Reimbursement & Policy

Request for liability protections
This week, Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden signed on to a letter with other states seeking Congress for liability protections for businesses reopening during COVID-19. The letter requests liability protection for health care workers and health care facilities. The Attorney General requested civil liability protections for all businesses and non-profit organizations, without regard to size or for-profit or non-profit status.

Community confidence weighed
Last week, IACI (Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry) polled 400 Idahoans from across the political spectrum about their opinions of the pandemic, reopening Idaho, and how they view healthcare professionals.

More than three-fourths support the Governor's handling of the pandemic with nearly 80% supporting his approach to reopening the economy. When asked about the role of healthcare professionals in providing guidance, 65% said they trusted them to balance the needs of community health, liberty and prosperity to move the state forward.

Resources & Equipment

Telehealth resource and best practices
The Department of Health and Human Services has resources for providers regarding the use of telehealth which includes information to help providers integrate telehealth and become informed on recent COVID-19 related policies. Resources detailing best practices for providers to help in planning their workflow, preparing patients for telehealth, getting familiar with billing and reimbursement, and understanding legal considerations are included.

Hospital resource for planning and resuming care
AHA has updated its COVID-19 Pathways to Recovery, released last week. In addition to workforce, testing and contact tracing, internal and external communications, and the supply chain, the new version includes information on:

- support and ancillary services,
- plant operations/environment of care,
- financial management, and
- governance.

The document provides important considerations, questions and checklists to consider as hospitals resume comprehensive healthcare and health services for their communities.

Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

Governor’s Idaho Rebounds press conference
On Thursday, May 14 at 1p MT, Governor Little will discuss how and if Idaho can move to Stage 2 of the reopening plan. The press conference will be live streamed on Idaho Public Television.

Webinar ~ Physician Recruiting and Retention
An engaging and instructive talk on physician recruiting and retention during a unique time, Emerging Physician Recruiting and Retention Paradigms During and Post-Covid-19, is a presentation likely to interest anyone who follows today’s evolving healthcare trends. The webinar is complimentary to IHA members and a recording will be made available to those who register but cannot participate on May 26.

Tuesday, May 26 ~ 10a-11a MT / 9a-10a PT