

# COVID-19 DIGEST



October 16, 2020

## Academy News

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## Fellow Highlights

**Mary Cooley**, PhD, RN, FAAN, **Janice Phillips**, PhD, RN, FAAN, **Angela Starkweather**, PhD, RN, ANCP-BC, CNRN, FAAN, and **Katherine Yeager**, PhD, RN, FAAN, [co-authored an article](#) titled, "Nursing's seat at the research roundtable" in *The Lancet*.

**Julie Fairman**, PhD, RN, FAAN, and **Connie Ulrich**, PhD, RN, FAAN [published an op-ed](#) in *The Hill* titled "COVID-19: How RNs can help overcome public vaccine hesitancy."

American Nurses Association (ANA) President **Ernest Grant**, PhD, RN, FAAN, was featured in a *PBS Frontline* [episode](#) titled "America's Medical Supply Crisis."

**Susan Hassmiller**, PhD, RN, FAAN, [authored an article](#) titled "Health Equity and the Future of Nursing, Post-COVID-19" in *Health Affairs*.

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's *Global Health Now* [published an article](#) co-authored by **William E. Rosa**, PhD, MBE, NP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, **Sheila Tlou**, **Barbara Stilwell**, **Howard Catton**, and **Ann Kurth**, PhD, CNM, FAAN and titled "Nursing Our Way Through COVID-19."

**George Thibault**, MD, FAAN, [authored an article](#) titled, "The future of health professions education: Emerging trends in the United States," that discusses insights into likely post-COVID trends in **Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**.

**ABC News** [published an article](#) titled “Latino nurses push through COVID-19 burnout, sleepless nights and lost loved ones.”

**ANA** and the **American Nurses Foundation (ANF)** [released a survey](#) to gather information from nurses about the COVID-19 Vaccinations. **ANA** [released a webinar](#), “The State of COVID-19 Vaccine Development: What You Need to Know.”

**Business Insider** [published an article](#) titled “Filipinos make up 4% of nurses in the US, but 31.5% of nurse deaths from COVID-19.”

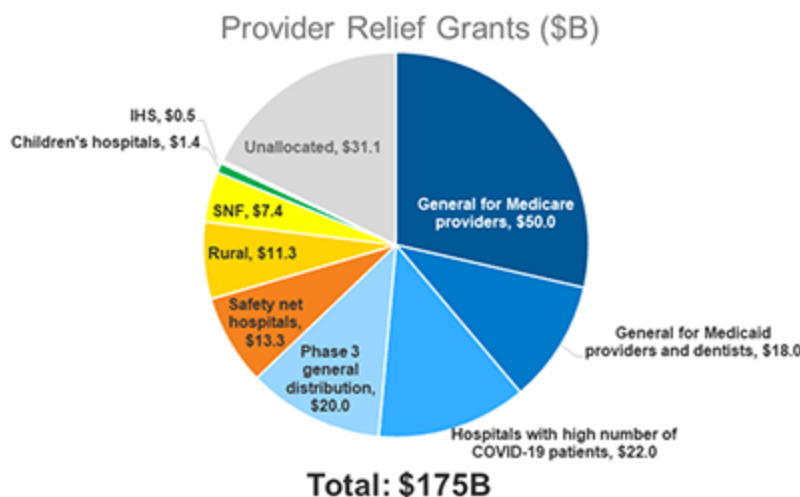
**International Council of Nurses (ICN)** [published an article](#) titled “ICN says disruption to mental health services as a result of COVID-19 and historic underfunding must be addressed immediately.”

**JAMA Network** [published an article](#) titled “Excess Deaths From COVID-19 and Other Causes, March-July 2020.”

**Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)** [released a policy brief](#) titled “Limitations of the Program for Uninsured COVID-19 Patients Raise Concerns.” **KFF** [released a policy brief](#) titled “Is COVID-19 a Pre-Existing Condition? What Could Happen if the ACA is Overturned.”

Figure 1

### Announced Provider Relief Allocations as of Oct. 7, 2020



NOTES: \$20B for Phase 3 grants is for providers who apply based for additional grants due to losses or increases in operating expenses; and providers ineligible for other grants; \$18B for Medicaid providers and dentists includes grants amounting to 2% of income for providers who missed the application for Medicare providers or had a recent change in ownership; some numbers reported by HHS are approximate. SNF is skilled nursing facility, IHS is Indian Health Service.

SOURCE: KFF analysis of HHS announcements regarding provider relief grant allocations



**National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** will [host a webinar](#): “Ensuring Clinician Well-Being in an Age of Uncertainty: Emerging Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic and a Systems Approach for the Future” on October 28-29, 2020. **NAM** [released a webinar](#): “All the Tools at Our Disposal: Leveraging Digital Health to Combat COVID-19 (NAM Leadership Consortium Webinar).”

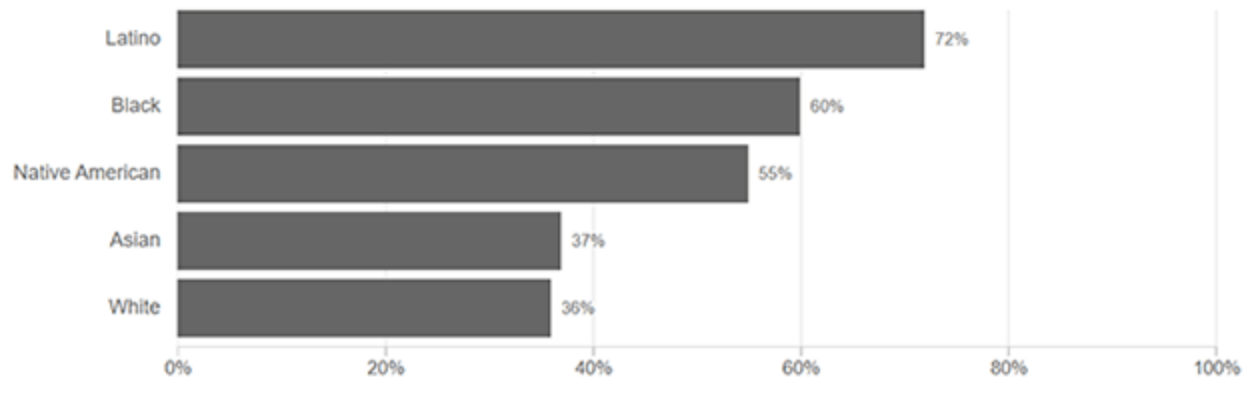
**National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)** [published a report](#) titled “Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine.” [Watch the webinar](#) for further discussion.

The **National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation** [published a webinar](#): “Systemic Racism, Disparities and Health: The Impact of COVID-19 on Latino Health.”

**New York Times** [published an article](#) titled “‘I Won’t Be Used as a Guinea Pig for White People,’” about the mistrust of vaccines within African-American communities.

**NPR** [published an article](#) titled “How The Pandemic Is Widening The Racial Wealth Gap.”

## Majority Of Latino, Black And Native American Households Report Serious Financial Problems During Pandemic



(Source: [NPR](#))

**Reuters** [published an article](#) titled “COVID-19 vaccine may be ready by year-end, says WHO's Tedros.”

**Shift Talk**, a [new podcast](#) supported by the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)**, is focused on “bringing together nurses to get real about the challenges they’re facing on and off the clock.” [Listen](#) to Season 1 here.

**United Hospital Fund** [published a report](#) titled “COVID-19 Ripple Effect: The Impact of COVID-19 on Children in New York State.”

**World Health Organization (WHO)** [published a press release](#) titled “Solidarity Therapeutics Trial produces conclusive evidence on the effectiveness of repurposed drugs for COVID-19 in record time.” **WHO** [released a joint statement](#) with International Labor Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD): “Impact of COVID-19 on people’s livelihoods, their health and our food systems.”

## Federal Government Response



### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC [published updates](#) to the “How COVID-19 Spreads” website.
- CDC [released a statement](#): “Administration Announces \$200 million from CDC to Jurisdictions for COVID-19 Vaccine Preparedness.”
- CDC [continues to hold calls](#) with stakeholders titled “[Leveraging Existing Resources to Meet the Challenges Faced by People Who Use Drugs or Who Have Substance Use Disorders During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)”
- CDC continues to [update](#) data on the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the United States.



### Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

- CMS [expanded](#) the list of telehealth services that Medicare Fee-For-Service will pay for during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- CMS [is taking every action](#) to ensure U.S. laboratories are fit to deliver reliable, accurate and timely patient test results for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by confirming Clinical

Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA)

certifications are up- to-date.

- CMS [announced](#) new repayment terms for Medicare loans made to providers during COVID-19.
- CMS [released](#) Medicaid and CHIP enrollment trends snapshot showing COVID-19 impact on enrollment.
- CMS [announced](#) an update to the methodology the agency employs to determine the rate of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) positivity in counties across the country.
- CMS [released](#) new tools to streamline certification for labs testing for COVID-19.
- CMS [continues to hold calls](#) with clinicians, hospitals, other facilities, and states in an effort to keep stakeholders updated on COVID-19 efforts. Find [more general information](#) on COVID-19.



## Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

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- HHS and Department of Defense (DoD) [announced](#) an agreement with Cytiva, headquartered in Massachusetts, to expand the company's manufacturing capacity for products that are essential in producing COVID-19 vaccines.
- HHS in collaboration with DoD [awarded](#) a \$481 million Other Transaction Agreement to Cue Health, Inc. to expand U.S. production capacity for a cartridge-based point-of-care COVID-19 molecular test that produces results in about 20 minutes.
- HHS and DoD [announced](#) an agreement with AstraZeneca for late-stage development and large-scale manufacturing of the company's COVID-19 investigational product AZD7442, a cocktail of two monoclonal antibodies, that may help treat or prevent infection with SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19.
- HHS [announced](#) that they signed an agreement with the Rockefeller Foundation to identify and share effective approaches for using rapid point-of-care (POC) antigen tests to screen for COVID-19 in communities, with a focus on safely reopening K-12 schools.
- HHS [announced](#) that American hospitals can purchase Veklury (remdesivir) directly from the drug's distributor.
- HHS announced \$20 billion in new phase 3 provider relief funding.
- HHS [announced](#) funding for health information exchanges to support public health agencies – STAR HIE program funds five organizations to improve interoperability of health data.
- HHS [announced](#) a national distribution plan for the Abbott BinaxNOW Ag Card rapid test to assist Governors' efforts to continue to safely reopen their states.



## Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

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- FDA [issued](#) a warning letter to Battelle Memorial Institute for failure to comply with regulatory requirements for medical device reporting as specified in the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Battelle Critical Care Decontamination System.
- FDA [issued guidance](#) on Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for COVID-19 Vaccines.
- Stephen M. Hahn, MD, Commissioner of Food and Drugs, [provided remarks](#) to the National Consumers League on

the vaccine review process.

- FDA [hosted a webinar](#) on protective barrier enclosure emergency use authorizations (EUAs), as part of the series on Respirators and Other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Health Care Personnel Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



### Indian Health Service (IHS)

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- IHS [published a blog](#) titled "Red Lake contact tracing team ramps up COVID-19 community response efforts."

### National Institutes of Health (NIH)

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- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "NIH study aims to identify promising COVID-19 treatments for larger clinical trials."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "NIH clinical trial testing hyperimmune intravenous immunoglobulin plus remdesivir to treat COVID-19 Begins."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "NIH to launch the Serological Sciences Network for COVID-19, announce grant and contract awardees."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "NIH RADx initiative advances six new COVID-19 testing technologies."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "NIH to assess and expand COVID-19 testing for underserved communities."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "Investigational COVID-19 vaccine well-tolerated and generates immune response in older adults."
- NIH [published a press release](#) titled "Scientists discover genetic and immunologic underpinnings of some cases of severe COVID-19."



### US House Committee on Energy & Commerce

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- House Committee on Energy & Commerce [held a hearing](#) on "Pathway to a Vaccine: Ensuring a Safe and Effective Vaccine People Will Trust."



### White House

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- President Trump [issued](#) an Executive Order on Protecting Vulnerable Newborn and Infant Children.
- President Trump [issued](#) an Executive Order on An America-First Healthcare Plan.
- President Trump [issued](#) an Executive Order on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping.



(Source: [TODAY](#))

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Policy News](#)

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