awarded until exhausted or the pandemic has ended. The application portal opened on Monday.

[Click to get our daily COVID-19 Updates](#)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

615 N. 7th St.  
Boise, ID | 83701 US

This email was sent to .  
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma