



South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

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SITUATIONAL REPORT NO. 31, DATE: AUGUST 21, 2020

EVENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC

I. CDC GUIDANCE-DURATION OF ISOLATION AND PRECAUTIONS FOR ADULTS WITH COVID-19

Recently, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) published revised guidance regarding the duration adults confirmed positive for COVID-19 should remain in isolation. As previously reported, people with COVID-19 should be isolated for at least 10 days after symptom onset and until 24 hours after their fever subsides without the use of fever-reducing medications. Newly released guidance suggests retesting someone in the 3 months following initial infection is not necessary unless that person is exhibiting the symptoms of COVID-19 and the symptoms cannot be associated with another illness. The guidance can be found [here](#).

II. REDUCING STRESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: (CLICK HERE)

The CDC has published guidance and links to various resources to help those you serve, their families, our workforce, and other stakeholders manage stress during the COVID-19 pandemic. Public health actions, such as social distancing, can make people feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety. However, these actions are necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Coping with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and your community stronger.

III. HHS EXTENDS APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR MEDICAID PROVIDERS AND PLANS TO REOPEN PORTAL TO CERTAIN MEDICARE PROVIDERS.

As part of its ongoing efforts to provide financial relief to healthcare providers impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), today the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing an application deadline extension for the Phase 2 general distribution to Medicaid, Medicaid managed care, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and dental providers. HHS also plans to allow certain Medicare providers who experienced challenges in the Phase 1 Medicare General Distribution application period a second opportunity to receive funding. Both groups will have until Friday, August 28, 2020 to apply.

IV. COMMISSION UPDATE ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

Commissioners for the South Carolina Department of Disabilities (DDSN) received an update on the impact of the COVID-19. The report included data, as of August 19, 2020, regarding individuals served and personnel employed DDSN and agencies in DDSN’s network. The data shared with Commissioners can be found [here](#).

V. UPDATED WHO GUIDANCE ON COVID-19 CARE AT HOME

This guidance is an update of the March 17, 2020 “Home Care for Patients with COVID-19 Presenting Mild Symptoms and Management of their Contacts.”

[https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/home-care-for-patients-with-suspected-novel-coronavirus-\(ncov\)-infection-presenting-with-mild-symptoms-and-management-of-contacts](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/home-care-for-patients-with-suspected-novel-coronavirus-(ncov)-infection-presenting-with-mild-symptoms-and-management-of-contacts)

Q & A for Families and Care givers- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-home-care-and-covid-19-for-families-and-caregivers>

Q & A for Health Care Workers- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-home-care-and-covid-19-for-health-workers-and-administrators>.

VI. CMS ANNOUNCES RESUMPTION OF ROUTINE INSPECTIONS (CLICK HERE)

On August 17, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it will resume routine inspections of all Medicare and Medicaid certified providers and suppliers to improve the safety and quality of life of patients and residents. CMS had previously suspended certain routine inspections as part of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic to prioritize infection control and immediate jeopardy situations and to give health care providers time to respond to the spread of the virus.

VII. GOVERNOR MCMASTER DIRECTS DHEC TO UPDATE GUIDELINES FOR ALLOWING VISITATION

Governor McMaster issued a memorandum, dated August 21, 2020, to DHEC requesting their agency promptly issue up-to-date visitation guidelines providing all direction and information deemed necessary to resume - or require resumption if necessary - in-person visitation with residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The memorandum can be found [here](#).