

# COVID-19

## Weekly Digest



May 29, 2020

### A Note from Academy President Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN

This week, the United States has surpassed over [100,000 deaths](#) as a result of the coronavirus. Each of those lives were touched by a nurse and, as we know, nurses are the ones who are with these individuals during their last moments. I commend all of our colleagues and the profession's commitment to providing compassionate care, especially at end-of-life, to all individuals, families, and every community that is coping with the devastation of the pandemic and are grieving the loss of loved ones.

### Academy Actions

To advance this week's Nurses Month theme of **community engagement**, an Academy Living Legend and Academy Fellows share their advice on how to serve within, rely upon, and create equitable communities. These insights demonstrate how, together, we can advance better health outcomes, address environmental factors that impact well-being, foster inclusivity, and lead in times of uncertainty.



Mary Wakefield



Ronald Hickman



Teddie Potter

[View video - Mary Wakefield](#), PhD, RN, FAAN, 2019 Living Legend, Former Acting Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Visiting Professor, School of Nursing, The University of Texas at Austin and Georgetown University

[View video - Ronald Hickman](#), PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, FNP, FAAN, The Ruth M. Anderson Endowed Chair and Associate Dean for Research, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western University

[View video - Teddie M. Potter](#), PhD, RN, FAAN, Clinical Professor, Population Health and Systems Cooperative, Coordinator, Doctor of Nursing Practice in Health Innovation and Leadership, Director of Planetary Health, University of Minnesota School of Nursing

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.

### 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.*

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### From the Front Lines

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## CHAMPS

### Caring about Health for All

### A study of the COVID-19 workforce

**Donna S. Havens, PhD, RN, FAAN, Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN, Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, and Jennifer Yost, PhD, RN, FAAN,** are members of the steering committee for [CHAMPS](#), the Caring About Health for All Study launched by the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University. The study aims to understand the immediate and long-term effects of caring for COVID-19 patients on the health, lives, and careers of all front line workers, including responders and service workers. "It is vital that we learn from this experience and understand the broad scope of the impact on the health of those on the front lines," shared Dr. Havens. Healthcare providers are especially affected by the trauma of the pandemic. Dr.

Havens told *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, "When they think about it after the day it is done, it's, 'I wish I could have done this differently,' and it takes a toll on people." The pandemic has taken a toll on all of us, but healthcare providers already experiencing burnout may retire earlier affecting the entire workforce.

(Logo from [Villanova](#); photo from [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#).)



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### News & Updates from Organizations

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The **American Nurses Association (ANA)** [released a survey](#) about nurses' availability and usage of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** [sent a letter](#) to the G20 leaders insisting that public health be at the center of COVID-19 recovery plan.

**Johns Hopkins University** [released](#) "New Cases of COVID-19 in World Countries," which displays a graph comparing the 10 most affected countries as well as individual country data.



**Johnson & Johnson**, in partnership with the **American Nurses Association**, recorded a podcast titled “COVID-19 The Nurse Response: Safe Homes” as part of the See You Now Podcast series. The podcast explores nurses’ unique role in responding to intimate partner violence amidst the global pandemic. *Please note: If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline by calling 1-800-799-SAFE (7233),*

visiting [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org) or texting LOVEIS to 22522.

The **Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) Network** published an article titled “COVID-19 and Massive Job Losses Will Test the US Health Insurance Safety Net.”

The **Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)** published an article titled “Eligibility for ACA Health Coverage Following Job Loss.”

The **National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** recorded a webinar: “Virtual Meeting on Improving Vaccine Uptake – Issues of Access and Hesitancy.” NAM continues to record webinars on a variety of topics related to the novel coronavirus: “[Air Quality, Climate Variability, and COVID-19](#)” and “[How much will COVID-19 affect travel behavior?](#)” For more resources, please visit their [website](#).

The **National Black Nurses Association** and **Better Medicare Alliance** released an op-ed about the devastating effects of the coronavirus on minority populations and the importance of Medicare Advantage.

The **National Governors Association (NGA)** sent a letter to HHS Secretary Alex Azar and CMS Administrator Seema Verma requesting the Provider Relief Funds in the CARES Act and the \$75 billion included in the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act be sent to health care providers to help offset the cost of Medicaid beneficiaries. Additionally, the NGA released a state-by-state guide to the reopening plans.

**ProPublica** released an article titled “What Parents Should Know About Coronavirus as Kids Return to Babysitters, Day Cares and Camps.”

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)** published a policy brief titled “Health Equity Principles for State and Local Leaders in Responding to, Reopening and Recovering from COVID-19.”

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** released a press release “At least 80 million children under one at risk of diseases such as diphtheria, measles and polio as COVID-19 disrupts routine vaccination efforts, warn Gavi, WHO and UNICEF.”

## Federal Government Response

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

- CDC [released guidance](#) on how to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in pharmacies, bars, and restaurants, and more.
- CDC continues to [update](#) data on the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in the United States. The death toll surpassed 100,000 this week.

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

- CMS [announced](#) changes that will increase access to telehealth for seniors in Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, expand the types of supplemental benefits available for beneficiaries with an MA plan who have chronic diseases, provide support for more MA options for beneficiaries in rural communities, and expand access to MA for patients with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Read the [fact sheet](#).

### **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

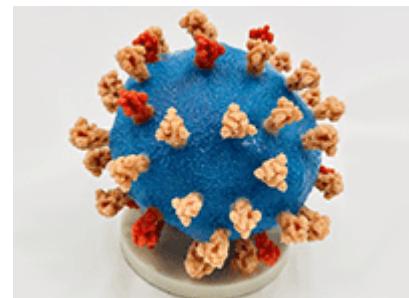
- HHS [announced](#) \$500 million to the Indian Health Service (IHS) and tribal hospitals, clinics, and urban health centers to support their response to COVID-19.
- HHS [announced](#) \$4.9 billion to skilled-nursing facilities (SNFs) to help offset significant spending and reduction in profit caused by the global pandemic.
- HHS Secretary Alex Azar [wrote an op-ed](#) titled, "We have to reopen--for our health."

### **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

- FDA [announced](#) the release of a SARS-CoV-2 reference panel, which will ensure the quality of the tests, validation of new assays, test calibration, and monitoring of assay performance.
- FDA [announced](#) the next part in the virtual Town Hall series, "Guidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19) Diagnostic Tests," for clinical laboratories and commercial manufacturers developing diagnostic tests on **June 3 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM EST**.

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

- NIH [announced](#) peer-reviewed data about the antiviral drug "remdesivir" showing improved recovery time for patients with COVID-19. Read the report.
- NIH Director **Dr. Francis Collins** [wrote](#) "3D Printing the Novel Coronavirus" as part of the NIH Director Blog series.



(Photo from [NIH](#).)



(Source: [11Alive](#))

## COVID-19 Resources

## Policy News

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