



May 7, 2020

**ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Chief Executive Officers, Member Hospitals and Health Systems
Chief Operating Officers
Chief Medical Officers
Chief Nursing Officers
Chief Quality Officers
Chief Financial Officers
Emergency Preparedness Contacts
Emergency Department Directors
Behavioral Constituency Section
Government Relations Personnel
In-House Counsel
Public Relations Directors

FROM: A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO
Tim Nuding, Senior Vice President, Member Services & Corporate Finance
Keneatha Johnson, Director, Quality, Safety, and Health Policy

SUBJECT: IHA COVID-19 Update – May 7, 2020

Following is a brief recap of today's top developments.

Situational Awareness

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) today announced 2,641 new COVID-19 cases and 138 deaths. The total number of cases in the state is 70,873 in 97 counties, with a total of 3,111 deaths. IDPH says that in the past 24 hours, 17,783 test specimens have been processed. Statewide, the number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients increased in the past 24 hours from 4,832 to 4,862. Of that figure, 1,253 patients are in ICU beds (an increase of 22) with 766 patients on ventilators (a decrease of 14).

HHS Extends Deadline for Provider Relief Fund Attestation

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has extended the deadline to attest to receipt of payments from the Provider Relief Fund. Providers now have 45 days from the date they receive a payment to attest and accept the Terms and Conditions. Alternatively, providers have 45 days from the date they receive a payment to return the funds. Not returning the payment within 45 days of receipt will be viewed as acceptance of the Terms and Conditions. The Terms and Conditions for the first tranche of Provider Relief Fund payments, which went out around April 10, are [here](#). The Terms and Conditions for the second tranche of Provider Relief Fund payments, which went out around April 24, are [here](#). The attestation portal for both payments is [here](#). Questions about the portal should be directed to the CARES Provider Relief hotline at (866) 569-3522.

CMS Releases Additional Medicaid & CHIP COVID-19 FAQs

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released additional [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#) to aid state Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) agencies in their response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The new FAQs cover a variety of Medicaid and CHIP topics, including emergency preparedness and response, benefit, financing, eligibility and enrollment flexibilities, information technology, and data reporting. See also CMS' [Comprehensive Medicaid COVID-19 FAQs](#).

IHA Fact Sheet on PPE Supply Issues

Protecting healthcare workers, who are on the frontlines of the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, is a top priority of Illinois hospitals and health systems. Hospitals and health systems are working every day, with public and private partners and stakeholders, to make sure that their healthcare workers have the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) they need to be safe and healthy, and to comply with the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Public Health. As part of the Illinois hospital community's ongoing efforts to secure PPE, IHA has compiled a brief overview of available approaches to address PPE supply issues. [Click here](#) to see the overview.

FDA Guidance on Notifications re: Medical Device Disruptions During COVID-19 Pandemic

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [released](#) guidance on notifying the FDA of a permanent discontinuance in the manufacture of certain devices, or an interruption in the manufacture of certain devices, that is likely to lead to a meaningful disruption in supply of that device in the U.S. See the guidance [here](#).

Health Centers Awarded Funding for COVID-19 Testing

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), [awarded](#) nearly \$583 million to 1,385 HRSA-funded health centers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and eight U.S. territories to expand COVID-19 testing. In Illinois, [45 health centers](#) will receive \$25 million. Nearly 88% of HRSA-funded health centers report testing patients, with more than 65% offering walk-up or drive-up testing. Health centers are currently providing more than 100,000 weekly COVID-19 tests in their local communities.

CDC Supplements Guidance on Certifying COVID-19 Deaths

To supplement the published guidance and webinars on filling out death certificates for deaths due to COVID-19, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics has released a short [YouTube video](#) (runs about three minutes).

Resources

- [IDPH webpage on COVID-19](#)
- [Illinois COVID-19 website for the public - coronavirus.illinois.gov](#)
- [CDC Homepage for Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Chicago Department of Public Health COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [IHA webpage on COVID-19](#)

If you have questions or comments, please contact Tim Nuding, Senior Vice President, Member Services and Corporate Finance at 217-541-1164 or tnuding@team-iha.org