

HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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The Healthcare Council continues to update our members with important new information about the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is our update for June 24.



New National Guidelines, Information, and Policies Updates:

- A real-time COVID-19 early-warning system may be coming soon. Read the details.
- CMS has launched a Medicare COVID-19 Data Snapshot Fact Sheet and it can be found here.
- Gilead Sciences Inc. plans to start trials of a version of remdesivir that can be inhaled using a nebulizer in an attempt to make a more convenient method for the treatment, which is the first antiviral drug to show effectiveness in treating COVID-19.
- The Food and Drug Administration issued a warning that nine hand sanitizers from Mexico-based Eskbiochem SA de CV could contain methanol, a toxic substance that, when absorbed through the skin in significant amounts, can cause nausea, permanent blindness, seizures and nervous system damage or could be potentially fatal. Story and details here.
- Federal data found that Black Medicare beneficiaries have a hospitalization rate nearly four times higher than white people on Medicare during the coronavirus pandemic. Story and details found here.

Regional Information and Information for Hospitals:

Developments from around the MD-DC-VA area.

- Our region has entered a phase where cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are all on the decline. As other states in the country begin to see an uptick in all three, we will continue to monitor the virus in our region. If you notice increases at your organizations, please let us know.

Purchasing through National Capital Area Shared Services:

We are still working with many healthcare organizations to get PPE and other supplies. Please contact us directly at **301-731-4700** if there are ways we can help you get the supplies you need. Check back for news regarding supply issues for our region.

Education, Learning, and Resources:

Several key meetings will take place this week. Please put these dates on your calendars:

- **Care Logistics** has some information on how to manage hospital capacity during this crisis and after. [Read report here.](#)
- **Young Professionals Division Virtual Meeting – Wednesday, June 24, 2020 – 2 to 3 PM**
 - ◆ A discussion concerning Young Professionals workforce needs in healthcare organizations across the metropolitan D.C. area (DC, MD, and VA). Please send any questions you would like to discuss in the upcoming videoconference to Christopher Howard (cnhoward@healthcare-council.org) by 5:00pm EST, Monday, June 22, 2020.
 - ◆ <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84665520130?pwd=M0w5TnplUUczKzI4eUx0STNOZlg2QT09>
- **CMS Webinar:** CMS will host a webinar on June 30 at 1:00pm titled 'CMS's Final Rule for Office/Outpatient EM

Services'. [Register here for the webinar.](#)

General Information and Data Sources:

Resources for National and Regional Up-to-the-Minute Data and Information:

- [Johns Hopkins University global COVID-19 Tracker](#)
- Latest Case data for each state can be found at these websites:
 - ◆ [Maryland](#)
 - ◆ [Virginia](#)
 - ◆ [District of Columbia](#)
 - ◆ [West Virginia](#)
- State Hospital Association information can be found at these websites:
 - ◆ [Maryland Hospital Association](#)
 - ◆ [Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association](#)
 - ◆ [DC Hospital Association](#)
 - ◆ [West Virginia Hospital Association](#)

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