



COVID-19 Weekly Compendium #26

CLINICAL UPDATE

- [Overview of Testing for SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\) - USCDC \(August 24\)](#)
- [Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report - American Academy of Pediatrics \(August 27\)](#)

[Standard Operating Procedure for Investigation of COVID-19 in PreK-12 Schools in Maine - \(August 26\)](#)

Today, the Department of Education and Maine CDC released a draft standard operating procedure for investigation of COVID-19 in PreK-12 Schools in Maine. Below is a list of links for medical providers to assist with clinical management of children and school re-entry.

Evaluation of a Sick Child and Return to School and Sports:

- **DOE:** [School Health](#) is on the left-hand side of page half-way down
- **School:** [Pre-screening Tool for School Attendance](#)
- **School:** [COVID-19 Child Feels or Appears Unwell Flowchart](#)
- **Medical Providers:** [Maine AAP Evaluation of sick child for schools and child care](#)
- **Standing Order** for testing is available on the Maine CDC website [here](#)
- **Testing Sites in Maine:** <https://get-tested-covid19.org/> and www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine/keepmainehealthy/testing
- **Referrals for social services can be sent for COVID** confirmed, probable, or suspected cases to: DHHS.COVIDsocialsupport@maine.gov
- **Medical Providers:** Maine Medical Partners Pediatric Cardiology - [High School Athlete Post COVID Return to Play Post COVID-19 Infection](#)
- **Medical Providers:** [Maine Chapter of the AAP Site for School Reentry](#). As documents get updated they will be posted on the MAAP website.

Immunizations Resources:

- **Public Health Nursing** is offering vaccine clinics at several DHHS District Offices. Bangor Public Health Nursing will also be offering vaccines at their office. (Families in Bangor can call (207) 992-4548). The Maine Immunization Program (MIP) has the PHN clinic times/locations on their [website](#). Families can call (207) 287-6730 or (207) 287-4112 for an appointment.
- **The Maine Immunization Program Toolkits**
 - [Curbside Vaccines](#) toolkit
 - [Community Vaccine](#) toolkit
 - [School-Located Vaccine Clinics](#) Toolkit



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2020 Virtual Wisdom Summit hosted by the Maine Council on Aging

Maine Wisdom Summit – Aging Well Through COVID Supporting Resiliency & Growth in the Midst of a Pandemic

The Summit will be held 100% virtually on September 16th and September 23rd, featuring state and national policy leaders as well as some exciting live virtual exhibitors. For a draft agenda, [click here](#).

Register for one session, one day, or the entire summit [here](#).

INTERESTING READS

- [C.D.C. Now Says People Without Covid-19 Symptoms Do Not Need Testing](#) - *The New York Times* (August 25)
The revision prompted confusion and alarm from experts, who called the move “potentially dangerous.”
- [US to Let Pharmacists Vaccinate Kids as Lockdowns Slash Immunization Levels](#) - *Reuters* (August 29)
The U.S. government said on Wednesday pharmacists would be allowed to administer routine vaccines to children, calling a drop in immunization from lockdowns aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus a “public health threat.”
- [The F.D.A. Commissioner’s Fuzzy Math](#) - *The New York Times* (August 25)
On Monday night, Dr. Stephen Hahn, the commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, [addressed](#) inaccurate and misleading remarks he made in a news conference the previous evening.

OFFICE HOURS RECAP (FROM AUGUST 27)

MPCA’s Office Hours was pleased to welcome Heidi LeBlanc, COO of Penquis, one of Maine’s CAP (Community Action Program) Agencies, serving Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Knox counties. Heidi said people think of CAPs for heating assistance, child care, transportation assistance – but they have more than 80 different programs, including assistance with mortgage arrears.

How can health centers connect patients and families with CAP programs? Heidi said, “Just get them to us and we’ll figure it out and connect them with resources.” Use links on the CAP website, connect with a case manager, or just call. For a listing of CAP agencies, [click here](#).



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POLICY UPDATE

Latest Update from Congress:

With the House and Senate still on recess and the respective party conventions creating a disruption from other business, negotiations between the White House and congressional leaders on a next COVID-19 stimulus package largely remain at a standstill. The White House and Speaker Pelosi have reengaged in conversations, though large disagreements about the size of the next package and other issues remain. Much will need to be worked out following the Labor Day holiday, including the next stimulus package, a continuing resolution to keep the government funded past September and additional funding and policy changes for the U.S. Postal Service. For the latest in Congress, click [here](#).

340B Updates:

- **Manufacturers Rebates and Resources:** Kalderos will soon launch a new platform to allow manufacturers to provide 340B savings as after-the-fact rebates rather than upfront discounts. Under this system, FQHCs will need to pay a drug's full price at the time of purchase and then submit information on the dispensed drug to Kalderos, which will check for "duplicate discounts" and send a rebate equal to the amount of the 340B discount if appropriate. The new system is expected to go live on Sept. 8, and we do not know how many or which manufacturers will participate.
- **Sign-On Letter Asking HHS to Not Implement or Rescind the Executive Order Targeting Health Centers and 340B:** Rep. Cynthia Axne (D-IA) is circulating a "Dear Colleague" sign-on letter addressed to HHS officials, asking that the July 24th Executive Order entitled "[Access to Affordable Life-saving Medications](#)" either not be enforced or rescinded to not impact health centers. We have reached out to Maine's congressional delegation to request that they join this effort. A copy of the letter can be viewed [here](#).



Is Your Health Center Hiring?

Click on the icon to the left to utilize the new MPCA Job Board and list your openings on our website!



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Healthcare Coalition of Maine News

Beginning July 1, 2020, the three Healthcare Coalitions of Maine transitioned to a one statewide Coalition, retaining the existing boundaries for three regional chapters: Southern, Central and Northern. The statewide Coalition will be called the [Healthcare Coalition of Maine](#) and the regional chapters will be referred to as the Southern Chapter, Central Chapter and Northern Chapter.

CHCNET UPDATE

For the latest information concerning the MPCA’s HCCN, **Community Health Center Network of Maine (CHCNet)**, or for support with health information technology needs, please visit the [CHCNet Member Portal](#) or contact Greg Parent: gparent@mepca.org.

RACIAL JUSTICE/HEALTH DISPARITY RESOURCES & INFORMATION

ME DHHS Webinar: Strategies for Addressing Disparate Impacts of COVID 19 - 3rd Wednesdays | 7:30-8:30 AM

Maine DHHS is supporting several efforts aimed at improving health equity and addressing disparities with respect to race and ethnicity, particularly in response to disparities related to COVID 19. As part of that work, Maine DHHS is partnering with colleagues to offer a series of monthly webinars focused on sharing creative solutions and best practices for working with Black, Indigenous and people of color at higher risk of COVID-19 infection.

- Wed, Sept 16: Building Trust With Diverse Communities: Essential Steps for Health Care Providers - Part 1
- Wed, Oct 21: Building Trust With Diverse Communities: Essential Steps for Health Care Providers - Part 2

Join Zoom Meeting | Meeting ID: 621 843 4986 | Password: 338847 *(Same Zoom invite for all webinars)*
<https://zoom.us/j/6218434986>

For resources and other relevant information, please visit the [Racial Justice/Health Disparities Resources](#) page on the [MPCA website](#).



Please click on the calendar for a full listing of upcoming MPCA trainings and events. These events can be viewed by the day, month or as a list.



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TELEHEALTH UPDATE

Part 3 of the Teledental Webinar Series

- 9/24/20 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM - Virtual Dental Home: Outreaching and Delivering Preventative Care Remotely

Registration: <https://mepca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqce2srz0qH9RTol1CgTNKudNKhESyt17>

Connected Health Virtual Summit: Delivering Quality Care in the COVID Era - Sept. 14-18 | Times vary

We invite all payers and providers to attend free of charge. This includes employees of major hospitals, physician practices, outpatient centers, ACOs, and skilled nursing facilities; as well as those who work for payers, insurance companies and MCOs. We invite you to listen live, ask questions, and collaborate in our virtual environment.

- [Click here](#) to see sessions and to sign up. If you are currently unemployed or furloughed, please [contact us](#) directly to register.

For updates from insurers and other relevant information concerning Telehealth, please visit the [Telehealth Resources](#) page on the [MPCA website](#).

RESOURCES ADDENDUM

For the **Stay Informed**, **Sign Up**, **Maine Helps**, and **Coping and Stress Resources** information, please visit the [Weekly Compendium Resources Addendum](#) page on the [MPCA website](#).

MPCA CONTACT INFORMATION:

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**** Join MPCA on SLACK!** We are building our communication outreach capacity between meetings using the Slack communication platform. Many of you are already connected with us in several peer groups including our **Clinical Channel** and our **Billing and Coding Chanel**. Please feel free to reach out to it@mepca.org for help with joining. ******