COVID-19 Weekly Compendium #13

CLINICAL UPDATE

- Outpatient and Ambulatory Care Settings: Responding to Community Transmission of COVID-19 in the United States - USCDC
- Interim Guidelines for COVID-19 Antibody Testing - USCDC
- People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders - USCDC
- Guidance for Direct Service Providers, Caregivers, Parents, and People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders - USCDC

DENTAL UPDATE

- MaineCare Telehealth and Dental Services Guidance - OMS (Updated May 27)

OTHER NEWS FROM THE USCDC

- How to Wash Cloth Face Coverings - USCDC
- Cleaning And Disinfecting Your Home - USCDC

MAINE CDC HEALTH ALERT NETWORK SYSTEM (HAN) - Recent Alerts

USCDC HEALTH ALERT NETWORK (HAN) - Recent Alerts

POLICY UPDATE

House Votes on Paycheck Protection Program Loan Extension
On May 28, 2020, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act, legislation which would extend the loan forgiveness period for businesses receiving PPP loans from 8 weeks to 24 weeks, among other changes. The Senate recently introduced a bill that would extend the loan forgiveness period from 8 weeks to 16 weeks, but left for the Memorial Day recess before voting on the measure.

SBA Provides Details on Loan Forgiveness
The Small Business Administration recently released three documents that provide important details on the rules and process for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) borrowers to request that all or part of their loan be forgiven. These include the loan forgiveness application and regulations addressing the requirements (pages 33004-33010) and procedures (page 33010) for obtaining forgiveness. The documents made clear that bonuses and hazard pay are forgivable uses of PPP funds, and that borrowers can get a large portion of their PPP loan forgiven, even if they spent less than 75% of the loan amount on payroll related costs.
Interesting Reads

- **A remote part of Maine may have found a way to save access to 24/7 health care** - *Bangor Daily News* (June 1)
  
  The coronavirus was not the first challenge to the Jackman region’s ability to keep offering around-the-clock medical care, but for a moment, it looked like it might be the last.

- **COVID-19 fallout: How will other needed care be provided during the pandemic?** - *Medical Economics* (March 24)
  
  As our healthcare system and others around the world gear up to deal with the largest public health crisis of the past 100 years, one additional important question to ask is how will all the other needed healthcare delivery occur over the next few months and, if the pandemic ends up going on for longer, the next 12-18 months?

- **The Implications of COVID-19 for Mental Health and Substance Use** - Kaiser Family Foundation (April 21)
  
  The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn have negatively affected many people’s mental health and created new barriers for people already suffering from mental illness and substance use disorders. In a recent KFF poll, nearly half (45%) of adults in the United States reported that their mental health has been negatively impacted due to worry and stress over the virus.

- **Pandemic Brings Racial, Economic Healthcare Disparities Into Focus** - *American Journal of Managed Care* (April 6)
  
  As the United States prepares for what could be the worst week yet of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, national attention has been focused on the disease’s current epicenters in New York and New Jersey. However, across the country, the pandemic is slowly seeping into the nation’s economically vulnerable populations and is already taking a toll on minority communities.

- **Supporting people with long-term conditions (LTCs) during national emergencies** - *CEBM Research* (March 25)
  
  Disruption of care, diversion of healthcare resources, and interruptions to medical supplies can all impact patients with long term conditions (LTCs) during national emergencies.

- **The Impact of COVID-19 on Chronic Health in the UK** - *VOX* (April 13)
  
  The impact of COVID-19 on the economy will affect not just people’s incomes but also their health. This column examines the effect of this economic downturn on the incidence of long-term chronic ill health in the UK.

  
  The pandemic has made clear many of the problems facing the nation’s health care system. For-profit hospitals with tight supply chains mean that when the coronavirus reached the U.S., most facilities were not prepared with enough masks, gloves and other basic equipment needed to handle the crushing numbers of people entering their emergency rooms.

  
  Rest and fluids are essential, but not always enough. Here are some more things you can do to feel better.
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**Telehealth Update**

Rapid Telehealth Implementation During COVID-19 ECHO - Ongoing Learning Series

- **Tuesdays** (except for the 3rd Tuesday each month) from 1:00 - 2:00 PM via Zoom.
  - Tuesday, June 9 - Health Center Staff Well-being and Resilience
  - Tuesday, June 23 - “Reopening and Sustainability - Telehealth after the Pandemic” (pt.1)
  - Tuesday, June 30 - “Reopening and Sustainability - Telehealth after the Pandemic” (pt.2)

- For more information or to register as a participant, please email Greg Parent - gparent@mepca.org.

For updates from insurers and other relevant information concerning Telehealth, please visit the Telehealth Resources page on the MPCA 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 and/or Lisa Tuttle: ltuttle@mepca.org.

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