



Reimbursement & Policy

[CMS addresses nursing home infection control](#)

Yesterday, CMS [announced new actions](#) to combat COVID-19 in nursing homes. Among the new infection control actions is a mandate that state survey agencies failing to [inspect all nursing homes by July 31](#) will be required to submit a corrective action plan or have their federal funds from the CARES Act redistributed to other states. Penalties for nursing homes with deficiencies have also been expanded.

[IRS allows for mid-year benefit changes](#)

The [IRS announced](#) that it would let employers offer employees the option to add, drop or change their benefit enrollment, provided the employer opts to make this available. In addition, these changes extend the claims period for health flexible spending arrangements (FSAs) and dependent care assistance programs. Kaiser Health News has provided an [FAQ on what could be allowed](#) if the employer opts to offer mid-year changes.

Resources & Equipment

[Reporting deadline for next remdesivir distribution](#)

Yesterday, HHS announced that hospitals have until **Monday, June 8 at 6p MTN / 5p PAC** to submit data to be considered in the next distribution of remdesivir. As with last month's reporting requirement, hospitals are asked to report on the number of currently hospitalized COVID-19 patients and those requiring placement in an ICU.

Hospital administrators should have received an email yesterday from TeleTracking. If you did not, have not been able to access [TeleTracking](#), or are having issues with the system, you are encouraged to call Teletracking Technical Support - 877-570-6903.

Those hospitals using other reporting mechanisms (e.g., NHSN or state reporting) should still report the admissions and ICU data fields into TeleTracking.

[New polling summary shows most opt to "wait and see"](#)

In a summary of the latest round of polling and national surveys available, Public Opinion Strategies noted some trends of interest to hospitals and healthcare organizations. Since March, Public Opinion Strategies has compiled summaries to frame how Americans are reacting to the pandemic, focusing on personal health concerns, behavioral changes, economics, and other perceptions.

While the [May summary](#) looked at patients re-engaging with the healthcare system, the latest round explores attitudes on resuming everyday activities. A few key observations include:

- Americans are returning to pre-COVID life, although a majority remain concerned about infection and a second wave, with most Americans taking a "wait and see" stance.
- There are early signs of potential long-term societal changes including remote work and relocation. One poll noted that nearly 40% of those living in urban areas say the pandemic has caused them to consider moving to a less populated area.
- A majority of Americans have a favorable view of the pharmaceutical industry which they believe has had a good response during the outbreak. Over 80% of respondents expect a vaccine to be available by the end of 2021. The authors noted that the fastest a vaccine has been developed is 4 years, which was for the mumps vaccination.

Visit the [National Public Opinion Data: The Coronavirus – Wave 6](#) document for more insights and a slide deck.

[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