September 10, 2020

COVID-19

REPORTED CASES	
Montana *New in last 24hrs: 196 (+more than 2%)* *Active Cases: 1,808 (-220)* *Recovered: 6,732 (+414)* *Hospitalizations, Total: 512 (+3)* *Hospitalizations, Active: 163 (+0)* *Deaths: 123 (Last 24hrs: +1)* Source: Montana COVID-19 Dashboard (Updated 10:00 a.m.)	**8,663**
United States *New in last 24hrs: 39,765 (+less than 1%)* Source: Johns Hopkins CSSE Global Outbreak Dashboard	**6,370,081**
WA	**78,009**
ID	**35,353**
WY	**4,152**
ND	**14,443**
SD	**15,571**

OPERATIONS

Updated analysis of COVID-19 cases in Montana. Montana DPHHS has released an updated epidemiological review of COVID-19 cases in the state. The report is based on COVID-19 case information available as of September 4.

Administration issues guidance to increase access to future COVID-19 vaccine. On September 9, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) announced it had issued guidance under the PREP Act expanding authorization for certain pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 vaccinations.

HHS releases RFI seeking information about laboratory surge capacity for COVID-19 testing. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) within HHS has [released](#) a request for information (RFI). The RFI seeks information to assess whether Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)-certified/accredited laboratories are able to provide added COVID-19 testing if additional testing equipment from Thermo Fisher Scientific were made available. Responses are due by 3:00 p.m. MT September 20, 2020.'

Senators examine COVID-19 vaccines; FDA independence, vaccine confidence, costs, and distribution discussed. On September 9, the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee convened a hearing to examine the Administration's efforts to develop a COVID-19 vaccine and increase uptake of regularly scheduled vaccines. Access the video recording of hearing [here](#).

PLANNING

New HHS data reporting platform - Single data entry fulfills state and federal requirements. MHA has purchased a new HHS Data Reporting Platform with COVID-19 grant funding. This creates a single, secure data entry point to fulfill both state and federal requirements, including state PPE resource allocation and HHS Teletracking mandates. This new single-entry system is especially critical with CMS' new rules that require such reporting as a Condition of Participation for Medicare and Medicaid. Hospitals will face possible termination of Medicare and Medicaid payments if unable to correct reporting deficiencies. See the complete details on the new platform [here](#).

As of September 8, 2020 hospitals should utilize EMResource for statewide bed availability, PPE and Remdisivir data, as well as, all TeleTracking data points, including HHS lab testing. Upon entering HHS data into EMResource, Juvare will automatically upload data to TeleTracking on behalf of your facility daily. Facilities may continue entering their own data into TeleTracking if they choose. All laboratories conducting COVID-19 testing and reporting patient-specific results – including hospital labs, nursing homes, and other facilities conducting testing for COVID-19 – will be required to comply. If a laboratory does not report the required information, CMS will impose a civil monetary penalty in the amount of $1,000 a day for the first day, and $500 for each subsequent day.

Long-Term Care facilities must transition all PPE and bed reporting to EMResources as of October 1, 2020. The previous [weekly survey](#) hosted on Formstack will become inactive on October 1, 2020. Facilities that do not have access to EMResource should email contact information to [hppcoordinators@mtha.org.](mailto:hppcoordinators@mtha.org)

For questions, please contact your [Regional Coordinator](#).

LOGISTICS

AHA Podcast released: COVID-19 in a rural Oregon CAH. Lesley Ogden, M.D., CEO of Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital and Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital in Oregon, shares her hospitals' experience during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Listen here to learn what these CAHs discovered during their seven-month battle with COVID-19, including the significance of emergency disaster planning, community collaboration, flex staffing, supply chain challenges for PPE and testing, and how cultural awareness can lead to cultural competency.

AHA blog released: The healthcare supply chain before and in the midst of COVID-19. Months into the COVID-19 pandemic, the healthcare supply chain remains strained due to the high demand for PPE. In this blog Q&A, Mike Schiller, senior director of supply chains for the Association for Healthcare Resource and Materials Management, discusses the past, present and future state of the healthcare supply chain during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency.

Submit PPE needs to DES coordinator in order to ensure allocation. Until further notice, healthcare organizations MUST submit needs to their local DES coordinator in order to receive an allocation of emergency PPE.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Administration shares plans for Provider Relief Fund performance-based incentive payments to nursing homes. HHS has released details about the $2 billion PRF performance-based incentive payments for nursing homes. To qualify, a facility must possess an active state certification as a nursing home or SNF and receive reimbursement from CMS and report to at least one of three data sources.

New CPT codes address advancing understanding of COVID-19. An updated set of Current Procedural Terminology codes includes two for reporting medical services necessitated during the COVID-19 pandemic public health response.

COMMUNICATIONS

Call recordings and webinar playbacks. Missed a call or webinar promoted in MHA's daily COVID-19 Call & Webinar Alert? Many are recorded, and are posted here once available.

COVID-19 Resource Library. MHA has built a library of helpful resources and sample material from other hospitals, healthcare organizations and states in their response to COVID-19.

HHS hospital-specific COVID-19 questions: HospitalCOVID19@hhs.gov

SITREP Archive. Daily Situation Reports archived [here](#).

State of Montana COVID-19 Hotline: 1-888-333-0461
Montanans can also email questions to covid19info@mt.gov. State public health officials will be responding to inquiries from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MHA Incident Management Team: esf8@mtha.org

REFERENCE LINKS
GENERAL

Contact lists and general sources of information on a wide range of COVID-19-related issues

[MHA COVID-19 General Resources page](#)

CLINICAL OPERATIONS

Resources on infection prevention and control, EMS operations, telehealth operations and care for specific populations from federal and state resources

[MHA COVID-19 Clinical Operations page](#)

LONG-TERM CARE & RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

CDC and CMS resources specific to maintaining safe conditions in long-term care and retirement communities
[MHA COVID-19 Long-Term Care & Retirement Communities page](#)

SUPPLY CHAIN RESOURCES

Resources from AHRMM, AHA, Intalere, CDC and other sources on sourcing, conserving and properly using PPE

[MHA COVID-19 Supply Chain Resources page](#)

WORKFORCE PROTECTION & SUPPORT

MT DLI, CDC, OSHA and NIH toolkits, FAQs and other resources to protect employees and allow staff to return to work

[MHA COVID-19 Workforce Protection & Support page](#)

COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

CDC resources on community mitigation strategies

[MHA COVID-19 Community Mitigation Strategies page](#)

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Guidance, fact sheets and other resources on regulatory waivers and flexibilities in addition to catalogued financing information related to the CARES Act and other COVID-19 funding assistance

[MHA COVID-19 Finance & Administration page](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

Archive of MHA COVID-19 related communications as well as sample communications documents, toolkits and other resources from state and national levels

[MHA COVID-19 Communications page](#)

TESTING

FAQs, recommendations and other CDC, FDA and MT DPHHS resources related to COVID-19 testing

[MHA COVID-19 Testing page](#)

PLANNING

Best practices and planning documents from CDC, facilities on the front lines and MT DPHHS

[MHA COVID-19 Planning page](#)

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