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Tuesday, April 6, 2021

### Today's headlines:

- [IDPH rescinds COVID-19 vaccine shortage orders](#)
- [Webinar looks at Medicare Advantage Program](#)
- [Ottumwa Regional names new CEO](#)
- [New associate member profile: Qmetis](#)

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### IDPH rescinds COVID-19 vaccine shortage orders

Effective immediately, all vaccine shortage orders issued by the Iowa Department of Public Health from December 2020-March 2021 are rescinded. Anyone 16 and older now can receive a vaccination from an enrolled COVID-19 vaccine provider.

Enrolled vaccine providers may refer to the [Iowa Department of Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Policy](#), dated April 5, 2021, for guidance about prioritization and immunity protections.



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## Webinar looks at Medicare Advantage Program

[Medicare Advantage Program and Contracting Strategies](#) is a webinar designed to provide participants with a basic understanding of the Medicare Advantage Program and explore the differences between traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage. Specifically, the session will:

- Describe strategies and contracting approaches that help facilities maximize Medicare Advantage outcomes.
- Describe the risk-adjustment process used in the Medicare Advantage program.
- Discuss Medicare Advantage's business model.
- Discuss the mandatory provisions required by CMS versus other considerations and key contracting terms.
- Outline the importance of star ratings and how they influence the Medicare Advantage program.

The webinar is scheduled from **10-11 am Tuesday, April 13**. Click [HERE](#) to view the program brochure.

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## Ottumwa Regional names new CEO

**Phil Noel** ended a 50-year career in health care Friday, April 2, and Ottumwa Regional Health Center announced their chief operating officer, **Dennis Hunger**, as his successor. Before joining Ottumwa Regional in 2017, Hunger had been CEO of Washington County Hospital and Clinics, Washington, for six years. His involvement with IHA includes:

- District Chair, 2016
- Member, ServiShare Board of Directors, 2012-2017
- Member, IHA PAC Committee

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## New associate member profile: Qmetis

The IHA Board of Officers and Trustees approved four new associate members at its last meeting. In this issue of IHA Today, we profile another of these new members: [Qmetis](#).

Qmetis is an education and health care technology firm that builds quality-assessment and quality-assurance decision-support tools for caregivers to deliver evidence-based medicine treatment guidelines in real time. The company's interactive decision-support tools tell staff instantly about the latest research and recommendations, allowing them to consider all options for patient care.

Qmetis' products are for adult and pediatric traumatic brain injury, stroke, hospital-acquired infections and concussion.

To learn more, call 212-500-5000, or email [info@qmetis.com](mailto:info@qmetis.com).

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## NewsStand

### Iowa news

- [Five-year anniversary of privatized Medicaid is bad news for Iowans](#)
- [Through pandemic, derecho, VA serves veterans of eastern Iowa](#)
- [All adult Iowans are eligible for a vaccine. What you should know.](#)

### National news

- [What you should know about five concerning COVID-19 variants](#)
- [What the summer will be like: Nine infectious disease experts](#)
- [Nearly one-fifth of Americans forgoing care because of costs](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

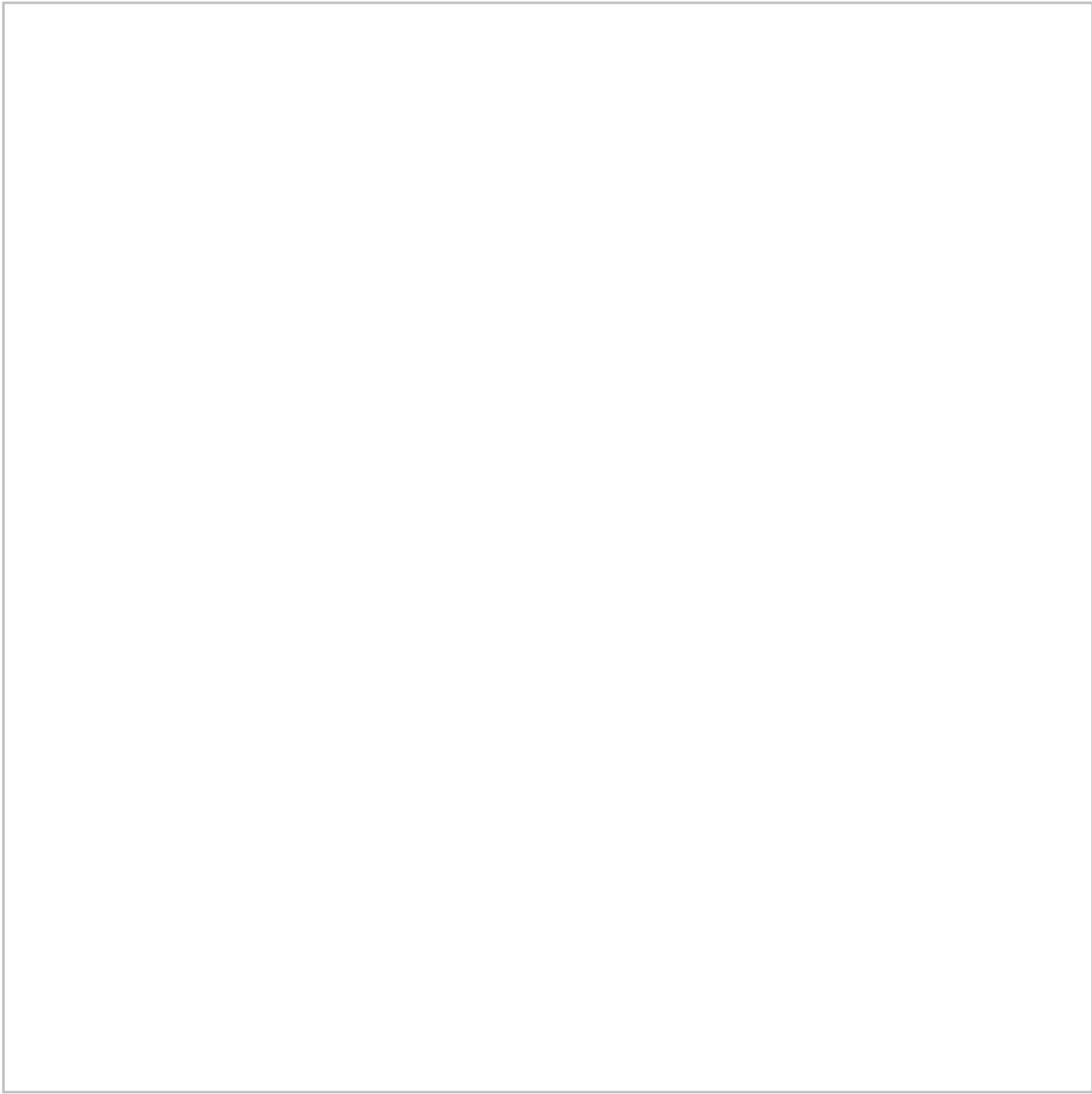
## Upcoming events

- [Medicare Advantage Program and Contracting Strategies](#): Tuesday, April 13.
- [Iowa Association for Healthcare Quality Virtual Spring Conference](#): Tuesday, April 13-Thursday, April 15.
- [IHA Virtual Governance Forum](#): Thursday, April 22-Friday, April 23.
- [Iowa Society for Health Care Human Resources Association Virtual Spring Conference](#): Wednesday, April 28-Thursday, April 29.
- [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Infection Prevention and Antibiotic Stewardship](#): Tuesday, May 4.
- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations Virtual Spring Conference](#): Tuesday, May 4.
- [IHA Employment Law 4-Part Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, May 4-Tuesday, Aug. 31.
- [Foundation Professionals for Iowa Hospitals Virtual Spring Conference](#): Wednesday, May 5.
- [Iowa Alliance in Home Care Spring Virtual Conference](#): Thursday, May 6-Thursday, May 20.
- [Iowa Organization for Nursing Leadership Virtual Conference Series](#): Tuesday, May 11-Tuesday, May 25.
- [Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, May 11-Tuesday, Nov. 16.
- [Hospital Regulatory Webinar Series: Swing-bed Fundamentals](#): Tuesday, June 22.

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## Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](http://HospitalCareers.com) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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