

## COVID-19 Report to Members ~ June 15, 2020

Please note our Reports will now be sent on Mondays and Thursdays, unless there's breaking news.



## Reimbursement & Policy

### Reporting for relief funding due today

Last week, we reported that HHS is distributing an additional \$10 billion in relief funding for hospitals particularly affected by caring for COVID-19 patients. The reporting deadline, which includes COVID-19 inpatient admissions from January 1 – June 10, is today at 7p MT / 6p PAC. For more information on this distribution, visit the [HHS FAQs](#) which addresses a number of questions including how this funding differs from the first distribution.

## Resources & Equipment

### Updated PPE guidance and training opportunity

Beginning last week, eight trainers began traveling throughout the state to provide [train the trainer sessions](#) on the use and donning of PPE. Trainings will be held mostly in rural areas in CAHs as well as in long-term care facilities and EMS agencies.

As part of the classes, trainers are demonstrating the most recent guidelines on the use of PPE by the CDC. The [guidance was updated on June 9](#) to remove a hand hygiene step when donning PPE.

### FDA EUA actions for testing and treatment

Last week, the FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for a [new point-of-care SARS-CoV-2 test](#). The nasal swab test by Cue Health Inc. will allow patients to receive more immediate results of their tests as they do not have to be sent to labs for processing.

In other EUA news, the FDA [revoked EUAs for hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine](#) for COVID-19 treatment. The FDA stated that it no longer authorizes the use of these drugs as it can result in serious side effects, including adverse cardiac events.

## Quality & Patient Safety

### Nursing home testing guidance updated

On Friday, the CDC [revised the Interim Testing Guidelines](#) for Nursing Home Residents and Healthcare Personnel. The new guidelines address testing of both residents and employees as well as testing protocols in response to an outbreak.

The CDC is also now recommending that residents with SARS-CoV-2 symptoms be tested for other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza, in addition to COVID-19.

## Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

### Webinar ~ Infection Prevention in Nursing Homes

During this CDC call, presenters will use case-based scenarios to discuss how to apply infection prevention and control guidance for nursing homes and other long-term care facilities in response to COVID-19. Registration is not required, simply click on the link below to participate.

#### Applying COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Strategies in Nursing Homes

Tuesday, June 16 – 12p MT / 11a PAC

[Webinar Link](#)

Dial In: 669 254 5252 or 646 828 7666 / Webinar ID: 161 554 3668

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