



mlnconnects

Official CMS news from the Medicare Learning Network®

SPECIAL EDITION

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

News

- CMS Releases Additional Waivers for Hospitals and Other Facilities
- Price Transparency: Requirement to Post Cash Prices Online for COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing
- CMS Letter to Nursing Home Facility Management and Staff

News

CMS Releases Additional Waivers for Hospitals and Other Facilities

CMS continues to release waivers for the health care community that provide the flexibilities needed to take care of patients during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). CMS recently provided additional blanket waivers for the duration of the PHE that:

- Expand hospitals' ability to offer long-term care services ("swing beds")
- Waive distance requirements, market share, and bed requirements for Sole Community Hospitals
- Waive certain eligibility requirements for Medicare-Dependent, Small Rural Hospitals (MDHs)
- Update specific life safety code requirements for hospitals, hospice, and long-term care facilities

For more information, see [Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers](#).

Price Transparency: Requirement to Post Cash Prices Online for COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act includes a number of provisions to provide relief to the public from issues caused by the pandemic, including price transparency for COVID-19 testing. Section 3202(b) of the CARES Act requires providers of diagnostic tests for COVID-19 to post the cash price for a COVID-19 diagnostic test on their website from March 27 through the end of the public health emergency. For more information, see the [FAQs](#).

CMS Letter to Nursing Home Facility Management and Staff

On May 11, CMS Administrator Seema Verma penned a [letter](#) to nursing home management and staff. Administrator Verma shared her gratitude for the unwavering dedication and commitment of nursing home management and staff in keeping residents safe and for continuing to compassionately care for those who rely on them during this unprecedented time. The letter also provides links to previously shared infection control resources.

[Subscribe](#) to MLN Connects. Previous issues are available in the [archive](#).
This newsletter is current as of the issue date. View the complete [disclaimer](#).

Follow the MLN on [Twitter](#) #CMSMLN, and visit us on [YouTube](#).

The Medicare Learning Network®, MLN Connects®, and MLN Matters® are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

