

The Academy Weekly

News & Information for LTC Providers



The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

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Week of 11 July 2021

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Ohio News

State ends fiscal year in black as expected

The state coffers were full as we moved into State Fiscal Year 2022. OBM released the latest monthly numbers for June, the last month of the fiscal year. State revenues remained ahead of projections, with income tax bringing in \$228 million more than expected in June and \$455 million more for the year. Sales tax also was strong, in part because Ohio remains ahead of expectations for the recovery. Sales tax, including auto sales tax, was about \$1 billion over estimates for the fiscal year. State expenditures also helped pad the ledger, mostly due to lower than expected Medicaid expenditures. Medicaid underspending in GRF of \$757 million was nearly all of the \$780 million the state saved in GRF. Including all funds, Medicaid was under budget by \$2 billion for the fiscal year. The about \$1.4 billion

additional receipts and \$780 million savings created a budget surplus of over \$2 billion. ([Back to top.](#))

ODM delays release of PNM

The Ohio Department of Medicaid announced the delay of the Provider Network Management (PNM) and Centralized Credentialing Phase 1 go-live – originally scheduled for July 26, 2021. ODM noted they are committed to ensuring that the PNM and Centralized Credentialing functionality will support their goal to reduce the administrative burden on providers, allowing the provider to spend more time providing quality care to Ohio Medicaid members. No further information was provided, including an updated go-live date. ([Back to top.](#))

HOME Choice webinars

From the Ohio Department of Medicaid: "Join us to learn more about the HOME Choice program and how it can help your residents return to their community when they are ready. HOME Choice [Helping Ohioans Move, Expanding Choice] is a Medicaid transition program that assists individuals age 18 and older to move from long-term care facilities back to the community after an extended institutional stay. The program supports a team approach to discharge planning and the HOME Choice Transition Coordinator is a vital member of that team. The Transition Coordinator can work with you, your resident and the others to develop a comprehensive plan to return to the community that supports health, independence and integration. Join us on **July 27 at 8:30 am, July 28 at noon or July 29 at 3:30 pm** to learn more about how the HOME Choice program is structured, how to identify if a resident is a good candidate for the program and when and how to apply. Sessions are 30 minutes in length and will be online. Send an email to HOME_Choice@medicaid.ohio.gov or call 1-888-221-1560 to register and receive a link to the session. If you are unable to attend any of the information sessions and want more information, please connect with Jennifer Landau at Jennifer.landau@medicaid.ohio.gov. ([Back to top.](#))

Paramount sues ODM over procurement

Paramount has sued the Ohio Department of Medicaid over the recent Medicaid managed care procurement process. Paramount has cited concerns of the process in the past and generated help from the General Assembly in the budget bill. Governor Mike DeWine vetoed the language that would have required the state to put more emphasis on current Medicaid MCOs and those that are headquartered in the state in future procurements. Paramount meets both those conditions. The lawsuit asks for an immediate injunction to stop the procurement process and claims the process should have been done by the

Department of Administrative Services, not ODM. [Please click here to read the full complaint.](#) ([Back to top.](#))



National News

QRP notice of non-compliance APU

From CMS: CMS is providing notifications to facilities that were determined to be out of compliance with Quality Reporting Program (QRP) requirements for CY 2020, which will affect their FY 2022 Annual Payment Update (APU). Non-compliance notifications are being distributed by the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and were placed into facilities' CASPER folders in QIES, for Hospice and SNFs, and into facilities' My Reports folders in iQIES, for IRFs and LTCHs, on **July 14, 2021**. Facilities that receive a letter of non-compliance may submit a request for reconsideration to CMS **via email no later than 11:59 pm, August 13, 2021**. If you receive a notice of non-compliance and would like to request a reconsideration, see the instructions in your notice of non-compliance and on the appropriate QRP webpage:

- [IRF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#)
- [LTCH Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#)
- [SNF Quality Reporting Reconsideration and Exception & Extension](#)
- [Hospice Quality Reporting Reconsideration Requests](#)

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CDC Updates

From the CDC:

UPDATED Post-COVID Conditions — [This recent update](#) provides a brief overview of the types of post-COVID conditions, prevention strategies, and work CDC is doing related to post-COVID conditions. These post-COVID conditions may also be known as long COVID, long-haul COVID, post-acute COVID-19, long-term effects of COVID, or chronic COVID. CDC and experts around the world are working to learn more about short- and long-term health effects associated with COVID-19, who gets them, and why.

COVID-19 Science Update — To help inform CDC's COVID-19 Response, as well as to help CDC staff stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 research, the Response's Office of the

Chief Medical Officer has collaborated with the CDC Office of Library Science to create a series called [COVID-19 Science Update](#). This week's update includes information on [Age-related immune response heterogeneity to SARS-CoV-2 vaccine BNT162b2](#).

Medscape: Post-COVID Conditions Interim Guidance for Healthcare

Professionals — The persistence, severity, and disability associated with post-COVID conditions, often referred to as "long COVID," pose significant diagnostic and management challenges. Post-COVID conditions are associated with a spectrum of physical, social, and psychological consequences. Patients with post-COVID conditions often experience functional limitations that can present substantial challenges to their wellness and quality of life. CDC recently released [Interim Guidance for Healthcare Professionals Evaluating and Caring for Patients with Post-COVID Conditions](#). The information in this interim guidance is based on individual medical expert opinion and on the available data. With extensive research underway, evidence-based treatment practices will continue to evolve. To read more, please visit: [Medscape](#)

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) — Outcomes Among Patients Referred to Outpatient Rehabilitation Clinics After COVID-19 diagnosis — United States, January 2020–March 2021 — In this article, using data from the Select Medical network, including 36 states and the District of Columbia during January 2020–March 2021, CDC assessed patient-reported measures of physical and mental health, physical endurance, and health care utilization among patients who had COVID-19 (post-COVID-19 patients) and were referred to outpatient rehabilitation. Comparisons were made with patients referred for cancer rehabilitation in the same network and time frame (control patients). Post-COVID-19 patients who were referred to outpatient rehabilitation reported substantially poorer health at intake compared with control patients, including poorer physical health, more pain, and greater difficulty with physical activities. Continued assessments of self-reported health data are important for developing interventions, such as vaccines and rehabilitation therapies. Health care systems should be prepared to recognize and meet the ongoing needs of these patients, including vaccination to prevent post-COVID conditions. You can learn more here: [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#)

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CMS MLN Connects

[News](#)

- [Cognitive Assessment: Resources for Providers](#)

Resources for healthcare staff for better communication

In collaboration with CDC, HRET and AHA are creating resources to support frontline healthcare workers, including those working in environmental services and engineering. In addition, AHA Team Training developed a TeamSTEPPS® Video Toolkit, which aims to transform teams by using a proven, evidence-based approach to bringing efficiency to team communication. In conjunction with the other resources created, this toolkit will help support stronger communication, collaboration, and a multidisciplinary approach across healthcare teams to stop the spread of infectious diseases like COVID-19. The mission is arming the team with resources and moving from knowing to doing to ultimately protecting staff, patients, and communities. Please visit [AHA's PFL website](#) to check out the video toolkit and other recently released resources, and stay tuned for more products coming to the field soon!

Fall Conference Survey

Don't forget, we want your input! [Please click here to answer a short survey to help us plan our next Fall Conference](#). Thank you!

[QIN-QIO Pain Management Webinar](#)
22 September @ Noon

[Click here for QIO training series.](#)

[Click here for CMS NH COVID-19 Training Modules](#)

[Click here to view CGS Part A training events](#)

[Click here to view CGS Part B training events](#)

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