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Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022

Today's Headlines

- [IHA breaks down REH final rule](#)
- [Federal agencies warn of two cyberthreats](#)
- [Webinar highlights health equity issues](#)
- [Iowa HHS announced reduced hours on Thanksgiving, Christmas](#)

IHA breaks down REH final rule

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services released its 2023 [outpatient prospective payment system and ambulatory surgical center final rule](#) Tuesday, Nov. 1. CMS has since clarified that any hospital in operation before Nov. 27, 2020, and has since closed, can reopen as a rural emergency hospital.

To help hospitals better understand the rural emergency hospital designation, IHA is providing a [breakdown of the final rule outlining](#):

- Conditions of participation.
- Enrollment.
- Payment.
- Quality reporting program.
- Rural health clinic and 340B eligibility.

The breakdown also includes updated information about critical access hospital conditions of participation. [Email Erin Cubit](#) at IHA with questions.

Federal agencies warn of two cyberthreats

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the FBI this week are warning health care organizations to reduce the risk of compromise from [Hive ransomware](#). "Ransomware-as-service gangs" are gaining access to health networks through phishing emails, unsecured remote access and unpatched known vulnerabilities. The primarily Russian-speaking hackers are attempting to locate and encrypt backups and steal patient information.

The agencies also advised organizations to [protect VMware Horizon servers](#) from a Log4Shell vulnerability recently exploited by Iranian-sponsored actors. Malicious actors installed XMRig crypto-mining software to compromise credentials and implant reverse proxies on several hosts.

CISA and the FBI are encouraging organizations to:

- Create a deny list of known compromised credentials.
 - Install updated builds.
 - Maintain offline backups of data.
 - Minimize the internet-facing attack surface by hosting essential services on segregated DMZ.
 - Secure credentials by restricting where accounts and credentials can be used.
 - Use multifactor authentication.
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Webinar highlights health equity issues

Food insecurity is known to affect health outcomes and chronic illness. Participants in this IHA webinar will learn about food insecurity as a social determinant of health and how to address health equity in their communities.

Hailey Boudreau, M.P.H., RD, LD, will overview food insecurity and community clinical linkage and highlight different ways the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services is combatting food insecurity. She also will identify the next steps participants can take to address health equity in their communities.

The [Food Insecurity as a Social Determinant of Health](#) webinar is scheduled from 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13. [Email Autumn McGill](#) at IHA with questions.

Iowa HHS announces reduced hours on Thanksgiving, Christmas

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services will be [closed Nov. 23-25](#) for the Thanksgiving holiday. The redistribution of COVID-19 vaccines will not be processed during this time. The department also will be closed Dec. 23-26.

COVID-19 vaccines and physical transfer of the vaccines between providers must only happen after immunization program approval and IRIS transfer is complete. Providers should plan accordingly with the holiday hours.

HHS also reported the federal government contract with Controlant Solutions for on-site temperature monitoring of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines ends Monday, Nov. 28. Temperature data issues should be sent directly to Pfizer.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Hospitalizations drop, but cases are ticking up](#)
- [Sanford-Fairview merger back on the table](#)
- [University of Iowa seeks temporary help for state Hygienic Lab](#)

National news

- [Increased RSV infections are not because of 'immunity debt'](#)
 - [Payers, providers ditch the hushed voices in their fights](#)
 - [Violence against health care workers is on the rise](#)
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Online education

- [Patient Rights: An Overview](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29
- [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#): Thursday, Dec. 1
- [Pharmacy Conditions of Participation](#): Tuesday, Dec. 6
- [Regulatory Year in Review for the C-Suite](#): Wednesday, Dec. 7
- [Leading During Times of Crisis](#): Monday, Dec. 12
- [Food Insecurity as a Social Determinant of Health](#): Wednesday, Dec. 13
- [CMS Updates](#): Thursday, Dec. 15
- [Behavioral Health Legislative Lowdown](#): Thursday, Dec. 15

In-person meetings

- [IHA Leadership Development Program](#): Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022 - Tuesday, May 16, 2023
- [2022 CPHQ Review Course](#): Tuesday, Nov. 29 - Wednesday, Nov. 30
- [Physician Business Leadership Certificate Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023 - Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023
- [Grant Writing Workshop](#): Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023

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- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

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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](#) 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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