

HEALTHCARE COUNCIL REGIONAL COVID-19 UPDATE

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The Healthcare Council is pleased to send you a new Weekly Update, with a variety of information about the COVID-19 pandemic and how it affects healthcare organizations in our region.

We continue to work with local organizations to help with supply needs through our National Capital Area Shared Services division. Please contact us directly at **301-731-4700** if there are ways we can help you get the supplies you need.



Guidelines, Information, and Policies Updates:

- The rolling seven-day average for daily new COVID-19 cases in the United States hit a new high for the 29th consecutive day with cases surpassing 50,000 early this week. While the MD-DC-VA area is not among the regions with the highest rates, public health officials urge all states to continue to be careful as economies open.
- Congress will begin debating a new relief package when members return from a July break on the 17th of July. The new package may include more assistance for hospitals and health care providers, including provider relief direct payments, full forgiveness of Medicare accelerated hospital payments, liability protection for facilities and front-line providers and some modest tele-health reforms. The Healthcare Council will continue to monitor these developments as they are debated in Congress.
- The AHA launched a new television ad highlighting that hospitals are “always there, ready to care”. [See the story and the TV ad here.](#)
- The AHA, AMA, and ANA have also teamed to issue a letter to the American public, urging them to take steps to help slow the spread of the coronavirus, including the wearing of masks. [Read the letter here.](#)
- Novavax, Inc, of Gaithersburg, MD, has been awarded \$1.6 billion by HHS to support their clinical trials of a potential COVID-19 vaccine. [Full story here.](#)

Education, Learning, and Resources

A look at some of the upcoming meetings and webinars in the week ahead.

- **Provider Relief Fund Webinar:** HHS will host a webinar on the Provider Relief Fund application process **today at 4:00pm**. The fund, which was established through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, is expected to distribute \$15 billion to eligible Medicaid and CHIP providers. [Register here for the webinar.](#)
- **AHA Hosts Call with FDA Commissioner on COVID-19 – July 9, 2:30 p.m. ET – FDA Commissioner to Discuss Emergency Use Authorizations, Remdesivir Distribution and Vaccine Clinical Trials.** The AHA is hosting calls for all hospital and health system leaders to provide the latest information on and answer questions about the COVID-19 pandemic. This week, Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Stephen Hahn, M.D., will address FDA’s response to the COVID-19 epidemic, including emergency use authorizations, remdesivir distribution and vaccine clinical trials. Callers are encouraged to dial in at least 10-15 minutes in advance. **Please dial 800-469-8538 and enter the participant passcode 43576#.**
- **Care Logistics – “Rescuing Revenue Part Three: How Will You Restore Financial Stability on the Road to Recovery”** Parts

one & two of our Rescuing Revenue series covered ways in which hospitals and health systems can begin restoring some of their lost revenue now. You might wonder what kind of results a Rescuing Revenue strategy can produce. Part three answers that question. In an analysis of hospitals that followed at least one rescuing revenue strategy in fiscal year 2019, it was found that they had restored an average of over \$17 million in revenue to their bottom line that year. [Learn More](#)

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](#)
- [Morning Consult Resource Page](#)

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