

IHA COVID Resources and Advocacy

April 10, 2020

The latest about COVID-19 from IHA

Public health and social services emergency funds expected soon

The first distribution of the \$100 billion in Public Health and Social Services Emergency Funds in the third COVID-19 package is ready to be sent as soon as Friday. In this first round, HHS will allocate \$30 billion, favoring providers with many Medicare patients, a concentration of fee-for-service services and rural areas. HHS will use its current data to guide disbursement amounts. This relies on each hospital's proportion of total Medicare payments received in FY19. Future distributions are expected in the coming weeks and IHA will inform members as they occur in this daily update and the [IHA Financial Assistance for Hospitals Tracker](#) on the IHA website.

Federal Reserve announces new lending program for small and mid-sized businesses

The Federal Reserve today [announced](#) the terms of both expanded and new Main Street lending facilities providing loans to a variety of eligible borrowers, including those obtaining loans through the Paycheck Protection Program administered by the Small Business Administration and larger borrowers with up to 10,000 employees or \$2.5 billion in annual revenues. The Federal Reserve term sheet specifies these facilities will be available to "businesses" without specifically addressing or excluding nonprofits. AHA's April 3 [letter](#) urged the Treasury Secretary and the Federal Reserve Chairman to implement this loan program quickly and make it available to hospitals of all ownership types, including municipal, county and other public hospitals.

Lenders under the "Main Street" program will include US-insured depository institutions, US bank holding companies, and US savings and loan holding companies, that will retain a 5% participation in the loans, with the other 95% funded by a Federal Reserve special-purpose vehicle. The expanded and new Main Street facilities have the capacity to make up to \$600 billion in aggregate loans.

Important points of the program remain unclear and the terms of the loan program and their interpretation are likely to change and evolve as it is implemented.

CMS releases several updates

CMS released on April 8 its updated infection control guidance covering an array of health care facilities:

- [Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) in Hospitals, Psychiatric Hospitals, and Critical Access Hospitals \(CAHs\): FAQs, Considerations for Patient Triage, Placement, Limits to Visitation and Availability of 1135 waivers](#)
- [Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) in Outpatient Settings: FAQs and Considerations](#)
- [Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities \(ICF/IIDs\) and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities \(PRTFs\)](#)

CMS also updated infection control guidance it had previously released:

- [Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act \(EMTALA\) Requirements and Implications Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention Concerning Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Dialysis Facilities](#)

DIA revises FAQ

The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals has an updated [FAQ](#). It includes the latest information about surveys (focused on infection control), visitation and other topics. DIA will release another FAQ in the coming days regarding hospital construction standards to help hospitals use alternative-care sites.

Governance webinar recording posted

A link to the April 8 webinar [Governance in the Time of Coronavirus](#) is now available. A link to the article referenced in the webinar is [here](#).

Updated COVID-19 projections

Peak demand for hospital resources due to COVID-19 is expected this week in the US, according to an updated model from the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation in Seattle. The projections, using April 8 data, indicated peak demand for hospital resources will occur nationally Saturday, April 11. The projected dates of peak demand for hospital beds, ICU beds and ventilators in Iowa is **Monday, April 27**. Peak dates for neighboring states are:

- April 11, Illinois
- April 13, Wisconsin
- April 21, Missouri
- April 23, Minnesota
- April 26, Nebraska
- April 27, South Dakota

The model, first released in late March, presents estimates of predicted health service use and deaths due to COVID-19 for each state if social-distancing measures are maintained through May. Researchers used state-level hospital capacity data, data on confirmed COVID-19 deaths from the World Health Organization and observed COVID-19 diagnoses from select locations. The model has been updated to use three different weighting schemes to better approximate the variation in potential policy impact across social-distancing mandates.

The University of Washington also estimates COVID-19-related deaths in the US may be lower than previously predicted. The study now projects 60,000 deaths by August compared to the 100,000 previously predicted.

IHA updates CARES Act funding tracker

IHA's [CARES Act Financial Provisions Tracking Tool](#) has been updated with recent resources. Please email [Erin Cubit](#) at IHA with any questions about the tracker.

CEO update call

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

IHA COVID-19 resource webpage

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

Previous IHA Updates on COVID-19

- [April 8 Update](#)
- [April 7 Update](#)

- [April 6 Update](#)
 - [April 3 Update](#)
 - [April 2, Update](#)
 - [April 1 Update](#)
 - [March 31 Update](#)
 - [March 30 Update](#)
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