

# IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

October 30, 2020

## IDPH provides update vaccination plan information

IDPH recently provided updated information about the allocation, distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccines. This information includes a [presentation](#) by the Division of Acute Disease Prevention Emergency Response/Environmental Health and the Bureau of Immunization and Tuberculosis, and an [updated vaccination brief](#) (changes/additions are highlighted in the document).

## HHS to host hospital data-reporting webinar

HHS' Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs will host a webinar to overview the [updated guidance for hospital data reporting requirements](#). This webinar is scheduled from 12:30-1:30 pm Thursday Oct. 29. Register [HERE](#).

There will be time for questions and answers during the webinar. Participants also can email questions beforehand to [Protect-ServiceDesk@hhs.gov](mailto:Protect-ServiceDesk@hhs.gov).

## HHS posts data about the completeness of hospitals' COVID-19 data reporting

Last week, HHS posted reports on its [HHS Protect Public Data Hub](#) about how completely hospitals are reporting the COVID-19 data daily to the agency. In August, CMS issued an [interim final rule](#) requiring hospitals to report COVID-19 data as requested by HHS. Early this month, CMS followed up with [additional guidance](#) about how it would enforce this requirement.

The "hospital data coverage" reports show for each hospital: the percentage of mandatory fields reported; the number of days from the preceding week reported at 100%; whether a hospital is required to report on Wednesdays only; and each required field with the number of days that specific field was reported for the week.

The reports reflect data that hospitals have submitted using one of HHS' approved COVID-19 data-reporting mechanisms, including the HHS TeleTracking portal and reports to their states. The reports are expected to be refreshed once per week, and reflect data submitted by hospitals from the previous Friday to Thursday. HHS also [posted a report](#) showing the percentage of hospitals in each state and territory reporting one or more of the required COVID-19 data elements.

## IDPH releases new resources

The latest resources from the Iowa Department of Public Health include:

- [Addressing Opioid Overdose Deaths: The Vision for the HEALing Communities Study](#) – Highlights a study on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ongoing HEALing Communities Study, which began in 2019 with the goal of reducing opioid overdose deaths by 40% over three years. Discusses the intersection of the two crises across the country and discusses the variations in rural and urban locations.
- [Community Collaboration During COVID-19: Reaching Hmong and Latino Residents in a Rural Setting](#) – Describes how local and state organizations collaborated to reduce the impact of COVID-19 in Hmong and Latino populations in rural north central Wisconsin. Discusses the recruitment and training of community liaisons, the impact of the project and lessons learned.
- [Health Equity, Indigenous Populations, History, Culture, Policy and Science with Donald Warne](#) – Video recording of an

interview with Dr. Donald Warne discussing health disparities in Indian Country historically and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Highlights the need for more Native American providers and how health care policy affects the health outcomes of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

- [Medicaid Telehealth Policies in Response to COVID-19](#) – Provides an overview of Medicaid telehealth policies before and in response to COVID-19. Discusses how states have utilized existing flexibilities and PHE-specific federal authorities to increase the number of services, provider types and other telehealth coverage options under Medicaid.
- [Rural Health Care Surge Readiness](#) – Developed by the COVID-19 Healthcare Resilience Working Group, this tool provides critical resources for rural health systems to prepare for and respond to a COVID-19 surge.
- [State Medicaid Programs Respond to Meet COVID-19 Challenges: Results from a 50-State Medicaid Budget Survey for State Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021](#) – This report examines changes taking place in Medicaid programs in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Features sections on eligibility and enrollment; provider rates and taxes; delivery systems; long-term services and supports; benefits, cost-sharing, and telehealth; and pharmacy cost-containment actions. Highlights challenges posed by COVID-19 and policy changes taken in response.
- [The Evolving Landscape of National Telehealth Policies during a Public Health Emergency: Responsiveness to Rural Needs](#) – Provides an overview of the telehealth policy landscape and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on telehealth utilization. Compares policy recommendations from the Bipartisan Policy Center's Rural Health Task Force to COVID-19-related policy changes. Includes considerations for additional telehealth policy changes.

### Educational opportunities

- **11 am-Noon, Friday, Oct. 30, *Telehealth for Rural Cancer Care During COVID-19.*** The National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health will host a discussion about [sustained cancer control for rural populations](#) during the pandemic. Register [HERE](#).
- **1-2 pm Wednesday, Nov. 11, *Building a Tele-Maternal-Fetal Medicine Program.*** This webinar will provide an overview of a tele-maternal-fetal medicine partnership and discuss expected outcome improvement for pregnant women and babies, and the financial return on investment for hospitals and practices. Access Physicians' unique model incorporates antepartum rounding and ultrasound interpretation and supports transitions of care to outpatient settings. Register [HERE](#).
- **2-3 pm Thursday, Nov. 19, *How to Cope With Difficult Emotions.*** Difficult emotions are inevitable but ignoring them rarely makes them dissipate and rumination adds to suffering. This webinar will focus on a four-step meditation technique to reduce emotional suffering while creating space for inner wisdom and insight. This technique can be applied in workplace situations when needed. Register [HERE](#).
- **2020 IHA Virtual Annual Meeting.** Although the annual meeting is over, those who registered can still log in to their [LeaderPass](#) accounts and view sessions and evaluate speakers until Friday, Oct. 30. In addition, if you did not register and attend the annual meeting last week, you can still register and watch the sessions on demand. Click [HERE](#) to register for the annual meeting. You then will receive instructions to create a LeaderPass account.

Click here for the latest  
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