

MPCA WEEKLY COMPENDIUM

JULY 12, 2022 | YEAR 3, VOLUME 19



[CMS OMH Celebrates Disability Pride Month and the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disability Act](#)

Getting the Care You Need: Guide for People with Disabilities ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#))
[National Health Council – July is Disability Pride Month!](#)

INTERESTING READS

[A new approach to emergency care in Jackman could be an example for rural Maine](#) – *Bangor Daily News* (7/11)

Through a new program launched in April, on-call paramedics can provide care to people experiencing medical emergencies outside of business hours at the only clinic in the area with the help of doctors in the emergency room of St. Joseph Hospital, more than 100 miles away in Bangor.

[July 6 is World Zoonoses Day](#) - *One Health*

Zoonotic diseases can have a profound impact on people, animals, and our shared environment. They can harm human and animal health, affecting economies, livelihoods, and food safety and security.

[COVID-19 was third leading cause of death in the United States in both 2020 and 2021](#) – *NIH* (7/5)

[The Health Risks of Getting Covid-19 a Second \(or Third\) Time](#) – *Wall Street Journal* (7/5)

Covid-19 reinfections can bring some new risks of serious medical problems, hospitalization and death, a new study has found.

[Still testing positive after day 10? How to decide when to end your COVID isolation](#) – *NPR* (6/30)

Many Americans have wrestled with this dilemma at some point during the pandemic, yet it still seems to come up again and again: When can you stop isolating after a COVID-19 infection?

[Small NIH study reveals how immune response triggered by COVID-19 may damage the brain](#) – *NIH* (7/5)

[The BA.5 COVID Surge Is Here](#) – *NY Intelligencer* (7/8)

The newest wave of COVID infections and reinfections, fueled by more transmissible subvariants of the Omicron strain including BA.4 and BA.5, continues to grow across the U.S.

ORAL HEALTH UPDATE



The Maine Board of Dental Practice has proposed a rule regarding teledentistry, which is open for public comment before adoption. [Click here](#) to go to the Proposed Rule(s) section to review and/or submit any comments you may have. **DEADLINE:** 7/31/22.

[CMS proposes covering dental services for Medicare recipients](#) – *DrBicuspid* (7/8)

[Diabetes affects tooth hardness in mice study](#) – *DrBicuspid* (7/7)

[5 ways to make your practice more LGBTQ+ friendly](#) – *DrBicuspid* (6/29)

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

BILLING, CODING & TELEHEALTH NEWS



REMINDER: The first session of the Telehealth Learning Series is next week on July 19th from 12:00 -1:00 PM. For more information and to register, [CLICK HERE](#).

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

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

POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

New CY23 Physician Fee Schedule Regulation Does Not Include Permanent Fix for Medical Telehealth Services

On July 7, 2022, CMS published the [proposed version of the CY23 physician fee schedule](#) regulation. It was hoped that it would propose a permanent fix to allow FQHCs to bill Medicare for medical visits provided via telehealth, similar to what the agency did for behavioral health telehealth visits in last year's physician fee scheduled regulation. Unfortunately, this year's proposed rule did not contain such a fix. This means that unless Congress changes the law, FQHCs' ability to bill Medicare for medical telehealth visits will end 152 days after the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency ends.

Senate Drug Price Negotiation Bill Would Protect 340B Pricing

A new draft version of drug pricing legislation gaining momentum in the U.S. Senate would authorize Medicare to negotiate drug prices for certain outpatient drugs. The updated version includes a provision to make clear that covered entities would be able to purchase those drugs at either the negotiated rate or the 340B price, whichever is lower. Under the [current draft](#) of the bill, Medicare would negotiate a “maximum fair price” that it would pay starting in 2026 for the 10 drugs with the highest total expenditures under Medicare Part D during the most recent 12-month period. The negotiated drug list would expand to 15 drugs in 2027 and to 20 drugs in 2029 and beyond.

CLINICAL UPDATE

[US Allows Pharmacists to Prescribe Paxlovid Directly](#) – *Medscape* (7/7)

[Association Between BNT162b2 Vaccination and Long COVID After Infections Not Requiring Hospitalization in Health Care Workers](#) – *JAMA Network* (7/1)

[Estimates of long Covid are startlingly high. Here's how to understand them](#) – *STAT* (7/6)

WORKFORCE UPDATE

MPCA Webinar: Marketing and Social Media for Branding and Elevation

Tuesday, July 26 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM | [Register](#)

This presentation will introduce you to best practices for health centers and other organizations to help you build or improve your marketing and social media communications—from general practices to specific tips for job postings and recruitment. Learn how to highlight your initiatives to a broader constituency, showcase stories of change for recruitment and development, and incorporate patient and provider voices with this workshop's practical strategies for marketing and social media.

HRSA's Workforce Well-being Survey

HRSA plans to field a survey later this year to gather insights on health center workforce well-being. *The goal of the survey* is to promote workforce recruitment and retention as well as quality of care by developing and administering the Health Center Workforce Survey. Data will be used to inform and improve the Health Center Program, including identifying and disseminating best practices and targeting technical assistance. HRSA's hope is for all health center staff to complete the survey. Learn more here: [BPHC's Workforce Wellbeing Web Page](#) or by watching the [June 14 Today with Macrae webcast](#)—fast-forward to the one-hour, nine-minute mark.

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

Is Your Health Center Hiring? Click [here](#) to utilize the MPCA Job Board and list your openings on our website!

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Explore careers in the recovery field (for Lincoln and Knox county residents)

*Provide by the Maine Rural Behavioral Health Workforce Center, MCD Global Health,
and Healthy Lincoln County*

This four-part, **virtual** guided workshop series focuses on accelerating a person's entry into and progression in **behavioral health careers**.

Designed for people with lived experience and affected others, these sessions will provide a detailed understanding of recovery-related jobs, including the types of positions, education and skills required, and pathways for education and progression in the field.

WHEN: July 19, July 26, August 2, and August 9 from 5:30-7:00pm. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

COVID-19 Testing Focus Group Opportunity

USM's Cutler Institute is working on a project that is studying effective approaches, methods, and messaging to support COVID-19 testing in rural communities and is looking for FQHCs with sites in rural areas that might be interested in helping us identify people in their communities to participate in focus groups. We are planning to conduct focus groups in rural communities throughout the state to hear from people about their experiences with COVID-19 testing and the factors that influence their decision to get tested or not. The goal is to understand facilitators and barriers to testing in the case of a future pandemic, so access to testing in rural areas can be improved. For more information, [click here](#).

If your organization is willing to consider participating in the project, please reach out to Sara Kahn-Troster (sara.kahntroster@maine.edu).

Office of Child and Family Services – Free MATCH training

[FREE clinical training](#) in the Modular Approach to Therapy for Children with Anxiety, Depression, Trauma, or Conduct Problems (MATCH) through The Baker Center for Children and Families on July 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2022 from 9:00am - 4:30pm daily. Provider Agencies will be eligible to receive payment for time to offset the cost of sending clinicians to this training and consultation based on the number of hours completed.

This training is being offered to Children's Home and Community Treatment Clinicians. Outpatient Providers are invited to register and will be offered any remaining spots available. [MATCH webinars](#) July 13, 2022 & August 4, 2022.

Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership - Pediatric Behavioral Health ECHO Learning Series 1st Weds. of the month | 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Each 60 minute session will consist of a short, expert-led didactic presentation to share evidence-based best practices, followed by a de-identified patient case presentation to the team of subject matter experts and the broader cohort for discussion of treatment options and recommendations.

Please see the [program overview](#) for more detailed information. Click here to [register for the series](#).

HEALTH EQUITY/SOCIAL DETERMINANTS AND TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE RESOURCES

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

PSO CORNER

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

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.

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