

COVID-19 DIGEST



July 24, 2020

Academy Actions

On July 13th the Academy signed onto a letter requesting Congress add maternal and infant health components to the **Cures 2.0 Act**. The letter stressed that issues related to access to maternity care, workforce shortages, and outcome disparities must be addressed as part of the pandemic response. [Read the letter.](#)



The Academy will be accepting art submissions from Fellows through **September 1, 2020**. Learn more and submit your artwork [here](#).

Fellow Highlights

Lauran Hardin, MSN, CNL, FNAP, FAAN, and **Diana Mason**, PhD, RN, FAAN, [co-authored an article](#) titled "Lessons From Complex Care in a COVID-19 World."

Time published an [article](#) titled "Amid Social Upheaval and COVID-19, Black Women Create Their Own Health Care Support Networks" in which **Monica McLemore**, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN is quoted for her work.

Linda Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, [participated](#) in a panel focused on the medical aspects of COVID-19 with Vanderbilt University and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Academy President-Elect **Ken White**, PhD, AGACNP-BC, FACHE, FAAN, [co-authored an article](#) titled "Palliative care citizenship."

Kelly Wolgast, Col (Ret.), DNP, RN, FACHE, FAAN, [was named](#) director of the new Penn State COVID Operations Control Center.



Jian Zhang, DNP, MS, FNP-BC, FAAN, was featured in a PBS News Hour [interview](#), "How planning and early action helped San Francisco's Chinatown control coronavirus."

Featured Fellow

As coronavirus cases have [surged throughout Arizona](#) in recent weeks, [Anabell Castro Thompson](#), MSN, APRN, ANP-C, FAANP, FAAN, has been instrumental in implementing a culturally competent care model to reduce health inequities by improving access and trust within underserved communities in her role as Senior Vice President of Health Equity at [Equality Health](#).



Anabell Castro Thompson
(Source: [Equality Health](#))

Equality Health, through support of its foundation, is providing coronavirus testing, education, care, and access to vital resources to community members and partners in areas impacted the hardest, particularly in the greater Phoenix region. During the pandemic, the organization has been hosting free COVID-19 drive-thru testing events to provide the predominantly Latinx communities of Central and West Phoenix access to quality services. Ms. Thompson shared, however, that the services go beyond testing. In addition to conducting COVID tests, the Equality Health Cultural Care Model ensures individuals also receive education on self-isolation and preventive measures to keep their families safe (the information is both culturally and language appropriate), access to Equality Health's network of over 4,500 providers, and connection to social resources such as rental and utility assistance, internet access, and food security programs to name a few. Additionally, the organization deployed free telehealth technology to its medical and behavioral health network providers to ensure that they could offer telehealth services during the pandemic.

The success of the initial drive-thru event prompted the City of Phoenix and City of Glendale, Sonora Quest Laboratories, and other local organizations to partner with Equality Health to launch additional testing events. Ms. Thompson noted that one of the first events they offered was scheduled to be conducted over a four-hour period and they expected to test 500 individuals. The event went on for twelve hours and provided testing to over 1,100 people. After waiting in the Arizona heat for hours, one of the last cars in line was a mother-son pair who had driven an elder member of their community to get tested because he had been experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. "Doing this kind of work, seeing their gratitude and appreciation, shows that there are sectors of our population that are forgotten," said Ms. Thompson. "This experience was a reminder of the important work we are doing and the work we have ahead."



One of the last cars to be tested during Equality Health's second drive-thru testing event.
(Image provided by [Equality Health](#))

News & Updates from National Organizations

American Nurses Association (ANA) published a [webinar](#): "COVID-19 Webinar Series: Racial Disparities Webinar."

Elsevier [launched](#) the Coronavirus Research Hub to offer researchers and data scientists focused on a COVID-19 vaccine, drug, clinical and other related research access to articles and chapters for free.

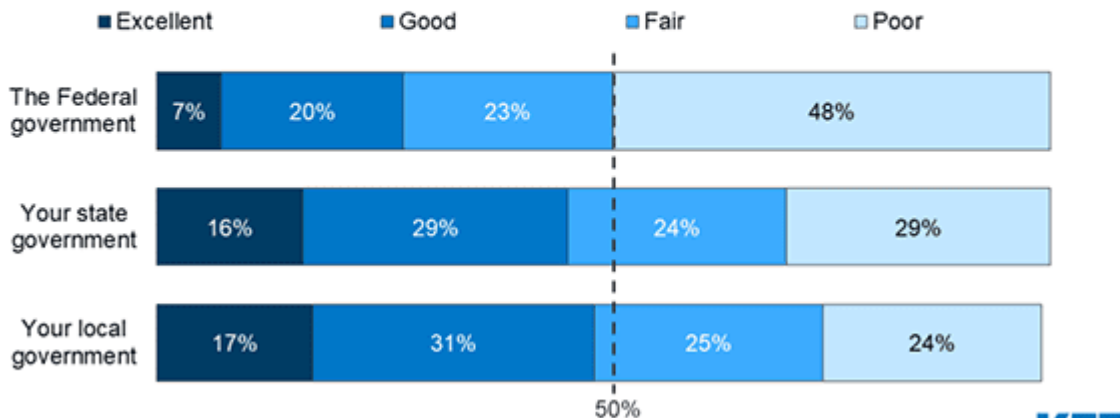
The International Centre on Nurse Migration (ICNM) is hosting a [webinar](#) titled "Nurses on the Frontlines of a Crisis: The Future of Nursing in a COVID-19 World" on July 31st at 9:00 AM EST.

The **Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF)** [released](#) a "Health Tracking Poll for July 2020 - Coronavirus: Reopening, Schools, And The Government Response." (Image below.)

Figure 2

About Seven In Ten Give The Federal Government Fair Or Poor Marks In Coronavirus Outbreak Response

Overall, how would you rate each of the following's response to the current coronavirus outbreak?



SOURCE: KFF Health Tracking Poll (conducted July 14-19, 2020). See topline for full question wording.

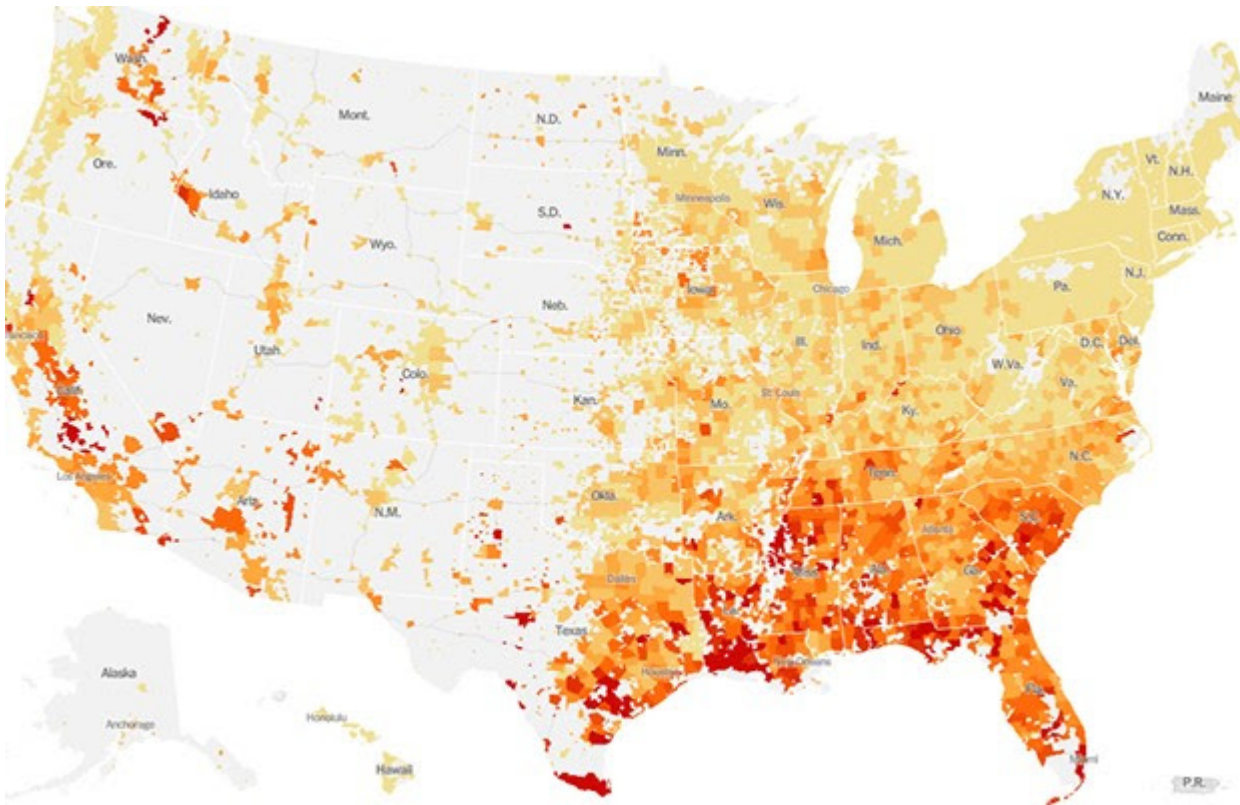
The **Kaiser Health News (KHN)** published an [article](#) titled "As Long Waits for Results Render COVID Tests 'Useless,' States Seek Workarounds." KHN published an [article](#) titled "As Coronavirus Patients Skew Younger, Tracing Task Seems All But Impossible."

Medscape recorded a [podcast](#) with **Anthony Fauci, MD**, on the show "Medicine and the Machine." In providing updates on the current surge in coronavirus cases, Dr. Fauci stated, "We're all in it together and we're gonna get through it."

The **National Academy of Medicine (NAM)** and the **American Public Health Association (APHA)**'s COVID-19 Conversations will host its 12th [webinar](#) titled "Managing Ongoing Surges — Lessons From the Front Lines" on Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 5:00 PM EST.

The **National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)** will host a [webinar](#) titled "Committee on Equitable Allocation of Vaccine for the Novel Coronavirus" on Friday, July 24th at 4:30 PM EST. NASEM [published](#) a blog titled "The Search for a COVID-19 Vaccine — 'There's No One Winner.'"

The **New York Times (NYT)** published an [article](#) titled "Coronavirus in the U.S.: Latest Map and Case Count," more than 4 million people in the United States have been infected with COVID-19. (Image below from the article shows hot spots across the United States.)



Politico published an [article](#) titled “Vaccine-makers’ ‘no profit’ pledge stirs doubts in Congress.”

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)** published an [article](#) titled “Changes in Health Insurance Coverage Due to the COVID-19 Recession: Preliminary Estimates Using Microsimulation.”

The **Washington Post** published an [article](#) titled “Latinos hit hard by coronavirus, but Chicago suggests it’s even worse than it looks.”

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** [released](#) “A guide to WHO’s guidance on COVID-19” to provide further guidance on the novel coronavirus. WHO also released an [article](#) titled “New COVID-19 Law Lab to provide vital legal information and support for the global COVID-19 response”

Federal Government Response



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- CDC Director, **Robert Redfield**, MD, released a [statement](#) in response to misleading media reports of unreported cases. Dr. Redfield reinforced the CDC's estimate that there were 10 times more cases than reported.
- CDC will host a [webinar](#) titled “Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Diabetes: The Importance of Prevention, Management, and Support” on July 28, 2020 at 2:00 PM EST.
- CDC [continues to release guidance](#) on a range of issues as states reopen including “[Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) in Correctional and Detention Facilities](#)” and “[Considerations for Restaurants and Bars.](#)”
- 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 [announced](#) new initiatives designed to protect nursing home residents from COVID-19.
- CMS [announced](#) the agency's targeted approach to provide additional resources to nursing homes in COVID-19 hotspot areas.
- CMS Administrator, Seema Verma [convened a roundtable discussion](#) with Detroit health care leaders, representatives from long-term care facilities, and other community stakeholders to discuss the impact of and response to COVID-19 in 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](#) on COVID-19.



Department for Health and Human Services (HHS)

- HHS and the Department of Defense (DoD) [announced](#) an agreement with U.S.-based Pfizer Inc. for large-scale production and nationwide delivery of 100 million doses of a COVID-19 vaccine in the United States following the vaccine's successful manufacture and approval.
- HHS [announced](#) a new program, the National COVID-19 Testing Implementation Forum, to capture feedback between federal officials and the private sector.
- HHS **Office of Minority Health (OMH)** [published a blog](#) titled "Hospitals must do better to address minority mental health."
- HHS **OCR** [issued guidance](#) to ensure that recipients of federal financial assistance comply with applicable federal civil rights laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination in HHS-funded programs during COVID-19.
- HHS [announced](#) it will begin distributing \$10 billion in a second round of high impact COVID-19 area funding to hospitals starting next week.
- HHS Chief Information Officer, **Jose Arrieta** and CDC Director, **Robert Redfield**, MD, [provided an update](#) for members of the media on HHS efforts to gather and disseminate real-time hospital data on COVID-19.
- HHS announced a large-scale procurement of FDA-authorized rapid point-of-care diagnostic test instruments and tests to be distributed to nursing homes in COVID-19 hotspot geographic areas.
- HHS [announced](#) over \$4 billion in additional relief payments to healthcare providers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.
- HHS [released](#) the May and June COVID-19 state testing plans. "The plans include details on response to surge cases and how to reach vulnerable populations including minorities, immunocompromised individuals and older adults."



Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- FDA [announced](#) "Findings from Real-World Data Study Reveal Higher Risk of Hospitalization and Death Among Cancer Patients with COVID-19, Underscore Health Disparities."
- FDA [released](#) the fifth episode of its podcast titled "FDA Insight: Vaccines for COVID-19, Part 1."
- FDA, along with CDC's **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** and the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**, hosted a [webinar](#) on Respirators for Health Care Personnel Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 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 29, 2020 from 12:15 - 1:15 PM EST.

- FDA [released](#) the fourth episode of its podcast titled “FDA Insight: Clinical Trials and Treatments for COVID-19.”



National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- NIH [announced](#) an increase in the number, quality and type of daily tests for detecting SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and help reduce inequities for underserved populations that have been disproportionately affected by the disease.
- NIH [published](#) new guidelines related to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) with updated epidemiologic data and new sections on Remdesivir, Corticosteroids, Mesenchymal Stem Cells, among others.
- NIH and the **National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)** [announced](#) the experimental COVID-19 vaccine is safe and generates immune response as an update to the ongoing Phase 1 trial.

International Council of Nurses Releases Song to Celebrate Nurses Everywhere



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES



(Source: [International Council of Nurses](#))

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

[Policy News](#)

American Academy of Nursing
Washington, DC

info@aannet.org | www.aannet.org | 202-777-1170



[Unsubscribe](#) from these messages.