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IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

April 14, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

Telehealth and coding issues

IHA is providing a complimentary webinar titled, *Telehealth Strategies and Coding Concerns: COVID-19*, with health care consulting firm Stroudwater Associates from **1-2 pm Thursday, April 16**.

The webinar will address these specific topics:

- 1135 and appendix K waivers.
- Site-of-service concerns.
- Documentation issues.
- Remote coding support.

Participants will gain information that can be incorporated into their revenue cycles and can help ensure documentation, code identification and claim submission are primed for successful representation and reimbursement of services.

There is no registration fee for this webinar. Click [here](#) to register. For more information, contact [Joah Hogan](#) at IHA.

CEO update call

The next hospital CEO call is scheduled for **1 pm Wednesday, April 15**. Click [here](#) to register.

EEOC and OSHA provide updates

- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has updated its [guidance](#) on COVID-19 and the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act and other equal employment opportunity laws.
- Updated [guidance](#) from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration details enforcement for reporting cases of COVID-19 and an interim COVID19 response plan.

Long-term care transfers and discharges

CMS issued a [memorandum](#) on April 13 with added information regarding transferring or discharging residents between long-term care (LTC) facilities for the purpose of cohorting residents based on COVID-19 status. The memorandum states, "In general, if two or more certified LTC facilities want to transfer or discharge residents between themselves for the purposes of cohorting, they do not need any additional approval to do so."

Grand Rounds on Crisis Standards of Care

The University of Colorado's Department of Medicine is offering a special COVID-19 webinar titled, *Crisis Standards of Care: 10 Years of Lessons Learned About Ethical Triage, But Are We Ready?* The webinar, which is part of the department's Grand

Round series, is scheduled from **1-2:30 pm Wednesday, April 15**. Presentations are scheduled for 45 minutes followed by 45 minutes for questions and answers. CME credit is offered. Click here to join the webinar.

Click [here](#) to view an earlier Grand Rounds recording, "COVID 19: Challenges, Opportunities and Unknowns."

Employee-benefits issues during a pandemic

ServiShare partner LMC Insurance and Risk Management will host a town hall webinar to address practical solutions to employee-benefits challenges employers and employees may face during COVID-19. The webinar is scheduled from **1-2 pm Friday, April 17**.

Webinar topics include:

- COBRA.
- Continuation of Families First Coronavirus Response Act and CARES Act.
- Medical carrier action and the impact on stop-loss.
- Options after losing coverage in the workplace.
- Paid leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
- Self-funded versus fully insured strategy response.
- Telehealth strategy and mental well-being.
- The COVID-19 impact on pharmacy costs.
- Unemployment under the CARES Act.

Register for the webinar [here](#).

CDC cautions against fraud and email scams

CDC is warning hospitals of a new type of telephone and phishing scam by criminals posing as CDC representatives. According to the CDC, most of these fraudulent activities are being conducted by telephone using software to make calls appear they are coming from familiar numbers. Suspicious calls may be reported to the [Federal Communications Commission](#).

The CDC also notes an uptick in criminals impersonating government officials in emails to facilitate phishing attacks. These emails contain malicious attachments or links that can be used to gain control over computer systems and steal information. Hospitals are reminded to stay vigilant and follow good security practices to reduce the likelihood of falling victim to an attack.

IHA, NAMI of Greater Des Moines provide inspiration speakers series

IHA and the Greater Des Moines chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Health have teamed to provide a complimentary webinar series featuring inspiration speakers. Paul Long, the Kansas City Royals' 2016 Fan of the Year, has been featured on ESPN and in the Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal. Through his concept of Fundamism, infectious spirit and unique take on "F.U.N." in the workplace, Long has provided memorable experiences at hundreds of events while championing pediatric cancer research. He brings laughter and tears, and he provokes thought. Long's presentation is scheduled from **1-2 pm Wednesday, April 15**. Click [here](#) to register and to view a list of upcoming inspiration speakers.

Rep. Axne signs on to rural health funding letter

Rep. Cindy Axne has joined several of her colleagues in signing on to a bipartisan letter urging Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Small Business Administration Administrator Jovita Carranza to ensure publicly owned hospitals and similar care providers are eligible for the relief provided in the Paycheck Protection Program and other critical financial assistance programs included in the CARES Act. Click [here](#) to read the full letter.

IHA COVID-19 resource webpage

For current information about COVID-19, visit IHA's [resource page](#).

Previous IHA Updates on COVID-19

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 - [April 10 Update](#)
 - [April 9 Update](#)
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