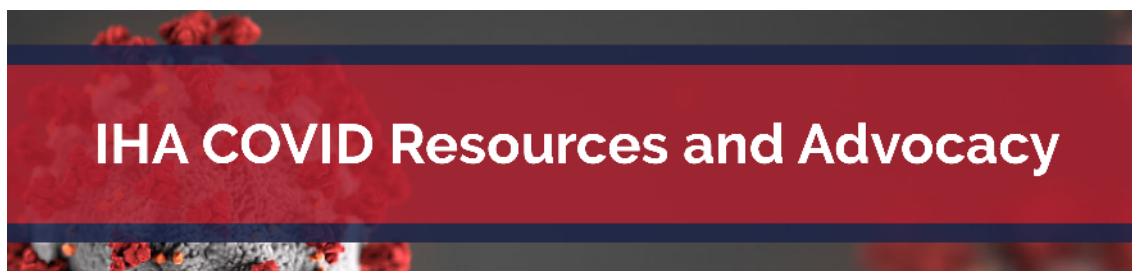


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*Wednesday, July 21, 2021*

### **IDPH rescinds PPE shortage order**

Effective Saturday, July 31, the Iowa Department of Public Health will rescind the personal protective equipment shortage order. The order, issued April 25, 2020, details use of this equipment beyond typical manufacturer guidelines to help hospitals keep supplies in stock longer. The order allows health care workers to wear expired face masks and gowns, use the same equipment during multiple patient contacts and reuse single-use equipment.

### **HRSA reporting portal for provider relief funds remains open**

The Health Resources and Services Administration Provider Relief Fund reporting portal remains open for providers to begin reporting to the government that they used federal emergency relief funds for health care-related expenses or lost revenues attributable to COVID-19. Providers that received payments from April 10, 2020, through June 30, 2020, have until Sept. 30, 2021, to submit the required information to HRSA.

Hospitals and other health care providers that received relief funds after June 30, 2020, will need to report on the use of the funds at later dates as outlined in HRSA's June 11 update on provider relief fund requirements.

### **FDA grants Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine priority review for full approval**

Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine will receive a priority review from the Food and Drug Administration, indicating that Pfizer has completed its rolling submission of its application for the vaccine's full authorization. The company's biologics license application, intended for those 16 and older, is supported by clinical data from its phase three clinical trial.

### **Associations release new vaccination public service announcement**

The American Hospital Association, American Medical Association and American Nurses Association have released a public service announcement featuring their leaders urging the American public to ask questions, follow the science and get vaccinated. The PSA stresses that COVID-19 vaccines are a safe and effective way to protect you, your family and your community from the virus:

- [English language](#)
- [Spanish language](#)

### **IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief**

IDPH has updated their [COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#). Updates are highlighted. The document also is posted to the HAN \*3 COVID-19 Vaccine folder. Call the Immunization Program with questions at 800-831-6293, ext.1.

### **UI researcher: COVID-19 treatment remdesivir prolonged hospital stays**

A new [University of Iowa study](#) finds that remdesivir, the first new medicine approved for treatment of COVID-19, did not improve survival rates and was associated with longer hospital stays for patients. The research, led by Dr. Michael Ohl, associate professor of internal medicine in the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, raises concerns that remdesivir treatment may have increased the use of hospital beds when they were scarce during the COVID-19 pandemic – without clear improvements in survival. The results of the study contradict previous clinical trials of remdesivir, which suggested the treatment would shorten the time to clinical recovery for people hospitalized with the virus, allowing for faster discharge of patients from hospitals and more open beds to treat people during the pandemic.



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