



## Reimbursement & Policy

### HHS opens CARES Act emergency fund attestation portal

Hospitals that receive funds from the \$30 billion HHS began distributing last week have 30 days to [attest to receiving the funds](#) and agree to the terms and conditions of payment. These funds were distributed to providers automatically based on Medicare revenue. If hospitals receive Medicare reimbursements via electronic deposit, the payments should be received by tomorrow. It is our understanding that many members already received the payments.

These payments are from the \$100 billion Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund in the CARES Act, also referred to as the first tranche of payments to help hospitals and healthcare providers to reimburse providers for health care-related expenses or lost revenues directly attributable to COVID-19.

### Model shows continued mitigation slows spread in Idaho

A [model](#) developed by IDHW, the University of Idaho, and four other colleges and universities has shown that continued mitigation efforts are effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19.

The model was developed to help the Governor's Coronavirus Working Group make data-driven policy decisions and identify effective mitigation strategies to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on Idahoans. The Working Group reviewed the effect of multiple assumptions and scenarios using the model.

"Based on those, we can conclude that continued mitigation efforts are effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19, reducing contact rates, delaying the peak of the outbreak, and flattening the curve," said DHW Director Dave Jeppesen. "The model was developed to simulate the effect of policy decisions such as the Governor's stay-home order, and not necessarily to estimate the number of hospitalizations, ICU admissions, or deaths from COVID-19."

When mitigation measures are stopped, however, the model shows a second wave of infections unless testing and contact tracing capacity increases so infections can be identified, and contacts isolated.

## Resources & Equipment

### FEMA resource package

The FEMA Healthcare Resilience Task Force has created the [COVID-19 Hospital Resource Package](#) to help hospitals operate more effectively and efficiently. The package is a list of current best practices and resources for hospital administrators, hospital emergency planners, and infection control practitioners, covering:

- hospital surge,
- crisis standards of care,
- staffing surge and resilience,
- workforce protection,
- regulatory relief,
- equipment supply surge, and
- telemedicine.

### Potential for high-volume mask decontamination unit

Governor Little has requested that FEMA locate one of the Battelle CCDS Critical Care Decontamination Systems in Idaho. The system can decontaminate up to 80,000 respirator masks per day using a vapor phase hydrogen peroxide (VHP). Battelle, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, is the parent company of the Idaho consortium that runs the Idaho National Laboratory.

In this [report](#), researchers looked at various decontamination methods and found that VHP exhibited the best combination of rapid inactivation of SARS-CoV-2 and preservation of N95 respirator integrity. Using the VHP technology, respirator masks can be decontaminated up to 20 times without degrading the mask's performance.

## Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

### CMS call for clinical leaders, physicians

The call is an opportunity to hear physicians and other clinical leaders share their experiences, best practices, strategies, and insights related to COVID-19.

**Friday, April 17 ~ 10:30a-12:00p MT / 9:30a-11:00a PT**

**Dial-in: 877-251-0301 / Access Code: 8672948**

**[Registration](#) is required.**

[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