I. Overview of COVID-19 Statistics

II. Federal Update

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IV. Question and Answer
As of May 13, 2020

- 2,030 COVID+ patients
- 46% of patients in Broward and Dade counties
- 457 in ICU (23% of total)
- 225 on ventilators (71% ICU)
- 8,359 ventilators available
- 3,408 anesthesia machines convertible to ventilators
Federal Update
• **Medicare Accelerated Payment Program**: Section 30206 would lower the interest rate to one percent for loans to Medicare providers made under the Accelerated and Advance Payment Program. Also, at a hospital's request, the Secretary shall provide one year before claims are offset to recoup such payment; reduce the per-claim recoupment percentage not to exceed 25 percent, and allow no less than two years from the date of the first accelerated payment before requiring that the outstanding balance be paid in full.

• **Provider Relief Fund**: The legislation includes an additional $100 billion for the fund. The bill does not include great specificity regarding how the money should be allocated. **Note:** the original CARES Act created the $100 billion fund while the most recent coronavirus stimulus package infused an additional $75 billion into the fund. If passed as currently written, this provision would bring the fund to $275 billion.

• **Medicaid**: The bill would increase the Federal Matching Assistance Percentage (FMAP) by 14 percentage points through June 30, 2021. The legislation would also increase the FMAP by ten percentage points for state Medicaid services for patients in home and community-based care. Also, as drafted, the HHS Secretary cannot take any action to finalize or implement the Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Rule (MFAR) during the federal government's COVID-19 emergency. The bill also temporarily increases Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) allotments by 2.5 percent.
• **Medicare:** The bill would provide an outlier payment for inpatient claims for any amount over the traditional Medicare payment to cover excess costs hospitals incur for more expensive COVID19 patients until January 31, 2021.

• **Testing:** The Heroes Act would require an updated strategic testing plan with certain benchmarks and timelines. It would give $75 billion in grants to public health departments to support testing, surveillance, contact tracing, and containment activities. The bill also revives a previously proposed mandate that all insurers cover treatment for the coronavirus without cost-sharing.

• **Telehealth:** The bill would provide additional funding to the Indian Health Service for telehealth services. Otherwise, other provisions are largely focused on one-time emergency funding of $5.25 billion to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for an “E-rate to the Home” initiative. It ensures that all broadband providers are eligible to participate (provider-neutral).
New CMS 1135 Waiver for Hospital Swing Beds

- Addresses hospital reimbursement for care provided to long-term care (LTC) residents who do not meet normal admission criteria.

- Allows hospitals to bill Medicare for a lower acuity hospital stay or establish a rate that may be used in these instances such as an inpatient rehabilitation facility rate.

- Does not appropriately reflect the volume of Florida’s large, vulnerable population who has become increasingly dependent on hospital care when post-acute facilities become overwhelmed.
FEMA Public Assistance

• The Stafford Act supports the Public Assistance program provides federal grant assistance to help communities quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies.

• The request deadline is nationally extended and will remain open for the duration of the public health emergency.

• FloridaPA.org has established information specific to COVID-19 for those applying for PA grants.
Remdesivir Requests

• The Florida Department of Health has been allocated 1,200 vials of Remdesivir.

• Remdesivir must be requested on a per patient basis by the treating physician for patients who meet the criteria established in the FDA’s Emergency Use Authorization.

• Yesterday, FDOH sent out information outlining the request process for Remdesivir and responses were due last night.

• Based on the volume of demand, some requests may not be filled. FHA is not aware if there will be additional doses available in the future.

• FDOH is advising hospitals to seek additional information about Remdesivir from the FDA Emergency Use Authorization, the Gilead Remdesivir Pharmacy Guide and Remdesivir Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers.
State Update
Collecting COVID-19 Impact Data

- Preliminary data representing 110 hospitals shows **$434.5 million impact** to Florida’s hospitals during March.

- Majority of declines were attributed to loss in patient volume and increased cost of supplies and equipment.

- Send to Debbie Hegarty at [Debbieh@fha.org](mailto:Debbieh@fha.org)

April data due May 15th
Upcoming Calls

• FDOH Statewide Hospital Calls
  Mondays, 10-10:30 a.m. ET

• AHA Health Care Leaders Call
  Thursdays, 2:30 p.m. ET

• FHA Call with Hospital Leaders
  Thursdays, 4 p.m. ET

• CMS Lessons from the Front Lines
  Fridays, 12:30-2 p.m. ET
Tropical Weather Update

- Please pay attention to the tropics as we move through the weekend
- FHA will provide regular updates on this system
- 2020 Hurricane Season begins June 1
- Contact John Wilgis at john@fha.org
FHA Resources and Contacts

FHA COVID-19 Webpage: www.fha.org/covid

FHA Emergency Preparedness Contacts

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(850) 524-2037  
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covidresponse@fha.org
COVID-19 Update Call

May 14, 2020