COVID-19 Weekly Compendium #24

CLINICAL UPDATE

- **Duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19** - USCDC (August 16)
- **Association Between Youth Smoking, Electronic Cigarette Use, and Coronavirus Disease 2019** - Journal of Adolescent Health (August 11)
- **Interim Guidance for Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2** - USCDC (August 16)

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR FRIDAY’S CLINICAL EDUCATION RETREAT.**
**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE.** **

INTERESTING READS

- **Bar Harbor hospital sounds warning on undetected COVID-infected visitors** - Portland Press Herald (July 31)
  Multiple out-of-state visitors have approached Bar Harbor’s Mount Desert Island Hospital for advice after learning tests they took before leaving their home states had come back positive for COVID-19.

- **Community Health Centers Are Invaluable In The Fight Against The Coronavirus Pandemic** - Forbes (August 12)
  Anand Parekh, chief medical advisor for the Bipartisan Policy Center, explores how community health centers have been successfully fighting the Covid-19 pandemic in underserved communities.

- **Inexpensive, accessible device provides visual proof that masks block droplets** - Science Daily (August 11)
  Inexpensive, accessible device provides visual proof that masks block droplets: Study demonstrates a simple way to test facial covering materials for effectiveness.

- **COVID-19 clinical trials lack diversity** - Science Daily (August 11)
  Despite disproportionately higher rates of COVID-19 infection, hospitalization and death among people of color, minority groups are significantly underrepresented in COVID-19 clinical trials.

  Today, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), drawing from the latest evidence, issued three new interim guidance documents on the care of children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Forty percent of people with coronavirus infections have no symptoms. Might they be the key to ending the pandemic?** - The Washington Post (August 8)
  New research suggests that some of us may be partially protected due to past encounters with common cold coronaviruses.

- **The Covid-19 Tracker** - STAT
  As the virus that causes Covid-19 spreads worldwide, this dashboard offers a snapshot of the crisis right now. Click on a country name to get a more detailed geographic breakdown at the state, province, or county level.
New COVID-19 Resources for Health Centers

- **CHC Finance Toolkit — COVID-19:** NACHC and BKD, a national CPA and advisory firm, have compiled guidance to support community health center leaders and their teams through difficult times and prepare to come out stronger. Topics include cash flow planning, Cares Act guidance, and remote work best practices.

- **CARES Act Funding and Financial Statements: Considerations for Health Center Boards:** This article addresses CARES Act funding and considerations for health center boards related to the impact on center financial statements. This article was written at NACHC’s request by Jeff Allen and Sara Grenier from BKD.

**CMS Announces Rural Transformation Model**

Last week CMS released its rural transformation model, the Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model, which was called for in the President’s recent Executive Order “Improving Rural Health and Telehealth Access.” CMS has released initial information about the CHART model and NACHC staff is reviewing the information on the data and hopes to have additional information coming soon.

**ICYMI: 340B Resources for Responding to Growing Threats**

Threats to health centers’ 340B programs continue to escalate, with two more drug manufacturers expected to demand data on all 340B-priced drugs dispensed through contract pharmacies as soon as this week. Following are several resources designed to assist you in navigating these difficult and evolving challenges:

- **Advisory RE: Mandatory Terms of Use Data Submission:** Health centers are strongly advised to review the Terms of Use and the NACHC advisory, and to consult with legal counsel before agreeing to these Terms of Use.

- **340B Response Toolkit:** This toolkit is designed to repudiate and press against recent efforts that would undermine the value of the 340B program. It contains documents intended for both internal (Talking Points and FAQs) and external use (template for a letter to Congress and a draft press release.) Note that the 8/13 version now includes the template for each health center’s one-pager

- **340B Slide Deck:** Colleen Meiman, NACHC’s Director of Regulatory Affairs, presented this 340B slide deck during MPCA’s Public Policy Committee meeting on Aug. 12.

**CHCNet Update**

**Upcoming Webinar - Overview of the HRSA-Approved 2020 UDS Changes**

Join MPCA and Health Initiatives Consulting as we review the changes put in place by HRSA that will impact UDS 2020. Please invite any/all health center staff who work on annual UDS reporting - the more the merrier!

- **Wednesday, August 19, 2020 | 1:00 - 2:00 PM - Click here** to mark your calendar

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.
Racial Justice/Health Disparity Resources & Information

ME DHHS Webinar: Strategies for Addressing Disparate Impacts of COVID 19 - 3rd Wednesdays | 7:30-8:30 AM
Maine DHHS is supporting several efforts aimed at improving health equity and addressing disparities with respect to race and ethnicity, particularly in response to disparities related to COVID 19. As part of that work, Maine DHHS is partnering with colleagues to offer a series of monthly webinars focused on sharing creative solutions and best practices for working with Black, Indigenous and people of color at higher risk of COVID-19 infection.

- **Wed, Aug 19:** A Conversation with Health Care Providers Serving Diverse Communities - Please join us for a discussion with providers, facilitated by Dr. Lisa Letourneau, ME DHHS Senior Advisor for Health System Change, featuring:
  - Carl M. Toney, PA Health Care Planning Consultant/ Co-Chairperson, Community & Faith-Based Committee, City of Portland Minority Health Program Stakeholder Alignment
  - Nicoleta Toma, MD, Preventive Medicine Fellow, Maine Medical Center
  - Tihtiyas (Dee) Sabattus, Director of Passamaquoddy Health Center at Indian Township
  - Lisa Tapert, MPH, CEO, Maine Mobile Health Program, Inc.

- **Wed, Sept 16:** Building Trust With Diverse Communities: Essential Steps for Health Care Providers - Part 1
- **Wed, Oct 21:** Building Trust With Diverse Communities: Essential Steps for Health Care Providers - Part 2

Join Zoom Meeting | Meeting ID: 621 843 4986 | Password: 338847 *(Same Zoom invite for all webinars)*
https://zoom.us/j/6218434986

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

Telehealth Update

Connected Health Virtual Summit: Delivering Quality Care in the COVID Era - Sept. 14-18 | Times vary
We invite all payers and providers to attend free of charge. This includes employees of major hospitals, physician practices, outpatient centers, ACOs, and skilled nursing facilities; as well as those who work for payers, insurance companies and MCOs. We invite you to listen live, ask questions, and collaborate in our virtual environment.

[Click here](#) to see sessions and to sign up. If you are currently unemployed or furloughed, please contact us directly to register.

Upcoming Teledental Webinar Series

- **8/20/20 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM** - Hybrid Dental Practice: Creating Opportunities for Weaving Teledental and Traditional Practice
  Registration: [https://mepca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcIce2srz0qH9RTol1CgTNKudNKhESyt17](https://mepca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcIce2srz0qH9RTol1CgTNKudNKhESyt17)

- **9/24/20 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM** - Virtual Dental Home: Outreaching and Delivering Preventative Care Remotely
  Registration: [https://mepca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqce2srz0qH9RTol1CgTNKudNKhESyt17](https://mepca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqce2srz0qH9RTol1CgTNKudNKhESyt17)

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

Please click on the calendar for a full listing of upcoming MPCA trainings and events. These events can be viewed by the day, month or as a list.

MPCA CONTACT INFORMATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Pezzullo, DO</td>
<td>Clinical Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cpezzullo@mepca.org">cpezzullo@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-4545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Morrill, RN, BSN</td>
<td>Quality Improvement Program Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smorrill@mepca.org">smorrill@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-4538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Parent</td>
<td>HCCN Program Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gparent@mepca.org">gparent@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-4537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Stanley, MBA, CPC</td>
<td>Finance Program Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sstanley@mepca.org">sstanley@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-1725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Wyatt, MA</td>
<td>Director of Policy &amp; Communications</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bwyatt@mepca.org">bwyatt@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-4536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillary Colcord</td>
<td>BPHC Program Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hcolcord@mepca.org">hcolcord@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 707-4542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Pearce</td>
<td>Oral Health Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bpearce@mepca.org">bpearce@mepca.org</a></td>
<td>(207) 495-7172</td>
</tr>
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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 Chanel. Please feel free to reach out to it@mepca.org for help with joining.**