



CMS Snapshot

May 18-25, 2023

Delivered to you by the Partner Relations Group in the Office of Communications

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, May 18 through 2pm Thursday, May 25, 2023

News Releases

*May 19- [CMS Roundup \(May. 19, 2023\)](#). Today, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing an at-a-glance summary of news from around the agency.

*May 19- [HHS Announces Over \\$65 Million to Address the Maternal Health Crisis and Invest in New Approaches to Care](#). *Funds will support health centers in medically underserved and rural communities to improve maternal health as part of the White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), awarded more than \$65 million to 35 HRSA-funded health centers to address the maternal mortality crisis. Our country's maternal mortality rate is the highest of any developed nation in the world and more than double the rate of peer countries. HRSA's funds will be used to implement innovative approaches to improve maternal health outcomes and reduce disparities for patients at highest risk.

*May 19- [HHS and Baby2Baby Announce Partnership to Support New Mothers with a Newborn Supply Kit During Visit by Vice President Kamala Harris](#). *Newborn Supply Kits include critical resources to help new moms navigate early motherhood and continue the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to improve maternal and neonatal health. HHS also launched a new website, www.hhs.gov/newbaby, for families to get critical information on health, feeding, sleeping, child development and programmatic information.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the non-profit organization [Baby2Baby](#) announced a new pilot program to distribute a one-time only Newborn Supply Kit made up of essential goods and critical maternal health items to new mothers and their infants. The announcement coincided with a visit by Vice President Kamala Harris, and HHS Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, January Contreras to the nonprofit's Los Angeles headquarters and warehouse. Harris and Contreras toured the warehouse and met with mothers to discuss maternal health and support for families.

For more information, please email partnership@cms.hhs.gov

*May 22- [Remarks by HHS Secretary Becerra at the 76th World Health Assembly](#). Today, May 22, 2023, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra joined leaders from across the world in Geneva, Switzerland for the 76th World Health Assembly (WHA). Below are Secretary Becerra’s remarks, as prepared and delivered.

*May 23- [Biden-Harris Administration Announces Proposal to Advance Prescription Drug Transparency in Medicaid](#). *New HHS proposal would shed light on cost of prescription drugs and save states and federal government money in Medicaid.* The Biden-Harris Administration has made lowering prescription drug costs in America a key priority — and President Biden is continuing to deliver results. Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is proposing steps to further drive down prescription drug costs in Medicaid and build on [President Biden’s executive order to lower prescription drug costs for Americans](#). CMS’ latest notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) would shed light on the actual cost of drugs covered by Medicaid. Under this proposal, Medicaid would have increased ability to hold drug manufacturers accountable for what Medicaid programs pay for drugs.

*May 23- [Surgeon General Issues New Advisory About Effects Social Media Use Has on Youth Mental Health](#). *Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy Urges Action to Ensure Social Media Environments are Healthy and Safe, as Previously-Advised National Youth Mental Health Crisis Continues.* Today, United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy released a new [Surgeon General’s Advisory on Social Media and Youth Mental Health - PDF](#). While social media may offer some benefits, there are ample indicators that social media can also pose a risk of harm to the mental health and well-being of children and adolescents. Social media use by young people is nearly universal, with up to 95% of young people ages 13-17 reporting using a social media platform and more than a third saying they use social media “almost constantly.”

*May 24- [HHS Releases Report to Increase Language Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency](#). *Office for Civil Rights issues report to reduce barriers and increase access to persons with limited English proficiency.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) released a report summarizing the progress the Department has made on improving the provision of meaningful access to language assistance services to persons with limited English proficiency (LEP). The report also identifies steps to continue and strengthen this work across HHS moving forward.

*May 24- [Readout of HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra’s Visit to Geneva, Switzerland, for the 76th World Health Assembly](#). On May 21, 22, and 23, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra joined leaders from across the world in Geneva, Switzerland, for the 76th World Health Assembly (WHA) to discuss global health priorities.

*May 25- [HHS Awards Funding to Build Out the Biden-Harris Administration’s Crisis Care 988 Lifeline](#). *New funding will expand mobile crisis response teams.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

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Administration (SAMHSA), [awarded 13 grants to communities to create new and enhance existing mobile crisis response teams](#). The teams will respond to mental health and substance use crises in high-need areas, in coordination with local law enforcement. These new awards help advance President Biden's strategy to address our national mental health crisis by building on mobile crisis grants awarded last year and other efforts to support crisis care tied to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

Fact Sheets

*May 23- [Misclassification of Drugs, Program Administration and Program Integrity Updates Under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program Notice for Proposed Rulemaking \(CMS-2434-P\)](#). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS') proposed rule seeks to advance policies to promote efficient operation of the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program (MDRP). This includes proposed policies to implement new statutory authorities included in the Medicaid Services Investment and Accountability Act of 2019 (MSIAA) to address situations in which manufacturers incorrectly report or misclassify their drugs in the MDRP. The proposed rule also seeks to enhance the MDRP integrity and improve program administration by proposing new policies that would assure greater consistency and accuracy of drug information reporting, strengthened data collection, and efficient operation of the MDRP.

*May 23- [Medicaid Drug Price Verification Survey and Pharmacy Benefit Manager Drug Price Transparency](#). CMS is proposing to verify certain drug prices reported by manufacturers through an annual Medicaid Drug Price Verification Survey. By verifying drug prices and publishing non-proprietary information about the drug prices, the survey would increase public transparency for high-cost drugs in a way that would help state Medicaid agencies more effectively negotiate covered outpatient drug (COD) prices with manufacturers. The survey is being proposed as part of the Drug Misclassification Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM).