



CMS Snapshot

December 5-12, 2024

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

All releases below are from 2pm Thursday, December 5 through 2pm Thursday, December 12, 2024.

News Releases

*December 9- [HHS Office for Civil Rights and U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington Secure Agreement with MultiCare Health Systems to Advance Health Civil Rights for Persons with Disabilities](#). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in partnership with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington (USAO), entered into an agreement with MultiCare Health Systems of Washington (MultiCare) to resolve complaints which alleged that MultiCare's failure to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services, such as sign language interpreters or tactile sign language interpreters, for patients who are deaf or hard of hearing, blind or low vision, or both, violated federal civil rights laws – Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504), Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (Section 1557), and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”) – which protect against discrimination.

*December 10- [Scientific Report of 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee Now Available Online](#). *HHS and USDA will consider the independent Committee's expert advice as the departments develop the next edition of Dietary Guidelines.* WASHINGTON - The Scientific Report of the 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee is now available on [DietaryGuidelines.gov](#). The report contains the 2025 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee's (Committee) independent, evidence-based findings and advice to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The Scientific Report, alongside public comments and federal agency input, will inform the two departments as they develop the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2025-2030*, which is expected to be published in late 2025.

*December 10- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Settles with Health Care Clearinghouse, Inmediata Health Group, Over HIPAA Impermissible Disclosure](#). *\$250,000 settlement resolves longstanding HIPAA Security Rule failures.* Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a settlement with Inmediata Health Group, LLC (Inmediata), a health care clearinghouse, concerning potential violations of the [Health](#)

[Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 \(HIPAA\) Security Rule](#), following OCR's receipt of a complaint that HIPAA protected health information was accessible to search engines like Google, on the internet.

*December 11- [HHS Office for Civil Rights Secures Agreement with the University of California to Ensure that Children with Disabilities Have Equal Access to Early Intervention Program](#).

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced a Voluntary Resolution Agreement (Agreement) with the Regents of the University of California over its early intervention program, the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) Intervention Program, resolving a complaint alleging that the program violated federal disability rights laws. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act are laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability.

Blog

*December 12- [To start your coverage, make sure you pay your monthly premium](#). To start your new 2025 Marketplace coverage, pay the first premium. This is the amount you pay every month to the health insurance company to keep your coverage.