

## CMS Snapshot June 7-13, 2019

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## **Blog Releases**

\*June 10- When It Comes To Our Health- Every Second Counts. Health care: American's favorite debate topic. While there is much to debate, we can all agree that the patient-provider relationship has been strained by unnecessary regulations and reporting requirements. Too much regulation has had the unintentional result of putting the government first and the patient second. Time spent on adhering to these regulations has decreased the amount of time clinicians spend with patients.

\*June 13- Report household & income changes all year. Has your family, job, or income changed this year? If you're currently enrolled in a 2019 Marketplace plan and experience household changes, update your application as soon as possible. These changes could impact your health coverage or the savings you're getting.

## **News Releases**

- \*June 10- Speech- Remarks by Administrator Seema Verma at the American Medical Association Annual Meeting of the House of Delegates. "Being in a room full of doctors is like coming home for me. Last year three generations of doctors were seated at our Thanksgiving table, and I can tell you that my husband's multi-specialty poker group has given me a lot of insight over the years on the day to day challenges of doctors."
- \*June 11- HHS Secretary Azar Statement on Agricultural Biotechnology Executive Order. "HHS Secretary Alex Azar released the following statement upon President Trump's signing of an executive order regarding the development of agricultural biotechnology."
- \*June 12- CMS Approves Washington State Plan Amendment Proposal to Allow Supplemental Rebates involving a "Subscription" Model for Prescription Drug Payment in Medicaid. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the fourth Medicaid state plan amendment proposal to negotiate supplemental rebate agreements involving value-based purchasing arrangements with drug manufacturers that allows states to link payment for prescription drugs to the value delivered.

\*June 13- CMS Administrator Verma's Statement on the Trump Administration's Action to Expand Access to Quality, Affordable Health Coverage Through Health Reimbursement Arrangements. "This new rule is another example of President Trump delivering on his promise to provide more affordable healthcare options to the American people. The policy creates an exciting new opportunity for employers—especially small employers that might not offer coverage today—to provide employees tax-preferred funds to help buy coverage on the individual health insurance market."

\*June 13- <u>U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, and the Treasury Expand Access to Quality, Affordable Health Coverage Through Health Reimbursement Arrangements.</u>
The U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, and the Treasury issued a new policy that will provide hundreds of thousands of employers, including small businesses, a better way to provide health insurance coverage, and millions of American workers more options for health insurance coverage. The Departments issued a final regulation that will expand the use of health reimbursement arrangements (HRAs).

## Upcoming Events and Items of Interest:

\*June is Men's Health Month. According to the CDC, boys and men in the United States, on average, die 5.6 years earlier than women and die at higher rates from nine of the top 10 leading causes of death. Visit the HHS Office of Minority Health website for the most up-to-date information on men's health and for resources that can be shared to encourage the men in your community to take control of their health, and for families to teach young boys healthy habits throughout childhood.

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