

COVID-19 Updates

Colorado Department of
Health Care Policy & Financing

August 7, 2020

Overview

Public Health Emergency Timelines

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) Update

Strike Force Update

New Guidance

- Bonnie Silva, Office of Community Living Director, HCPF
- Melanie Roth-Lawson, Trainer/Emergency Response Coordinator, CDPHE

Public Health Emergency End Date Timeline

- HHS announced on July 23 extension of Public Health Emergency effective July 25, with new deadline for end date of **October 23**
- Dept. asking for at least 2 months notice from HHS if the PHE will not be extended again

July 25, 2020

Oct. 23, 2020

Oct. 31, 2020

Dec. 31, 2020

Jan. 26, 2021

- Continuous Medicaid Coverage ends at the end of that month the PHE ends
- Dept. and County Partners will need to notice members and time to properly disenroll members
- Dept. requested 90 days to complete disenrollment, but no specific guidance has been issued or approved by CMS

- PHE ends
- State Plan Amendments, 1135 Waivers, and Optional Testing Group end with PHE

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) & Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) ends at the end of the quarter the PHE ends

Appendix K with HCBS flexibilities ends



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

Update

- State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
- IC Survey Status
- EM Resource (CDPHE_EMResource@state.co.us)
- Follow-up Items
- HEMSD COVID-19 Blog

EM Resource Reporting Now Required

Per [Public Health Order 20-20](#) (amended July 30), regular reporting to CDPHE is now required for Residential Care Settings

Reporting will be done through EM Resource, a web-based tool used to assist the State with situational awareness and identification of providers' resource needs

- The State monitors the data that providers enter into EM Resource several times each week to create critical needs reports that go to the state's emergency healthcare lead

Timeline:

- Nursing Homes must begin reporting by August 5, 2020
- Assisted Living Residences must begin reporting by August 12, 2020
- Group Homes and ICFs must begin reporting by August 19, 2020

Visitation in Residential Care Settings

- New FAQ page posted on the Strike Team website to clarify questions related to visitation, as well as provide additional information:

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/residential-care-strike-team

- Working with the Governor's Office on guidance for indoor visitation, which will provide additional information about visits from family, friends, and individuals providing ancillary services - coming soon

Health and Well-being

- New priority focused on resident and staff health and well-being
 - The goal is to develop strategies to address physical, mental, and cognitive health of residents and staff while continuing to assure their safety
 - Examples of concerns that we'd like to address:
 - Isolation among residents
 - Staff burnout and stress

Testing Update

- The 8-week time frame for standing up surveillance testing ended on 8/2/20. Over that time, The State Lab, including the National Guard:
 - Distributed 116,542 test kits, far exceeding their goal of 100,000 tests
 - Worked with 184 facilities (160 unique) and identified 197 positives
 - Increased distribution from 6,100/week to 21,500/week
- Over the 8-week time frame CSU:
 - Conducted 12,884 tests, worked with 26 facilities, and identified 29 positives
- Surveillance testing will continue through the State Lab and CSU
 - On-the-Ground support will be available for those facilities that need it
- Since June 1st, 43.8% (20,612) residents and 36.5% (19,367) staff have been provided access to testing by the State at least once

Infection Control Surveys

- CDPHE Health Facilities and EMS Division survey teams have completed infection control surveys with all 1,057 residential care settings
 - Now will shift back to focusing on complaint response surveying
- CMS is providing HFEMS a list of nursing homes (using data from NMSN) that need to be surveyed
 - Survey team must respond within two days
 - CMS surveyors responding as well

Updated CDC and CDPHE Guidance for Residential Settings

- CDC has released updated guidelines on return to work for health care workers and discontinuation of isolation in hospitalized and non-hospitalized patients
- Except for rare situations, a test-based strategy should not be used to determine when to discontinue transmission-based precautions or release a case from isolation
- Protective eye-wear (e.g. goggles or face shields) is recommended for staff providing direct patient care in communities with moderate to substantial COVID-19 transmission due to the risk of exposure to asymptomatic individuals. Eye-wear, including face shields, does not replace the need for other indicated PPE (e.g. respirator, facemask)
- When testing is ordered due to suspicion of COVID-19, patients should be [instructed to self-isolate](#)
- CDC has updated and [reorganized testing guidance](#)

[Click here](#) to see these and other updates.



New Questions?

Stay Engaged

Memos, Webinar Info, and FAQs - Updated Regularly

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response

Email us

HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us

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Previous Guidance

Case Management Agencies

Operational Changes

- [OM 20-049](#)
- [OM 20-027](#)
- [OM 20-037](#)
- [OM 20-045](#)
- [OM 20-075](#)

PASRR Changes

- [OM 20-043](#)

Level of Care Changes

- [OM 20-053](#)

Transition Coordination

- [OM 20-056](#)

In-Person & Travel Add-On

- [OM 20-076](#)

Facilities and PACE

Infection Control And Prevention in NHs (CMS)

- [CMS QSO-20-14-NH](#)

Telemedicine in Nursing Facilities

- [OM 20-032](#)

Training & Certification

- [OM 20-038](#)

Rate Increase

- [OM 20-050](#)

Options Counseling

- [OM 20-054](#)

Stimulus Payments

- [OM 20-059](#)

Civil Money Penalty (CMP)

- [IM 20-021](#)

HCBS Providers

HCBS Therapy Services

- [OM 20-020](#)

Guidance for Class B Providers

- [OM 20-023](#)

Changes to Benefits & Services (Table)

- [OM 20-046](#)

Telemedicine

- [Temporary Policy](#)

Host Home Inspections

- [OM 20-036](#)

CDASS Sick Time

- [OM 20-047](#)

Changes to Benefits & Services Rates (Table)

- [OM 20-048](#)

Flexibility in Hiring

- [IM 20-019](#)

CC & SCC Clarifications

- [OM 20-060](#)

Additional Provider Relief Funds

- [IM 20-024](#)

Non-Medical Transportation

- [OM 20-063](#)

Retainer Payments Ending

- [OM 20-069](#)

Guidance for Reopening or Expanding Day Programs

- [OM 20-070](#)

CDPHE TA for IRSS

- [IM 20-031](#)

Updated Residential Guidance

- [OM 20-072](#)

All COVID-19 and LTSS related memos and FAQs can be found here:

www.colorado.gov/hcpf/long-term-services-and-supports-covid-19-response

Reminder: Personal Protective Equipment

If you or your organization are experiencing a shortage or outage of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, gowns, etc.) to conduct essential or life saving functions during this crisis, please reach out to your **local emergency manager** or **local public health department**.

[Find Your Local Community Emergency Manager](#)
[Find Your Local Public Health Department](#)

To report issues in
obtaining PPE please
notify:

Sadie Martinez
Access and Functional Needs
Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
720.610.1691
sadie.martinez@state.co.us

More Information



www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/



www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page



covid19.colorado.gov



Local Public Health Agencies

www.colorado.gov/cdphe/find-your-local-public-health-agency



www.colorado.gov/hcpf/COVID



Next Steps

Thank You!