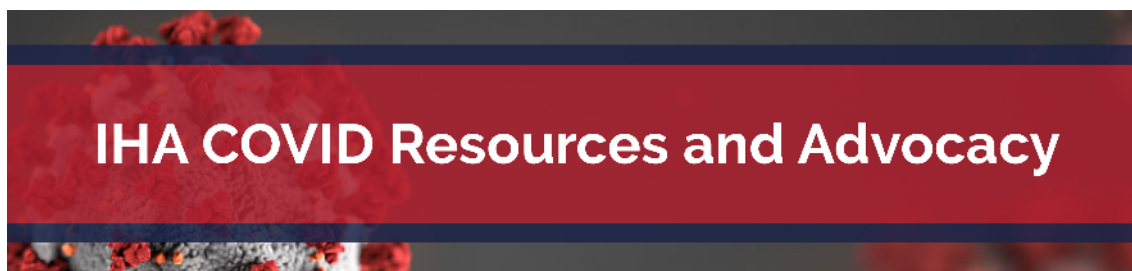


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Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2021

HRSA webinar tomorrow about applying for COVID-19 relief funds; deadline to apply is Oct. 26

The Health Resources and Services Administration will host the last in a series of [webinar sessions](#) Thursday, Oct. 21, about how to apply for a portion of the \$25.5 billion in COVID-19 relief funds. Providers must submit a single application by Tuesday, Oct. 26, to request payments from both the \$17 billion “phase four” provider relief fund distribution and \$8.5 billion in American Rescue Plan Act funds for rural providers. For the latest resources about the funding and how to apply, visit the [HRSA website](#).

Sotrovimab assigned as ‘Therapeutic D’ in data dictionary

The US Department of Health and Human Services [has notified](#) the Iowa Department of Public Health that “Therapeutic D” in the [data dictionary](#) (pages 18 and 19) has been assigned to sotrovimab. This field is optional to report on Wednesdays only. It is important for hospitals using this new therapeutic to be as accurate as possible with reported data because it will inform the state’s allocation of sotrovimab to hospitals.

CDC updates medical conditions associated with higher COVID-19 risk for adults

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week updated the [list of underlying medical conditions](#) that put adults of any age at higher risk for severe COVID-19 based on the latest scientific evidence. The conditions are grouped by the level of evidence and will be updated as the science evolves. The list is not exhaustive and should not be used to exclude people with underlying conditions from recommended preventive measures such as booster doses of vaccines or needed therapies.

IDPH updates COVID-19 vaccine information brief

IDPH has released an [updated COVID-19 vaccine information brief](#). 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.

CDC releases data about COVID-19 cases, deaths by vaccine type

Unvaccinated people are about six times more likely to test positive for COVID-19 and 11 times more likely to die from the illness compared to people who are vaccinated, though there are slight differences in risk based on vaccine type, according to [newly released CDC data](#).

The death rates as of Aug. 15 were nearly 13 per 100,000 among unvaccinated people, 3 per 100,000 for J&J recipients, about 1.4 per 100,000 for people who got Pfizer's shot and 0.69 per 100,000 for Moderna recipients.

Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine 93% effective at preventing pediatric hospitalizations

Two doses of the Pfizer vaccine are 93% effective at preventing COVID-19 hospitalization among children 12-18, according to [a study](#) at 19 pediatric hospitals. The study examined prior vaccination status among 464 patients hospitalized with and without COVID-19 between June and September, when the delta variant was predominant, and found 97% of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 were unvaccinated. The Pfizer vaccine is currently the only COVID-19 vaccine authorized for this age group.

Study finds interferon does not improve outcomes for hospitalized COVID-19 patients

The National Institutes of Health has reported that treatment with subcutaneous interferon beta-1a plus remdesivir was not superior to treatment with remdesivir alone in a clinical trial that enrolled 969 hospitalized adults with COVID-19 pneumonia. Interferon beta-1a also was associated with more adverse events and worse outcomes in patients who required high-flow oxygen. Previous studies have found that many hospitalized patients with severe COVID-19 produce less interferon.

Educational opportunity

[Making Your HVAC Systems Pandemic Ready with Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization](#)

1:30-2:30 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 26. Needlepoint bipolar ionization reduces particles, kills mold and bacteria, and inactivates viruses. The system is also very effective at coil cleaning and odor/VOC mitigation by disassociating the compound into its component elements.



Click here for the latest
COVID-19
Resources



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