

IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

May 7, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

State Hygienic Lab requests hospitals provide upcoming presurgical testing volume

The State Hygienic Laboratory is working to determine if they have the capacity to run COVID-19 tests for upcoming presurgical patients. To help determine if the laboratory can meet the demand, they are asking hospitals for the number of patients who will need presurgical COVID-19 tests in the next week. [Click here](#) to complete the quick survey. Email [Jen Nutt](#) at IHA with any questions.

Treasury Department issues updated FAQ on PPP; extends safe harbor to May 14

Yesterday, the US Department of the Treasury updated its [FAQ](#) for the US Small Business Administration's (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Notably, the updated guidance extends the safe harbor to Thursday, May 14, giving entities that may have received funds improperly another week to return such funds. The safe harbor was previously through Thursday, May 7.

As a reminder, as IHA [announced](#) Monday, May 4, in its COVID-19 Update, SBA clarified that public hospitals are eligible for the PPP and do not need to have a 501(c)(3) designation if they are exempt from paying federal income taxes pursuant to section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code and meet other PPP requirements. For more information about that update, please see question 42 in SBA's [FAQ](#).

IHA urges Sens. Grassley and Ernst to support health care work force shortage legislation

To help address the shortage of health care workers in Iowa and across the country, IHA President/CEO Kirk Norris sent [letters](#) to Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst requesting their support of the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act, bipartisan legislation introduced by Sens. David Perdue (R-GA), Todd Young (R-IN), Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Chris Coons (D-DE). The act helps ensure the thousands of foreign-born nurses and physicians overseas who want to practice in the United States are given the opportunity to do so. The act will authorize US Citizenship and Immigration Services to recapture up to 25,000 immigrant visas for nurses and 15,000 immigrant visas for physicians. The act has been endorsed by several organizations including the American Hospital Association and the Illinois Health and Hospital Association.

CEO update call

The next hospital CEO call is scheduled from 1-2 pm Wednesday, May 13. [Click here](#) to register.

Free webinar opportunities

- 10-11 am Thursday, May 7, **COVID-19 Response Mobile Communication Apps**. During the webinar, Mobile Smith will share information about mobile apps designed to support hospitals and health systems in their responses to COVID-19. Register [here](#).
- 11-11:30 am Tuesday, May 12, **Emergency Department Telemedicine Reimbursement COVID-19 Update**. The COVID-

COVID-19 crisis has forced hospitals to create new ways to deliver patient care, especially in the emergency department. The burgeoning telemedicine industry has expanded significantly as hospitals and physicians have used telemedicine to carry out physical distancing and increase access to care. Government and private regulations have been rewritten completely to support this expansion. This rapid evolution has helped keep patients and providers safe while preserving the supply of personal protective equipment. Attend this webinar to learn the latest telemedicine adaptations in the emergency department and understand how to ensure compliant reimbursement and best practices to ensure your hospital's success and survival. Register [here](#).

- Noon-1 pm Tuesday, May 12, **Planning for the Future With COVID-19**. Emergency plans tend to focus on events that might last 24-72 hours, not the months-long situation we have faced with COVID-19. This most-recent opportunity to use emergency plans has likely created some needs to improvise solutions. This webinar will help capture early lessons and provide a framework for shaping the future. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Wednesday, May 13, **Inspiration Speakers Series: Dr. Celina Peerman**. Dr. Peerman is an organizational behavior specialist with more than 25 years of experience from front-line to senior-level positions in a range of industries and organizations. She is passionate about engaging our human resources in new ways to achieve better organizational results. Register [here](#).
- Noon-1 pm Wednesday, May 20, **Inspiration Speakers Series: Kenyon Salo, What is 'The Bucket List Life?'** Salo is one of the top keynote speakers and trainers in the fields of motivation, inspiration and adventure. One of only five members on the Denver Broncos Thunderstorm Skydive Team, he is seen each week flying into the Denver Broncos Stadium at more than 60 mph, ending with a soft tip-toe landing on the 10-yard line. He brings to the stage more than 20 years of successful audience engagement through humor, awe-inspiring moments, prolific storytelling and edge-of-the-seat content. Register [here](#).
- 2-3 pm Wednesday, May 20, **Working With Change**. We live in a turbulent world. Change is the only constant. Health care organizations can either embrace it or shy away and become obsolete. This webinar will help participants prepare for and understand the dynamics of change. Participants will learn the steps of individual and organizational change as well as how they can become more resilient in times of change. Register [here](#).

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COVID-19
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