

# COVID-19 WEEKLY COMPENDIUM

MAY 24, 2022 | YEAR 3, VOLUME 12

[Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month](#) - [aacr.org](#)

[Skin Cancer Awareness](#) - [cdc.gov](#)

[Skin Cancer in People of Color](#) - [aad.org](#)

[Skin Cancer in America: A Growing Epidemic](#) - [skincancerprevention.org](#)



## MPCA Spring Clinical Education Retreat

Thursday, May 26 | 8:45 AM - 4:30 PM | [Registration](#)

Please join us for important clinical updates regarding items of special importance to clinicians as you move through and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Retreat opens with updates from the new Maine State Epidemiologist, Isaac Benowitz, MD, and will include timely sessions on:

- Trauma Informed Care (TIC)
- Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
- Transgender Health
- Updates on Billing and Coding and
- A special SafeTable devoted to patient safety concerns driven by workforce shortages

To view the agenda, click [here](#). This meeting is being planned as an in-person networking retreat, with lunch provided. Zoom will be available for those not able to attend.

## CLINICAL UPDATES

[Neuropsychiatric sequelae of COVID-19 similar to other respiratory infections](#) - *Healio (5/16)*

## CDC UPDATES

[CDC Strengthens Recommendations and Expands Eligibility for COVID-19 Booster Shots](#) - *(5/19)*

[6 Things to Know about COVID-19 Vaccination for Children](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters](#) - *(5/20)*

[Why Children and Teens Should Get Vaccinated Against COVID-19](#)

[Self-Testing At Home or Anywhere](#)

### **CHCs encouraged to prepare to vaccinate youngest children as soon as next month.**

Next month, the FDA plans to review data on COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 6 months through 4 years. If the FDA authorizes the vaccine and the CDC recommends it, BPHC will make the vaccine available through its Health Center COVID-19 Vaccine Program BPHC encourages CHCs to leverage existing resources, including the following, to ensure they are prepared to start administering COVID-19 vaccines to these children:

- [HRSA Action Checklist for Children Ages 6 Months-4 Years](#): Contains helpful information and tips for pediatric COVID-19 vaccination, including resources, readiness reminders, and guidance on vaccine supply and administration.
- CDC's [COVID-19 Vaccination for Children website](#): Includes their operational planning guide detailing Pfizer's product information, and will be updated with Moderna information as it becomes available.

*What's happening?* Click [here](#) for a full listing of upcoming MPCA trainings and events.

## **POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

### **House Passes \$28 Million Infant Formula Emergency Appropriations Bill**

On Wednesday, May 18, the House [voted](#) to pass [H.R. 7790](#), Infant Formula Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022. This bill will provide \$28 million in emergency appropriations funding to the FDA to address the dire infant formula shortage. The funding will also work to prevent future shortages and provide additional Congressional oversight. It is uncertain whether the Senate will consider the bill. Additionally, on Wednesday, May 18, President Biden invoked the [Defense Production Act](#) to increase the domestic production of infant formula as well as direct government agencies to use Defense Department aircraft to pick up U.S.-approved infant formula from overseas.

### **Nationwide Coalition of Attorneys General Defend 340B Program**

On Monday, May 16, Connecticut Attorney General William Tong announced that a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general (including Maine's) [presented two amicus briefs](#) defending the 340B program. The briefs addressed the ongoing failures of pharmaceutical companies to comply with 340B regulations and specific restrictions on contract pharmacy use. The coalition has requested that HHS take action against the companies and ensure compliance to the 340B program.

### **340B Litigation & Policy Call**

NACHC's policy team is hosting a 340B Litigation and Policy Call on [Thursday, May 26 at 3:30PM ET](#) to learn about the latest 340B litigation, how to respond to manufacturer claims data requests, and challenges related to PBM data requests. NACHC put together two reference sheets related to data governance: [340B Program claims inquiries](#) and [340B contract pharmacy restrictions](#). Additionally, NACHC will review its latest advocacy strategy and opportunities for health centers to engage on the federal and state level.

## **HEALTH EQUITY/SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE RESOURCES**

### **MPHA presents Health Equity: Turning Information into Action - Virtual Webinar Series**

**Series starts today**, May 24 | 11:00 AM | [Registration](#)

This webinar will describe the intersection between homelessness and housing and public health and health outcomes. It will discuss how housing is a social determinant of health and identify local solutions to ending homelessness.

For a complete list of webinars in the series, [click here](#).

### **Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership presents**

#### **LGBTQIA+ Inclusion: Becoming an Ally in Health Care**

Wednesday, June 8 | 7:30 - 8:30 AM | [Registration](#)

A combined 101 and 201 training for health care professionals looking to better support LGBTQ+ individuals accessing services. This training will provide an overview of terms and concepts and will focus on how to combat health care disparities for this population by increasing competencies for staff in the areas of LGBTQ+ representation and trans-affirming practices.

For resources and information, please visit the [Health Equity/Social Determinants Resources](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

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### INTERESTING READS

[How Often can you be Infected with the Coronavirus?](#) - *New York Times* (5/16)

A virus that shows no signs of disappearing, variants that are adept at dodging the body's defenses, and waves of infections two, maybe three times a year — this may be the future of Covid-19, some scientists now fear.

[Bring Back the Valved N95](#) - *slate.com* (5/20)

Once a symbol of selfishness, these (more) comfortable masks are more protective than we thought.

### ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

[More patients presenting with orofacial pain](#) - *DrBicuspid* (5/20)

For resources and information, please visit the [Oral Health Resources](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

### WORKFORCE UPDATE

[Mills Administration Launches \\$1.5 Million Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan Initiative to Promote Health Care Careers](#) - *maine.gov* (5/12)

For resources and information, please visit the [Workforce](#) section on the [MPCA website](#).

#### **Infant Formula Guidance**

Because of the current lack of infant formula, there is concern about parents and caregivers giving infants under age 12 months under-diluted formula, cow or milk alternatives, NIDO, evaporated milk, and / or a host of other imprecise "formula recipes" circulating online. To that end, WIC has developed [Homemade Formula is Not Safe](#) and [Formula Mixing Visual Guides](#) pamphlets in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Lingala and French that can be printed and handed out in your health center.



*To all the active  
military, veterans,  
and military families,  
thank you for your  
service!*

**CHCNET NEWS**

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 Michael Pancook: [mpancook@mepca.org](mailto:mpancook@mepca.org).

**BILLING, CODING & TELEHEALTH NEWS**

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

**RESOURCES ADDENDUM**

[AFTER HOURS](#) - MPCA Office Hours resources

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

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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 & Coding Channel**. Please feel free to reach out to [it@mepca.org](mailto:it@mepca.org) for help with joining.