

COVID-19 WEEKLY COMPENDIUM

APRIL 27, 2021 | YEAR 2, VOLUME 8

CLINICAL UPDATES

[Preliminary Findings of mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine Safety in Pregnant Persons](#) - *The New England Journal of Medicine* (4/21)

[Oral Manifestations of COVID-2019–Related Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children](#) - *The Journal of American Dental Associates* (4/21)

CDC UPDATES

[What to Do If You Received the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine](#) - *USCDC* (4/25)

[Safer Ways to Celebrate Spring Events and Holidays](#) - *USCDC* (4/21)

[Alcohol and COVID-19 Maine](#) - The State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) has released a new 2021 Data Brief

DENTAL UPDATES

[COVID-19 made mental health worse for patients with oral pain](#) - *DrBicuspid* (4/22)

[What does COVID-19 reveal about the oral health of older adults?](#) - *DrBicuspid* (4/21)

Care Quest Institute for Oral Health: Oral Health, Primary Care, and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, April 29 | 1:00 PM | [Information & Registration](#)

INTERESTING READS

[St. John Valley health care providers rally through Johnson & Johnson pause, vaccine hesitancy toward herd immunity](#) - *Fiddlehead Focus* (4/26)

Nearing the halfway point in its vaccination effort, northern Maine health care providers are facing down vaccine hesitancy and other barriers to herd immunity.

[On the Record: Lori Dwyer, of Penobscot Community Health Care, is innovating at the front lines](#) - *MaineBiz* (4/19)

In the past year, the nonprofit has worked on increasing access to rural Maine residents and launching a variety of innovative programs.

[Jails struggle to get vaccines for people in custody](#) - *Portland Press Herald* (4/26)

With multiple outbreaks in Maine jails and vaccine supplies trickling in from the state, some jails are seeking doses from health care providers in their communities.

[Masks Remain Extremely Effective Indoors, But Are They Necessary Outside?](#) - *npr.com* (4/21)

With vaccinations accumulating, some health experts and journalists are arguing that now is a good time for authorities to ease up on outdoor mask requirements.

[Now the CDC wants to shut down 'hygiene theater'](#) (opinion) - *CNN* - (4/21)

We now actually know a great deal about how the coronavirus is and is not transmitted. It turns out that airborne transmission of the virus is much more likely than transmission from surfaces, especially porous ones.

[One Vaccine to Rule Them All](#) - *The Atlantic* (4/26)

What if a single vaccine could protect us against SARS, MERS, COVID-19, and every other coronavirus-related disease, forever and ever?

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS

Nominee for HHS Deputy Secretary Advances; Still no Word on HRSA Administrator

The Senate Finance Committee approved the nomination of Andrea Palm to serve as Deputy HHS Secretary on a 20-8 vote late last week. Ms. Palm's nomination now proceeds to the full Senate floor. We are still waiting for word on who will be nominated for the position of HRSA Administrator.

Details TBD on Distribution of Free Testing Supplies to CHCs

On Thursday, BPHC announced that they are waiting for a vendor to be selected to administer the program to deliver free COVID rapid testing supplies to CHCs. Once a vendor is chosen, BPHC will provide updates on when CHCs can expect to receive the supplies. BPHC also indicated that CHCs will have an opportunity in the future to update the quantity of supplies they would like to receive, and that CHCs who did not complete the BPHC survey on this issue would still be eligible to receive testing supplies.

National Retrospective: CHCs Responding to COVID-19 – 1 Year Review

[This infographic](#) presents CHCs response to COVID-19, from April 2020 to April 2021, including information such as the number of patients tested, vaccinated and how PPE supplies, testing result time, and CHC closures have changed.

NACHC Releases 2021 CHC Chartbook

The [Community Health Center Chartbook](#) is updated annually and uses graphics and charts to describe who health centers serve, how health centers meet their communities' needs, health center growth and remaining challenges, and how health centers make an impact.

TELEHEALTH UPDATE

Second Round of [FCC Telehealth Funding](#) opens this week on Thursday, April 28th at noon and closes on Thursday May 6th at noon; **this is a one week application window**. If you need technical assistance with your application, contact the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (<https://www.netrc.org/>)

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

RACIAL JUSTICE/HEALTH DISPARITY RESOURCES & INFO

Special Populations Roundtable - Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program

May 7 | 1:00 PM | [Registration](#)

Join several National Training and Technical Assistance Partner organizations for bi-weekly roundtable discussion around the COVID-19 vaccination rollout for special populations.

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



Is Your Health Center Hiring?

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

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

RESOURCES ADDENDUM

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



Please click on the calendar for a full listing of upcoming MPCA trainings and events.

MPCA CONTACT INFORMATION:

Christopher Pezzullo, DO	Clinical Director	cpezzullo@mepca.org
Susan Whittaker, CPC, CPMA	Quality Improvement Program Manager	swhittaker@mepca.org
Bryan Wyatt, MA	Director of Policy & Communications	bw Wyatt@mepca.org
Greg Parent	CHCNet Program Manager	gparent@mepca.org
Sharon Stanley, MBA, CPC	Finance Program Manager	sstanley@mepca.org
Emily Ferry, MSW	Workforce Program Manager	eferry@mepca.org
Marge Kilkelly, MS, CED	Policy Program Manager	mkilkelly@mepca.org
Hillary Colcord, MHRT/C	BPHC Program Manager	hcolcord@mepca.org
Sarah Morrill, RN, BSN	Program Manager	smorrill@mepca.org
Beth Pearce	Oral Health Coordinator	bpearce@mepca.org
Michael Pancook, MPA	CHCNet Program Coordinator	mpancook@mepca.org
Kristen Kilcollins, MPH	Program Coordinator	kkilcollins@mepca.org
Megan Cross	Program Coordinator	mcross@mepca.org



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 Channel**. Please feel free to reach out to it@mepca.org for help with joining.