

# IMAgEs NEWSLETTER



## ACMS Physician Vitality Program



PVP provides no-cost, confidential and anonymous counseling services tailored to healthcare professionals. Visit [bit.ly/PhysicianVitality](http://bit.ly/PhysicianVitality)



## Idaho Enters Final Stage of Reopening Plan

Gov. Little has announced that Idaho narrowly met criteria to enter the final stage of the Idaho Rebounds plan to open the state economy in stages, highlighting the importance of individuals strengthening their personal actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Idaho.



As of June 13, 100-percent of businesses will be able to open their doors as we enter Stage 4 of the plan. That means:

- Visits to senior living facilities and other congregate facilities can resume, under strict protocols to protect residents and workers
- Nightclubs may operate with precautionary measures in place
- Large venues can operate under protocols.
- Employers can resume unrestricted staffing of work-sites, but should practice physical distancing, personal protections and sanitation for protection of workers, and continue to encourage telework when feasible. Special accommodations for individuals at higher risk for severe illness should be made.
- Travel can continue to locations that have no significant ongoing virus transmission
- Gatherings of any size can occur as long as physical distancing and precautionary measures can occur

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## AMA Board of Trustees Pledges Action Against Racism, Police Brutality

At a virtual Special Meeting of the American Medical Association (AMA) House of Delegates, the AMA Board of Trustees pledged action to confront systemic racism and police brutality, and released the following statement that was approved at its meeting on Friday:

- The AMA recognizes that racism in its systemic, structural, institutional, and interpersonal forms is an urgent threat to public health, the advancement of health equity, and a barrier to excellence in the delivery of medical care.
- The AMA opposes all forms of racism.
- The AMA denounces police brutality and all forms of racially-motivated violence.
- The AMA will actively work to dismantle racist and discriminatory policies and practices across all of health care.

The AMA also released a video of the Board reciting this statement as a symbol of its commitment to address racism, view the video and AMA's full statement at [bit.ly/AMApledge](https://bit.ly/AMApledge)

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## HHS Announces New Laboratory Data Reporting Guidance for COVID-19 Tests

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced new guidance that specifies what additional data must be reported to HHS by laboratories along with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) test results.

Entities Required to Report : All laboratories—including laboratories, testing locations operating as temporary overflow or remote locations for a laboratory, and other facilities or locations performing testing at point of care or with at-home specimen collection related to SARS-CoV-2—shall report data for all testing completed, for each individual tested, within 24 hours of results being known or determined, on a daily basis to the appropriate state or local public health department based on the individual's residence.

For information on methods for submission and required data elements, read the full press release at [bit.ly/LabReporting](https://bit.ly/LabReporting).

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## Order the 2020 IMA Directory of Idaho Physicians

Your complimentary copy of the 2020 IMA Directory of Idaho Physicians is here and ready to deliver to you! IMA is happy to provide the Directory as a free IMA membership benefit; you can also order additional copies for a discounted price of \$40.

We encourage all members to update their IMA profile so that the directory always includes your most current address, phone, etc. Log in to your profile at [idmed.org](https://idmed.org) to make updates.

Submit your IMA  
Directory order here:

[bit.ly/IMAdirectory](https://bit.ly/IMAdirectory)

## Idaho Diabetes, Heart Disease, & Stroke Prevention: Funding Opportunity

The Idaho Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Stroke Prevention (DHDSP) Program has announced three (3) funding opportunities for health systems in Idaho.

Health systems (e.g., primary care clinics) may apply for only one (1) of three (3) funding opportunities to prevent and manage diabetes and heart disease in clinical and population settings.

Please review the Funding Opportunity Announcement for details, as well as the corresponding applications. Interested applicants may also access documents at [diabetes.idaho.gov](http://diabetes.idaho.gov). Applications are due to Nicole Stickney ([nicole.stickney@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:nicole.stickney@dhw.idaho.gov)) by June 29, 2020 by 5:00pm MT.

Read the full funding announcement and all three application options at [diabetes.idaho.gov](http://diabetes.idaho.gov)



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## Board of Pharmacy Rescinds Medication Limitations Rule

On June 11, at a regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Pharmacy (BOP) took action to rescind Rule 704 Medication Limitations which placed additional requirements on the dispensation of chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, and oral azithromycin.

The BOP decided that at this time the additional requirements are no longer necessary. The BOP expressed their expectation that pharmacists continue to use their professional judgement and consider the presence of inappropriate stockpiling in their evaluation of prescriptions.

This action is effective immediately.

# Board of Medicine Seeks Physician Nominee for Nurse Advisory Committee

The Board of Medicine (BOM) has four physician representatives on the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Advisory Committee (APRNAC). There is currently an opening for a physician to serve on the APRNAC, and therefore, the BOM is looking for a physician that the Board may nominate to the Board of Nursing for appointment to this Committee.

The BOM representatives to the APRNAC serve three-year terms. The committee meets quarterly or at such times as may be determined by the committee or the Board of Nursing to be necessary. Meetings are held in Boise or by teleconference with travel and related expenses reimbursed by the Board of Nursing; in-person meetings are one day in length with time allowed for morning travel and afternoon departure for most travelers.

The committee: (a) responds to questions posed by the board or board staff regarding advanced practice nursing; (b) considers non-routine applications for advanced practice nursing licenses and makes recommendations to the board; (c) reviews complaints against advanced practice nurses and makes recommendations to the board; and (d) recommends to the board the scope of practice of advanced practice nurses, using national standards as a guideline.

If you are interested, please submit a letter and curriculum vita or resume to Anne Lawler at the Board of Medicine ([anne.lawler@bom.idaho.gov](mailto:anne.lawler@bom.idaho.gov)) by **June 19, 2020**.

## CMS Wants Your Input on Telehealth After COVID-19

With the changing reimbursement and coverage landscape, providers are awaiting how the post-pandemic regulatory and policy landscape shakes out.

What emergency measures will expire? Will the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continue to support telemedicine programs by allowing the patient's home to serve as a telehealth site? Will privacy and security guidelines be revised to allow providers and patients to connect on more platforms, including audio-only phone calls?

CMS is soliciting input from physicians regarding the flexibilities that were allowed because of the Emergency

Declaration blanket waivers. Which of these flexibilities are working for your practices? What would you like to see made permanent? What challenges/concerns are you facing?

Medical Officers at CMS & CMMI meet weekly with the Chief Medical Officer to convene information from local physicians about issues, suggestions, etc.

This information, from all over the nation, is reported to the CMS Administrator and is taken into consideration in policy development, reducing administrative burden and other initiatives.

Please send your comments/suggestions via email to:

Nancy L. Fisher, MD, MPH  
Regional CMO, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle

[Nancy.Fisher@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Nancy.Fisher@cms.hhs.gov)

Please also include a copy to the IMA Reimbursement Department: [pam@idmed](mailto:pam@idmed).

WELLNESS SUPPORT



FOR IDAHO PROVIDERS

As you continue to take care of Idaho, please take care of yourself! The IMA Foundation has helped temporarily expand the Ada County Medical Society (ACMS) Physician Vitality Program (PVP) statewide, as a resource for **ANY** IMA member in Idaho (including PAs and NPs who are IMA members).

PVP provides no-cost, confidential and anonymous counseling services tailored to healthcare professionals; these services are accessible through telehealth appointments.

Visit [bit.ly/PhysicianVitality](https://bit.ly/PhysicianVitality) to learn more about PVP and take advantage of this wonderful resource.



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# Idaho Medicaid Expansion Numbers Continue to Rise

About 80,000 Idaho residents through early June have signed up for Medicaid under the state's voter-approved expanded coverage, state officials said Friday.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare officials said that the overall number of people signing up for Medicaid has also picked up as the economy has struggled with the coronavirus pandemic. About 345,000 residents, including those who signed up through the expansion, are now covered by Medicaid.

That compares to about 286,000 of Idaho's 1.75 million residents who were covered by Medicaid in early September.

Voters authorized Medicaid expansion in 2018 with an initiative that passed with 61% of the vote after years of inaction by state lawmakers. [Ridler, AP, 6/12]

Read the full news article at [bit.ly/APIdahoMedicaid](http://bit.ly/APIdahoMedicaid)



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# Medical Practice Opportunities

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## Family Physician Provider Opportunity with Primary Health Medical Group

Established primary care group in Boise, Idaho is seeking a board certified/eligible family physician to work in APPOINTMENT BASED FAMILY PRACTICE clinics in Boise, Meridian, Nampa, Kuna or Caldwell, Idaho.

SIGNING BONUS MAY BE AVAILABLE.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTNERSHIP MAY BE AVAILABLE.

Hospital call for this appointment based position is 1:30 and is only phone calls. Hospitalist coverage is provided. We have a nurse triage service that handles most of our patient calls.

Boise/Caldwell offers a complete complement of sub-specialties for physician support and a very competitive compensation package. For more information, contact Becky Nelson at [becky.nelson@primaryhealth.com](mailto:becky.nelson@primaryhealth.com).

## Director of the Idaho State University Health Center

Be part of a great team! Idaho State University's Health Center is seeking a Director. For complete job description, requirements, and application instructions visit [jobs.isu.edu](http://jobs.isu.edu). EOE/AA

**To place a Medical Practice Opportunities Classified Advertisement, please contact: Amika Empey, Director of Communications at 208-344-7888 or by email [amika@idmed.org](mailto:amika@idmed.org).**



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# Calendar of Events

**September 16, 2020**

IMA Education Webinar - Challenges and Changes Series (September): Third quarter updates including changes in ICD-10 coding for October 1 and vaccine coding (1 CEU)

**Additional information and registration forms for seminars  
are available at [www.idmed.org](http://www.idmed.org)**

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**Idaho Medical Association**  
Unifying and advocating for  
Idaho physicians

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