

COVID-19

Weekly Digest



May 22, 2020

Academy Actions



To advance this week's Nurses Month theme of **professional development**, three of the American Academy of Nursing's Living Legends share their advice on how the profession can lead during the pandemic. Drawing from their experienced careers, they provide insights on how nurses now, and future generations, can leverage their skills, knowledge, and compassion to make a lasting impact in their community and improve health outcomes.

[View video](#) - **Marilyn P. Chow**, PhD, RN, FAAN, 2018 Living Legend, Vice President, National Patient Care Services and Innovation, Kaiser Permanente, Retired, Professor, UCSF School of Nursing

[View video](#) - **C. Alicia Georges**, EdD, RN, FAAN, 2019 Living Legend, Chair and Professor, Department of Nursing, Lehman College

[View video](#) - **Linda S. Schwartz**, DrPH, RN, FAAN, 2019 Living Legend, Consultant in Veteran Affairs.

You can also recognize nurses you know that have embodied the spirit of the profession through a [donation](#) to the Academy's "Celebrate Nursing" campaign. Visit the Academy's [Nurses Month page](#) for more information. New videos, content, and

resources will be added throughout the month of May.

Academy Provides a Summary of the Latest COVID-19 Legislation

The Academy provided an overview summary of H.R. 6800, the **Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act**, in this month's [Academy Insider newsletter](#). The HEROES Act was introduced in the United States House of Representatives (House) on May 12. This is the fifth legislative bill to be introduced to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill includes additional funds for state and local governments to pay essential workers during the pandemic. It also includes provisions for additional stimulus payments to Americans, more funding for vaccines and treatments, and health coverage for people that have been left unemployed and without health insurance. A number of the provisions included are consistent with Academy-driven [policy recommendations](#) during COVID-19. A summary of the bill

can be found [here](#). On May 15, the House passed the bill 208-199. It is unclear if the Senate will take up this bill or introduce one of their own. [Read more](#).

Connect Fellow to Fellow Through the [COVID-19 Discussion Forum](#)

To help facilitate Fellow-to-Fellow conversations around the pandemic, we have created a private [COVID-19 Discussion](#) forum. This is an opportunity for you to share your stories, photos, videos, anecdotes, resources, and other pertinent information with each other and the Academy staff. *Please contact [Austin Hunte](#) with questions or if you need help accessing the site.*

From the Front Lines



Marge Wiggins, DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Chief Nursing Officer of MaineHealth and Maine Medical Center (MMC) commented on how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting the system and her team of nurses in a recent [article](#) featured in the Portland Press Herald. “Nurses across Maine Medical Center and the MaineHealth system are demonstrating unparalleled excellence as we care for our community during this pandemic,” said Dr. Wiggins. “They are living our organization’s core values despite everything that is happening around them. It’s a true testament to the profession of nursing.” The MMC and MaineHealth nurses have stepped up and continue to provide compassionate care while fulfilling various roles to support patients and

their health care colleagues as they cope with those inflicted with coronavirus. “Across MMC, examples of nursing excellence abound. Some nurses are supporting the ongoing clinical trial for Remdesivir as a potential treatment for COVID-19. Nurse educators and clinical nurse leaders have worked around the clock to train colleagues in the proper use of protective equipment. And many others who have not directly cared for COVID-19 patients have taken on new or expanded roles.” Despite these challenges, the MaineHealth/MMC nurses are demonstrating incredible grit, leadership, teamwork, and collaboration. *(Photos from MaineHealth.)*



News & Updates from Organizations

The **Association of Nurses in Aids Care** [will host a webinar](#): “Examining Racial and Ethnic Disparities in COVID-19 Outcomes” featuring **Sheldon Fields**, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN and **Pat Daoust**, MSN, RN, FAAN on **Wednesday, May 27 at 2:00 PM EST**.

The **American Nurses Association (ANA)** [released a webinar](#) titled “How to Survive the Pandemic with An Unbroken Spirit: Actions to Take Right Now to Stay Strong and Focused”

featuring **Bernadette Melnyk**, PhD, RN, FAAN and **Judy E. Davidson**, DNP, RN, MCCM, FAAN.

Cleveland Clinic has developed a solution that raises IV lines off the ground to allow for easy ambulation and to move IV pumps out of isolation units. The High-Line™ features a novel cradle & stem design, which allows it to hold multiple types of lines at once. Inventors **Jan Hartman**, APRN-PNP-BC and **Nancy Albert**, PhD, CCNS, CHFN, CCRN, NE-BC, FAHA, FCCM, FHSA, FAAN, Associate Chief Nursing Officer, Cleveland Clinic Nursing Research and Innovations, worked with Cleveland Clinic Innovations to adapt the High-Line™ for use in the ICU and is working to make the device available to other organizations for use in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. To learn more about High-Line™, view demos of the [Wall Mount & Ceiling Mount](#). [Read more.](#)

Living Legend **Linda S. Schwartz**, DrPH, RN, MSN, FAAN, was interviewed by **CNN** for a recent report, "[Veterans who sacrificed for their country battle coronavirus threat.](#)" Dr. Schwartz commented, "(It's) sad to think how many we will be mourning this year who died because of a virus and not on the battlefield. In a way, the battlefield is in the streets of America today."

The ***Heart and Lung: The Journal of Cardiopulmonary and Acute Care*** published an [article](#) titled "2020 - The Year that needed the nurse: Considerations for critical care nursing research and practice emerging in the midst of COVID-19" featuring **Linda Chlan**, PhD, RN, ATSF, FAAN.



The **International Council for Nurses (ICN)** issued a [statement](#) "ICN calls on WHO member states for health worker COVID-19 data."

Issues in Science and Technology published an [article](#) "The Public Health Epidemic Exacerbated by COVID-19." The article addresses the specific problem of social isolation and loneliness caused by the global

pandemic.

The ***Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*** published a [policy brief](#) "COVID-19 and Nursing Homes," which provides recommendations to the various levels of government about patient care in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities regarding the coronavirus.

The **Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)** released an [article](#) "Big Questions for the Health Policy Community Emerging From the Coronavirus Crisis." The article poses questions for future research into the lasting effects of the coronavirus on the U.S. healthcare system. For more information, visit the KFF [coronavirus policy watch page](#).

The **Kaiser Health News (KHN)** published an [article](#): "Tennessee's Secret To Plentiful Coronavirus Testing? Picking Up The Tab." The article describes what differentiates Tennessee's approach when it comes to testing.

The **National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** is [hosting a webinar](#): "Treating Addiction Across the Care Continuum During COVID-19: Challenges and Promising Practices." The **National Academies for Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)** published an [article](#) "What Data Do We Need to Reopen the Country? Webinar Explores What to Watch." For more resources, please visit their [website](#).

The **National Governors' Association (NGA)** [released a memo](#) "Governor Considerations Regarding Crisis Standards Of Care." The states established standard guidance in order to eliminate the difference in care among the various hospitals within the system.

The **New England Journal of Medicine** [published an article](#) "Preventing a Parallel Pandemic — A National Strategy to Protect Clinicians' Well-Being." This article draws attention to the problem of clinician burnout and the physical and mental strain on the healthcare workforce that is being accelerated with the global pandemic.



New York City (NYC) Mayor Bill de Blasio through **NYC Health + Hospitals** [announced](#) the "collaboration between the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), NYC Health + Hospitals, and Greater New York Hospital Association (GHNYA) to provide mental health programs to support health care workers and first responders on the front lines of the COVID-19

pandemic."

The **Office of Diversity and Cultural Affairs at Columbia University School of Nursing** [released a webinar](#): When will it Stop: The Disparities in the Era of COVID-19 featuring **Sheldon Fields**, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, AACRN, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN.

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)** in coordination with the **Urban Institute** [published a brief](#) "Parents are Struggling to Provide for Their Families During the Pandemic." The study finds that "More than 4 in 10 (43.3%) parents living with children under age 19 reported that they or a family member lost a job, work hours, and/or work-related income because of the coronavirus outbreak."



The **World Health Organization (WHO)** [announced with a press release](#): "WHO and Costa Rica preview technology pooling initiative to ensure access to COVID-19 health products for all." This platform would eliminate the barriers to information among the different countries. In addition, WHO [announced](#) "Historic health assembly ends with global commitment to COVID-19 response." The WHO Director-General, Tedros Adhanom, [opened](#) the World Health Assembly

by recognizing 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife and continued by thanking nurses, midwives, and all healthcare workers for their role in fighting the global pandemic.

The **Wiley Online Library** [published an article](#) "COVID-19: Ethical Challenges for Nurses" co-authored by **Christine Grady**, PhD, RN, FAAN, **Connie Ulrich**, PhD, RN, FAAN, and colleagues. This article discusses three ethical issues nurses face with the spread of the global pandemic.

Federal Government Response

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)

- CDC [released a webinar](#): "Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)"

- CDC [launched](#) a more comprehensive "CDC COVID Data Tracker"
- CDC continues to [update](#) data on the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the US.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Activity

- CMS [announced](#) additional waivers for the healthcare community that provide the flexibilities needed to take care of patients during the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE).
- CMS [announced](#) new guidance for state and local officials to ensure the safe reopening of nursing homes across the country. Read the [guidance](#).
- CMS [announced](#) a call for nominations for the new contractor-led Coronavirus Commission on Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes to help inform immediate and future responses to COVID-19 within these facilities.
- CMS [released](#) a [new toolkit](#) developed to aid nursing homes, Governors, states, departments of health, and other agencies who provide oversight and assistance to these facilities with additional resources to fight against COVID-19 within nursing homes.
- 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](#).

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- HHS [released a press release](#): "HHS Provides \$225 Million for COVID-19 Testing in Rural Communities."

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- FDA [announced](#) it will host a virtual Town Hall for clinical laboratories and commercial manufacturers that are developing or have developed diagnostic tests for COVID-19 on **May 27 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM EST**.
- FDA [announced](#) "FDA Authorizes First Standalone At-Home Sample Collection Kit That Can Be Used With Certain Authorized Tests."

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- NIH [announced a study](#): *NIH-funded study to investigate pregnancy outcomes resulting from COVID-19 pandemic.*
- NIH [released NIH Director: Defeating COVID-19 requires unprecedented action and collaboration](#). NIH Director, **Dr. Francis Collins**, [wrote an article](#) in *JAMA Network* titled, "Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines (ACTIV): An Unprecedented Partnership for Unprecedented Times."
- NIH [announced a study](#), *Investigational ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine protects monkeys against COVID-19 pneumonia.*

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

- NIDA [released a video](#) highlighting the challenges of those with substance abuse disorder and the coronavirus.
- NIDA Director, **Dr. Nora Volkow**, [shared a video](#) about the hardships of people struggling with addiction or those in recovery amidst the global pandemic.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- SAMHSA [published](#) "Double Jeopardy: COVID-19 and Behavioral Health Disparities for Black and Latino Communities in the U.S."



Debbie Chatman-Bryant

I am so proud to know you and call you a friend and mentor. I am learning SO MUCH from you re: leadership and policy. Keep inspiring us!

- Felesia Bowen



Nancy Gaden & The Boston Medical Center Nurses

In honor of Nancy Gaden, DNP, RN Senior VP and Chief Nursing Officer and her over 1500 RNs who have provided front line, compassionate, evidence-based, exceptional nursing care at Boston Medical Center, the largest safety net hospital in New England.

- Judy Beal



Children's National Hospital Nurses

Special thanks to the incredible nurses at Children's National Hospital during this pandemic.

I am inspired every day by their courage, compassion and innovation in caring for neonates to young adults. Their contributions on the practice, science, education and leadership in our nursing profession is impactful in advancing the outcomes of care for all pediatric patients and families that they touch.

- Kathy Gorman

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