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Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Today's headlines:

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- [IHA to review HHS "No Surprise Act"](#)
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IHA requests delay to OSHA emergency temporary standards enforcement

IHA submitted a request to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration last week to delay enforcement and to extend the comment timeframe of the recently released emergency temporary standards. Though several of the standard's provisions are actions hospitals already take, some are new and caused significant concern. The standards were published in the Federal Register June 21 and were effective immediately. Enforcement began today for many provisions within the emergency temporary standards while other provisions will begin enforcement July 21. OSHA is allowing a 30-day comment period, by which IHA will submit feedback. IHA will continue to monitor any developments and provide updates as they happen.

IHA to review HHS "No Surprise Act"

IHA will review the Department of Health and Human Services regulations from the "No Surprise Act" released last week. This first set of regulations were part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

["Requirements Related to Surprise Billing; Part 1,"](#) an interim final rule with comment period, will restrict surprise billing for:

- Air ambulance services from out-of-network providers.
- Patients who receive emergency care.
- Some nonemergency care from out-of-network providers at in-network facilities.

This first rule implements several important requirements for health care providers and facilities, group health plans, group and individual health insurance issuers, carriers under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program and providers of air ambulance services. Consumer protections in the rule will take effect Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022.

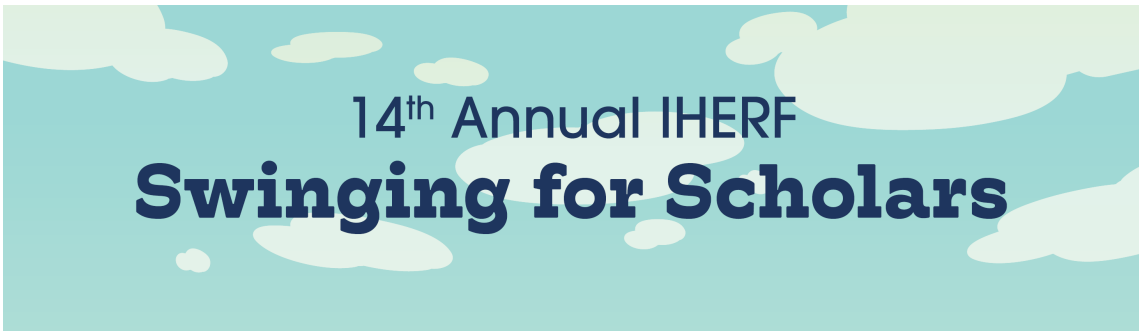
Click [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) for fact sheets about the interim final rule.

To access the interim final rule with comment period, click [HERE](#).

Supreme Court to take up AHA's 340B challenge

The Supreme Court of the United States will take up the American Hospital Association's petition about the 340B Drug Pricing Program. AHA is asking to reverse a federal appeals court decision that significantly cuts payments to certain hospitals participating in the program, threatening access to care in communities.

The AHA, joined by IHA, other member hospitals, health systems and national organizations representing 340B hospitals, in February [appealed](#) to the Supreme Court a lawsuit challenging the US Department of Health and Human Services' nearly 30% cut to 2018 and 2019 Medicare outpatient prospective payment system drug payments for certain hospitals participating in the 340B program. A district court had sided with the AHA and found the payment reductions were unlawful. But last July, two members of the three-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals agreed to overturn that ruling, despite a spirited dissent questioning the majority's deference to the government's position.



14th Annual IHERF Swinging for Scholars

UnitedHealthCare delays laboratory test registry protocol

UnitedHealthcare [posted on their website](#) another delay in implementing the clinical and pathology laboratory test registry protocol. The delay is now "until further notice," which includes registration of nongenetic tests and placement of test codes on claims for nongenetic tests. There is no need to register nongenetic tests now.

The laboratory registry protocol has been delayed several times over the past year based on continued advocacy of IHA, member hospitals, AHA and other state hospital associations. IHA will continue to work with stakeholders to push for the removal of the policy. IHA thanks our hospital members for voicing concerns and their continued work with IHA in communicating the issues with this policy.

IHA and Apprise release Service Line 3.0

IHA and Apprise Health Insights developed and have introduced Service Line 3.0 to replace the previous 2.0 version in the outpatient cube of IHA's Dimensions Slice and Dice. IHA, in collaboration with Apprise Health Insights, created an updated methodology to group outpatient claims data in a concise and detailed method. The methodology aims to provide a 1:1 assignment of a service line per outpatient claims record.

Over the past six months, IHA members played a key role in shaping the changes in Service Line 3.0. To address hospitals' need for a grouper for outpatient data, the updated version will help users identify visits that represent:

- High cost for the hospitals and patients.
- High value.
- High volume of patients.
- What a hospital user would consider a high interest of analytical study.

Additionally, a standardized process was developed to update future code assignments quarterly.

**Great River Health updates logos and facility names**

[Fort Madison Community Hospital](#) and [Great River Medical Center](#), West Burlington, will now fall under the name of Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center. The single hospital with two campuses and [Henry County Health Center](#) are part of Great River Health.

Other than new names and logos, Great River Health's website URL will remain the same. The email domain for Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center has changed to @greatriverhealth.org. Henry County Health Center's domain email domain has not changed. The new logos and names were announced July 1.

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NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Des Moines' new VA clinic slated to open next summer](#)
- [Highly transmissible delta variant is gaining strength in Iowa](#)
- [Why you need to keep wearing a mask in health care settings](#)

National news

- [130 health systems might be exposing 2 million patients' data](#)
- [99.5% of people killed by COVID-19 in last 6 months were unvaccinated](#)
- [J&J vaccine works against delta variant for at least eight months](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

Upcoming events

- [COVID-19 Screening and Precaution Requirements in Health Care](#): Wednesday, July 7.
- [The Emotional Impact of COVID-19: Leading Your Team to an Emotionally Healthy Workplace](#): Thursday, July 15.
- [PAMA Lab Test Private Payer Rate Reporting](#): Thursday, July 22.
- [The Great Resignation Webinar](#): Tuesday, Aug. 17.
- [A Path Forward: Thriving in Rural Health Care After COVID-19](#): Thursday, Aug. 19.
- [Swinging for Scholars and All-District Meeting](#): Thursday, Sept. 2.
- [Iowa Quality Residency Program](#): Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021-Friday, April 8, 2022.

Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? HospitalCareers.com can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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