



CMS Snapshot

June 27-July 3, 2024

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, June 27 through 2pm Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

News Releases

*June 28- [CMS Roundup \(June. 28, 2024\)](#).

*June 28- [HHS Announces Winners of Inaugural Children and Youth Resilience Challenge](#). *In support of [President Biden's Unity Strategy and Mental Health Agenda](#) and HHS' [Roadmap for Behavioral Health Integration](#), this federal prize competition promotes innovative community-based initiatives to improve resilience and advance children and youth behavioral health.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the winners of the HHS Children and Youth Resilience Challenge, a \$1 million federal prize competition launched in May 2023 to identify and elevate promising, community-based initiatives that improve psychological resilience and advance children and youth behavioral health.

*July 1- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Settles HIPAA Security Rule Failures for \\$950,000](#). *Settlement with Heritage Valley Health System marks OCR's third ransomware settlement as the agency sees 264% increase in large ransomware breaches since 2018.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a settlement with Heritage Valley Health System (Heritage Valley), which provides care in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, concerning potential violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Security Rule, following a ransomware attack. Ransomware and hacking are the primary cyber-threats in health care. Since 2018, there has been a 264% increase in large breaches reported to OCR involving ransomware attacks.

*July 1- [Biden-Harris Administration Invests Over \\$200 Million to Help Primary Care Doctors, Nurses, and Other Health Care Providers Improve Care for Older Adults](#). *Funding focuses on training primary care providers to meet patients' geriatric needs, including caring for patients with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, supporting family members and other caregivers.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced more than \$200 million to support 42 programs across the country aimed at improving care for older Americans, including those experiencing Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

*July 2- [Biden-Harris Administration Reaffirms Commitment to EMTALA Enforcement](#). Following the Supreme Court's decision in *Moyle v. United States*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure sent a letter to hospital and provider associations across the country today reminding them that it is a hospital's legal duty to offer necessary stabilizing medical treatment (or transfer, if appropriate) to all patients in Medicare-participating hospitals who are found to have an emergency medical condition. CMS also announced that the investigation of EMTALA complaints would proceed in Idaho while litigation continues in the lower courts.

*July 2- [HHS Authorizes Five States to Provide Historic Health Care Coverage for People Transitioning out of Incarceration](#). *Illinois, Kentucky, Oregon, Utah, and Vermont to provide better continuity of Medicaid and CHIP coverage for incarcerated people, whose health care needs — from substance-use disorder treatment to chronic physical health conditions — have historically gone overlooked.* Adults and youth transitioning out of incarceration can experience delays in getting access to Medicaid or CHIP coverage upon return to their communities — harming public health and public safety. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), approved the latest in a series of groundbreaking Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs (CHIP) demonstrations that will allow Illinois, Kentucky, Oregon, Utah, and Vermont to provide coverage *before* release, creating a seamless transition and avoiding gaps in coverage.

*July 2- [HHS provides \\$176 million to develop pandemic influenza mRNA-based vaccine](#). *Award bolsters pandemic preparedness by leveraging flexible platform.* The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), will provide approximately \$176 million to Moderna for development of an mRNA-based pandemic influenza vaccine.

*July 3- [FEMA and HHS Announce Resources and Tips to Address Extreme Heat Sweeping the Nation](#). *The agencies are monitoring the risk of extreme heat and providing tips and resources for how to stay safe.* FEMA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are encouraging everyone to plan and act now to protect themselves against the dangers of heat-related illness and deaths. [Extreme heat](#) is the leading cause of death among all weather-related hazards in the U.S., but this health impact is largely preventable. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that at least 1,220 people in the U.S. are killed by heat events each year. Older adults, young children, and those individuals with health conditions, such as asthma or diabetes are at a greater risk for heat-related illnesses.

Fact Sheets

*June 28- [Proposed Rule on Mitigating the Impact of Significant, Anomalous, and Highly Suspect Billing Activity on Medicare Shared Savings Program Financial Calculations in Calendar Year 2023 \(CMS-1799-P\)](#). On June 28, 2024, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued the proposed [rule](#) entitled, “Medicare Program: Mitigating the Impact of Significant, Anomalous, and Highly Suspect Billing Activity on Medicare Shared Savings Program Financial Calculations in Calendar Year 2023” (CMS-1799-P). This proposed rule is part of a larger strategy to address significant, anomalous, and highly suspect (SAHS) within ACO reconciliation, and additional information will be forthcoming in the Physician Fee Schedule.

Blog

*July 3- [Putting Money Back in the Pockets of Seniors with Medicare in Nevada](#). By: [Ty Jones](#), *Marine Corp Veteran Summary: How President Biden’s lower costs prescription drug law is impacting black seniors with Medicare*. In a special event hosted by Congressman Steven Horsford (D-NV), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, we put the issue of high prescription drug prices front and center. Held in Las Vegas, the event featured a special discussion with HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra titled “Putting Money Back in the Pockets of Seniors in Nevada,” specifically for Black seniors like me. The gathering drew a diverse group of seniors eager to discuss healthcare affordability, emphasizing the importance of equitable access to medications and healthcare services, particularly for seniors and communities of color.