

# MPCA WEEKLY COMPENDIUM

AUGUST 30, 2022



In our continuing efforts to provide you with a more streamlined experience, next week you'll notice changes with both the look and delivery method of our Compendium. **STAY TUNED!**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**

MPCA Annual  
Conference

October 5-6, 2022  
Samoset Resort | Rockport, ME



**WE ARE EXCITED** to announce that [Michael Curry, Esq.](#), President & CEO of the [Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers](#) (Mass League) will be delivering the keynote address at our 2022 Annual Conference.

Mr. Curry, who was recently selected by the

Massachusetts Non-profit Network as their [2022 Lifetime Achievement Award winner](#) for his work advocating for community health centers and advancing health equity across Massachusetts, opens our conference with **Community Health Centers: Building a Workforce for our Communities**. He will present a focused look at the history of the Community Health Center movement – particularly as it relates to health equity – and the importance of building a workforce that represents the diversity of the communities we serve. Mr. Curry, a renowned speaker on these issues, will help us unpack and more deeply understand the importance of the services that community health centers provide. **Don't miss out...register today!**

## **INTERESTING READS**

[The government will no longer be sending free COVID-19 tests to Americans](#) – *npr.org* (8/29)

The federal government is putting a pause on sending free COVID-19 testing kits to Americans starting in September, due to a lack of funding.

[Bangor dental clinic is seeing more low-income patients](#) – *Bangor Daily News* (8/26)

A Bangor dental clinic that serves low-income patients has seen a flood of new patients who previously only sought care for painful emergencies in the two months since the state's Medicaid program [expanded to cover routine care](#).

[Maine programs offer student loan debt relief favoring certain careers](#)

According to the [Education Data Initiative](#), 187,100 Maine residents, or 13% of the population, currently carry a cumulative \$6.2 billion in student loan debt, with the average amount owed being \$33,137.

[NIH-funded pediatric COVID-19 testing study finds school-aged children can self-swab](#) – *NIH* (8/26)

A new study that could have immediate implications for COVID-19 testing in schools found that with age-appropriate instructions, school-aged children can successfully use a nasal swab to obtain their own COVID-19 test specimen.

## **BILLING, CODING & TELEHEALTH NEWS**

[Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine Update](#) (billing codes and payment information) – *Maine.gov* (8/26)

Effective August 19, 2022, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has updated the [EUA](#) for the use of the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine for individuals age 12 and older.

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

## POLICY & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES

### **Is a Possible Government Shutdown in the Works?**

There are rumblings on Capitol Hill about a possible government shutdown starting October 1. In the agreement to secure Sen. Joe Manchin's support for the Inflation Reduction Act, Democratic leaders reportedly promised that the Continuing Resolution (CR), to avoid a shutdown on Oct. 1, would contain language expediting the Federal permitting process for energy and infrastructure projects subject to environmental reviews. Some Democrats – including House Natural Resources Chairman Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) – are warning that including this provision in the CR could risk its passage, raising the possibility of a shutdown.

### **New Surprise Billing Rule Announced Does not Address Good Faith Estimates**

On August 19, the Administration released a Final Rule related to the No Surprises Act. This rule addresses the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process that patients can pursue when they think they have received a surprise bill; it does not address Good Faith Estimate (GFE) requirements. There is still no word on when a Final Rule on GFEs will be published; it has yet to reach OMB for clearance.

### **340B Toolkit on Responding to Contract Pharmacy Restrictions**

The State & Regional Association of CHCs and NACHC have collaborated on a [toolkit](#) to provide CHCs with consolidated and up-to-date information on this issue, including: the list of manufacturers imposing restrictions; strategies and resources for mitigating the impact of these restrictions; factors CHCs should consider when evaluating whether to submit data to 340B-ESP; and information on the 340B-ESP process. The toolkit is a “living document” that will be updated regularly as new information and resources become available.

## ORAL HEALTH UPDATES

[Why dentists should capitalize on administering vaccinations](#) – *DrBicuspid (8/23)*

[What you need to know about dental x-rays and pregnancy](#) – *DrBicuspid (8/23)*

[Periodontal disease during pregnancy is an epidemic](#) – *DrBicuspid (8/24)*

[How a DSO dentist has adapted to teledentistry](#) – *DrBicuspid (8/25)*

[Support stool can be a hack for optimal CPR in dental chairs](#) – *DrBicuspid (8/22)*

[Relationship Between Tooth Loss and Hypertension](#) – *PracticeUpdate (8/24)*

[Candida Species Detection in Patients With Chronic Periodontitis](#) – *PracticeUpdate (8/27)*

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

### **Governor's Opioid Response Seminar Series**

Friday, Sept. 2 | 11:30 am – 12:30 pm | [Register](#)

The Governor's Opioid Response Seminar Series resumes with a one-hour webinar featuring **Approaches to SUD with Methadone**. This webinar will highlight new, innovative treatment practices and will be of particular interest to clinicians who are treating patients with substance use disorders.

## CHCNET NEWS

[Maine County COVID Data Update](#) – (8/28/22)

For the latest information concerning the MPCA's HCCN, **Community Health Center Network of Maine (CHCNet)** please visit the [CHCNet Member Portal](#).

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

### **MCD Announces Upcoming Community Health Worker Core Competency Training**

**Starting September 29:** MCD Global Health's Hybrid Community Health Worker (CHW) Core Competency Training is a 40-hour program that combines self-paced online modules, assigned homework, and virtual live Zoom sessions. The training runs for eight weeks providing ample time to complete the self-paced modules and homework assignments. The live sessions are scheduled once per week (**Thursdays 1-3 pm**) and allow participants to share and practice their skill-building. See [full schedule here](#). In between virtual sessions, we will also offer an optional virtual team "CHW chat and check-in" if participants need some extra guidance or support on completing assignments.

**This CHW Core Competency online training will fill up fast! If you are a member of the Maine WIN Consortium, MPCA will cover the cost of the training. Please contact Lisa Tapert, [ltapert@mepca.org](mailto:ltapert@mepca.org) for more information. The next training will be in January.**

### **In Collaboration with the Portland Recovery Community Center, Maine Association of Recovery Residences Presents: A Community Conversation on Opioid Use Disorder**

Monday, September 26 – Thursday 9/29 | [Schedule](#)

*A Community Conversation on Opioid Use Disorder* is not an "academic - this is what stigma is" training. Really, it is a conversation for people to explore stigma, how we support people with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and their families, and how we work together in our communities to reduce stigma. It is very interactive. Participants will have lots of discussion, and we use portraits and videos to facilitate the conversation. RSVP to [Madison@mainererecoveryresidences.com](mailto:Madison@mainererecoveryresidences.com).

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

## WORKFORCE UPDATE

### **HRSA's Health Center Workforce Well-being Survey**

HRSA is launching a [Health Center Workforce Well-being Survey](#) this fall to support the well-being and job satisfaction of health center staff. The research-informed survey will measure well-being, satisfaction, and burnout and will be used to inform technical assistance initiatives and other HRSA-led national efforts to support health centers and their staff.

The survey will launch in the fall of 2022. HRSA Health Center Liaisons have reached out to health center leadership to onboard health centers to the initiative and support the survey roll-out. **The final day for CHCs to sign up to participate is September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** If you are a health center leader who would like to get involved in this initiative, email [hrsa\\_survey\\_partners@jsi.com](mailto:hrsa_survey_partners@jsi.com).

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

## CLINICAL UPDATES

[Monkeypox: A clinical update for paediatricians](#) – *Wiley Online Library* (8/18)

[COVID Incubation Periods Have Fallen Over Time](#) – *Medscape* (8/23)

[4 things every doctor should know about monkeypox](#) – *AMA* (8/25)

[What doctors wish patients knew about the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine](#) – *AMA* (8/26)

**PSO CORNER**

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



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