

COVID-19 DIGEST



July 10, 2020

Academy Actions

The Academy Applauds the Selection of Shannon Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, as the New Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)



On July 1, 2020, Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Institute for Health (NIH), [announced](#) the selection of Shannon Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN to be the next Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research. An Academy Fellow since 2013, Dr. Zenk currently serves as a Nursing Collegiate Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) College of Nursing. Dr. Zenk's [research](#) focuses on "social inequities and health, with the goal of identifying effective approaches at multiple levels to improve health and eliminate racial/ethnic and socioeconomic health disparities." The Academy celebrates this appointment and looks forward to the continued partnership with NINR to advance the impact nursing science has on the public's health and well-being.

Statement: The United States Must Remain a Member of the World Health Organization

As the Academy has previously stated in [April](#) and [June](#) of this year, withdrawing from the World Health Organization (WHO) is detrimental to the health of the nation and the world. The announcement from the Trump Administration that the United States will formally withdraw from the organization that directs and coordinates international health within the United Nations system is a move that isolates the US from our partners around the world. Our continued involvement in the WHO is vital, especially as the coronavirus pandemic worsens and new global health threats emerge. [Read the Academy's latest statement](#), released on July 8, 2020.

Fellow Highlights

Mary D. Naylor, PhD, RN, FAAN, co-authored an article titled, "["We are Alone in This Battle": A Framework for a Coordinated Response to COVID-19 in Nursing Homes](#)," in *Journal of Aging & Social Policy*.

Ukamaka M. Oruche, PhD, RN, FAAN, co-authored an article titled, "[How racism in US health system hinders care and costs lives of African Americans](#)."

Featured Fellow

Chad Priest, JD, MSN, RN, FAAN, Regional Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross - Indiana Region, is deftly balancing dual threats to the Indianapolis region: COVID-19 and the upcoming severe weather season.



"Unfortunately, the hurricane season won't wait for this pandemic to be over," said Mr. Priest to [WBIW](#), a regional radio station, "so we've reviewed and adapted our natural disaster preparedness and response capabilities in the context of this public health crisis."

The Indiana Region of the American Red Cross launched a "[#DoingMyPart](#)" campaign in mid-April to encourage residents to participate in efforts to help "raise awareness of how everyone has a role to play in flattening the curve of COVID-19." In addition to donating more than \$1.4 million in

disaster relief, the organization frequently deploys teams to the nation's most impacted areas during hurricane season. In the spring, however, Hoosiers also face threats from the upcoming tornado and flood season. [Disaster preparedness](#) is a major factor impacting health outcomes in the aftermath of a storm, especially among older adults. Mr. Priest has led his Greater Indiana Team through alterations of their response protocols in the wake of COVID-19, moving to virtual support where possible, and [offers recommendations](#) to be better prepared. (*Photo via Twitter*)



To learn more about the inextricable link between the environment and the public's health, attend this year's virtual [State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research](#).

News & Updates from Organizations

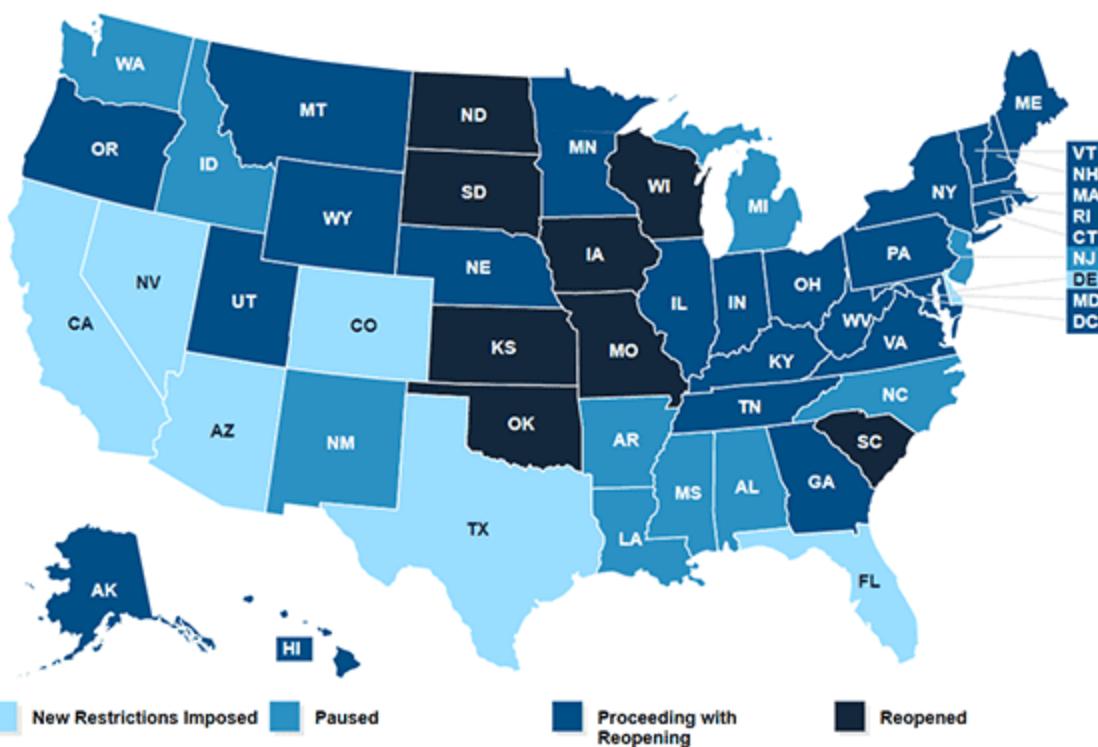


The [American Nurses Association \(ANA\)](#) published a [webinar](#) titled "Caring for Covid-19 Patients: Disease Progression and Nursing Interventions You Need to Know." The [ANA Enterprise](#)'s Well-Being Initiative [continues to release](#) information for nurses on the frontlines to support their mental health and resilience.

[Barron's](#) published an article titled "We Ran the CDC. Here's How to Talk to the Public in a Health Crisis."

The [International Council of Nurses \(ICN\)](#) and the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) released a joint statement titled "[2020 Triad Statement](#)" addressing the actions needed to protect individual nurses and midwives and to strengthen the profession after the pandemic.

The [Kaiser Family Foundation \(KFF\)](#) [released](#) "State Data and Policy Actions to Address Coronavirus" to track the spike in cases across the United States.



(Source: [KFF](#))

The **Kaiser Health News (KHN)** published two articles titled “[How A COVID-19 Vaccine Could Cost Americans Dearly](#)” and “[Amid Surge, Hospitals Hesitate To Cancel Nonemergency Surgeries.](#)”

The **National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** [hosted a webinar](#): Reopening Colleges and Universities During COVID-19 – Keeping Students and Communities Healthy. NAM [created](#) a page of resources on health equity amidst COVID-19 and disproportionate outcomes for marginalized groups.

The **National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)** [published an article](#) titled “The Search for a COVID-19 Vaccine — ‘There’s No One Winner.’” NASEM will host a Town Hall: [Responding to COVID-19, Overcoming Systemic Racism, and the Roles of U.S. Colleges and Universities](#) on July 13, 2020 at 1:30 PM EST.

The **National Library of Medicine (NLM)** [published an article](#): “NIH One Step Closer to Speeding Delivery of COVID-19 Testing Technologies to Those Who Need It Most Through RADx-UP.” The “RADx Underserved Populations (RADx-UP) will establish a network of community-engaged projects to improve access to and acceptance of COVID-19 testing for underserved and vulnerable populations who are disproportionately affected by COVID-19.”

The **National Governors Association (NGA)** [released a memo](#) titled “Countering Mis- And Disinformation Amid COVID-19.”

The **New York Times (NYT)** [published an article](#): “Actual Coronavirus Infections Vastly Undercounted, C.D.C. Data Shows” based on the newly released CDC data.

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)** [posted a blog post](#) titled “Reducing Childhood Obesity Now May Help in the Next Pandemic.”

Uniformed Service University’s Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress [published](#): “Grief Leadership During COVID-19.”

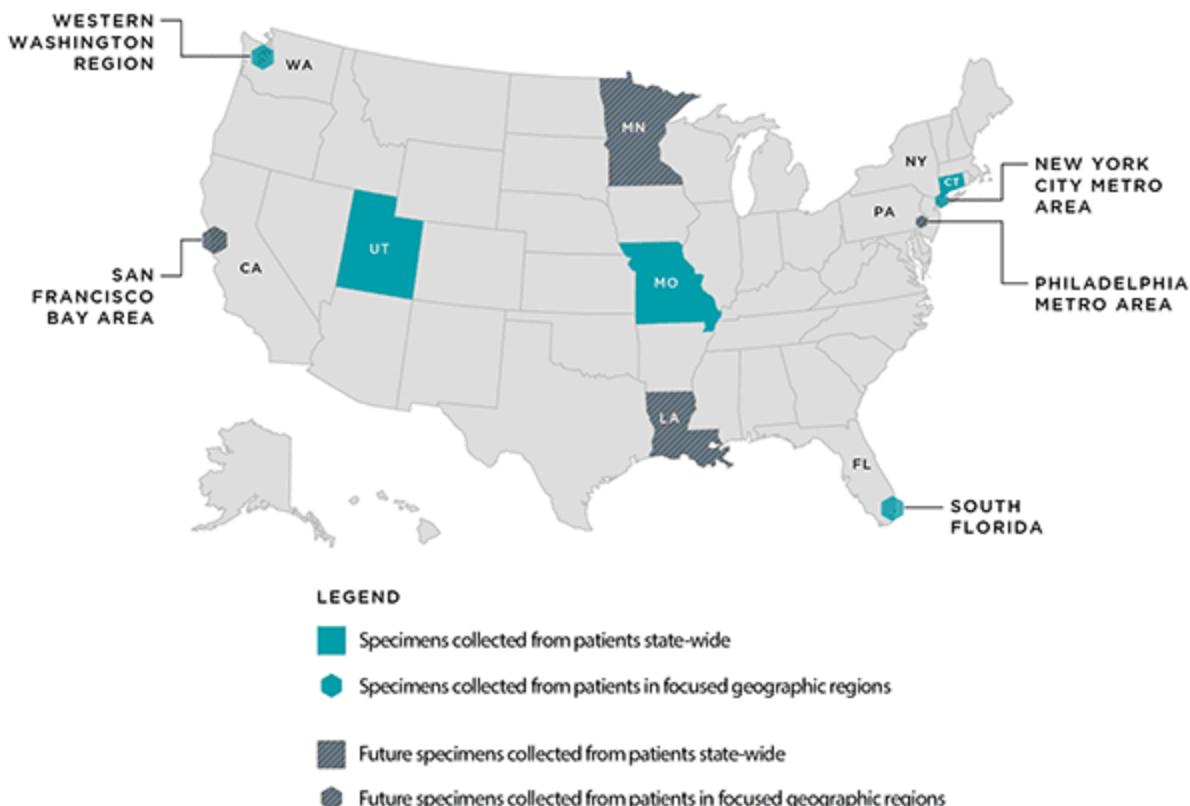
The **WHO** [published a press release](#): “Global scientific community unites to track progress on COVID-19 R&D, identifies new research priorities and critical gaps.” For further information, the WHO [announced](#) with a press release: “WHO discontinues hydroxychloroquine and

lopinavir/ritonavir treatment arms for COVID-19.” Finally, WHO published a press release: “Independent evaluation of global COVID-19 response announced.”

Federal Government Response

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Survey Site Locations as of June 25, 2020



(Source: [CDC](#))

- CDC [released the data](#): “Commercial Laboratory Seroprevalence Survey Data” indicating more people might have been infected with COVID-19 than original reporting has shown.
- CDC [updated and expanded the list](#) of who is at increased risk for getting severely ill from COVID-19.
- CDC [will host a webinar](#) titled “Clinical Management of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)” on July 16, 2020 at 2:00 PM EST.
- CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) [released a report](#) titled “COVID-19 Among Workers in Meat and Poultry Processing Facilities.” For more detailed MMWR reports, please visit the [website](#).
- CDC [continues to release guidance](#) on a range of issues as states reopen including “[Considerations for Events and Gatherings](#)” and updating the “[Overview of Testing for SARS-CoV-2](#).”
- 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) Activity

- CMS [released a trends report](#) that provides [data](#) on the number of individuals who signed up for coverage on HealthCare.gov through a special enrollment period (SEP) during the

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

- 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.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- NIH and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) [announced](#) a funding opportunity to support research to address the psychosocial, behavioral, and socioeconomic effects of SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 among health disparity and other vulnerable populations.
- NIH [announced](#) the launch of a clinical trials network to test COVID-19 vaccines and other prevention tools. NIH's Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines (ACTIV) Vaccines Working Group [assessed](#) practical considerations and prerequisites for using controlled human infection models (CHIMs), which can be used for human challenge studies, to support SARS-CoV-2 vaccine development.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- HHS [announced](#) 'Surge' COVID-19 testing in hotspot jurisdictions in Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. HHS and the Department of Defense (DoD) [announced](#) a \$1.6 billion agreement with Novavax, Inc. to demonstrate commercial-scale manufacturing of the company's COVID-19 investigational vaccine.
- HHS and DoD [announced](#) an agreement with Regeneron, Inc. to demonstrate commercial-scale manufacturing of the company's COVID-19 investigational anti-viral antibody treatment, REGN-COV2.
- HHS [announced](#) the extension of the COVID-19 testing public-private partnership. HHS [re-established](#) the Ready Reserve Corps as part of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS).
- HHS [announced](#) an agreement to secure large supplies of the drug remdesivir for the United States from Gilead Sciences through September.
- On June 26, HHS [granted](#) a 14-day extension of federal support for five Community-Based Testing Sites (CBTS) in Texas.
- The HHS Office of Civil Rights (OCR) [announced](#) the resolution of a complaint with Tennessee after it revises its triage plans to protect against disability discrimination.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- FDA [will host](#) a virtual Town Hall for clinical laboratories and commercial manufacturers that are developing or have developed diagnostic tests for SARS-CoV-2 on July 15, 2020 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM EST.
- FDA [released](#) the third episode of its podcast titled "FDA Insight: Food Safety and COVID-19."
- FDA [issued](#) an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for a COVID-19 antigen diagnostic test, the BD (Becton Dickinson) Veritor System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2.
- FDA [announced](#) the authorization of an additional COVID-19 combination diagnostic test ahead of flu season.
- FDA [released a warning](#) for consumers and healthcare professionals about hand sanitizer products containing methanol, or wood alcohol that is not an acceptable active ingredient for hand sanitizer products and can be toxic when absorbed through the skin as well as life-threatening when ingested.
- FDA [released](#) the second episode of its podcast titled "FDA Insight: All About COVID-19 Testing."

This Maryland nursing home has had no coronavirus cases. How did they do it?



(Photo via PBS)



The Academy launched a Call for Artists to create a mechanism for Fellows to express themselves and their reflections through art and to support each other. Learn more and submit your artwork [here](#).

COVID-19 Resources

Policy News

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