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Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022

Today's headlines:

- [Register for IHA's 2022 virtual Hospital Day on the Hill](#)
 - [CMS expands Medicare coverage for lung cancer screening](#)
 - [IDPH updates COVID-19 reporting requirements](#)
 - [FDA authorizes monoclonal antibody treatment, effective against omicron](#)
 - [CMS updates guidance for billing Veklury \(remdesivir\) in outpatient settings](#)
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Register for IHA's 2022 virtual Hospital Day on the Hill

The 2022 virtual Hospital Day on the Hill next week will inform IHA members of the key health care issues this legislative session. IHA members and hospital advocates can use this insight in following up with their elected officials on the issues influencing Iowa health care policies. Hospital advocates are critical to IHA's grassroots advocacy in helping communicate the importance of hospitals and their work on behalf of patients and communities.

The virtual event will include a chat between IHA President and CEO Chris Mitchell and American Hospital Association Executive Vice President of Government Relations and Public Policy Stacey Hughes.

A panel of Iowa legislators will talk about their health care goals and respond to questions and Gov. Kim Reynolds also will share her 2022 priorities for the state.

The 2022 IHA virtual Hospital Day on the Hill is scheduled from 3:45-4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Register [HERE](#).

Email [Tori Hanson](#) at IHA with questions.

CMS expands Medicare coverage for lung cancer screening

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services expanded eligibility for lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography. The starting age for screening was lowered from 55 to 50 and smoking history was reduced from at least 30 packs per year to at least 20 packs per year.

The [final national coverage decision](#) also:

- Adds back a requirement for radiology imaging facilities to use a standardized lung nodule identification, classification and reporting system.
 - Removes the requirement for the reading radiologist to document participation in continuing medical education.
 - Simplifies the requirements for counseling and shared decision-making visits.
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IDPH updates COVID-19 reporting requirements

The Iowa Department of Public Health will no longer require or accept reports of negative, indeterminate, inconclusive or invalid COVID-19 testing results. The updated requirements went into effect Feb. 16 and will remain in place until Dec. 31.

All Iowa health care providers and public, private and hospital labs are required to

report all positive COVID-19 testing results to IDPH within one day of the test being performed. Testing methods include:

- Antigen detection methods.
- COVID-19 serological testing detecting antibody.
- Molecular detection methods.

Positive COVID-19 test results must be reported electronically through the Iowa Disease Surveillance System or other electronic means as directed by IDPH.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

FDA authorizes monoclonal antibody treatment, effective against omicron

The Food and Drug Administration authorized emergency use of the monoclonal antibody bebtelovimab to treat COVID-19 in outpatients at risk of progressing to severe disease or hospitalization because of COVID-19. The Department of Health and Human Services said early data shows it is effective against the omicron COVID-19 variant and BA.2 omicron subvariant.

HHS announced plans to distribute at least 600,000 free treatment courses to states. The U.S. government agreed to buy the treatment courses from Eli Lilly for delivery in February and March with an option to purchase 500,000 more doses.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

CMS updates guidance for billing Veklury (remdesivir) in outpatient settings

On Jan. 7, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services created a new HCPCS code J0248 for Veklury (remdesivir) antiviral medication when administered in an outpatient setting. CMS released guidance for billing J0248 to prevent impacts on providerclaims processing.

The guidance gives information about:

- CPT code(s).
- ICD-10 codes.
- Part A claims.
- Part B claims.
- Product code.
- Units administered to a patient.

Click [HERE](#) to read the claims guidance.

Cyber insurance can protect health organizations amid rising cyber threats

Cybersecurity is becoming increasingly more important as the threat of ransomware

and malware attacks affect all industries, including health care. According to Cybersecurity Ventures, ransomware attacks in 2021 were estimated to cost businesses worldwide around \$20 billion.

ServiShare partner IP Pathways recommends hospitals and health systems consider cyber insurance to protect them from the financial fallout of a cyberattack. Depending on the level of coverage, cyber insurance policies can cover:

- Compensation for loss of revenue.
- Costs associated with restoring compromised data.
- Costs to repair damaged computer systems.
- Legal fees.
- Loss of transferred funds.
- Reparations to customers.
- System forensics.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.

NewsStand

Iowa news

- [Foundation gives \\$70 million to expand health care for Iowans](#)
- [Entering year three of COVID-19, two Iowa physicians reflect on what's changed, what remains the same](#)
- [UnityPoint mental health program helps health care workers](#)

National news

- [Sharp drop in patient safety, infection control amid pandemic](#)
- [AMA survey: 34% of physicians say prior authorizations harmed patients](#)
- [Babies get COVID-19 protection from mothers vaccinated during pregnancy](#)

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

Upcoming events

- [Update on Ligature Risks and Suicide Prevention](#): Thursday, Feb. 17
- [Physician Business Leadership Certification Program](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22 - Tuesday, Aug. 9
- [Housing as Health Care: Addressing Social Determinants of Health Through Real Estate](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22
- [The Intersection of DEA, Opioids and Hospital Risk](#): Tuesday, Feb. 22
- [2022 Virtual Hospital Day on the Hill](#): Wednesday, Feb. 23
- [The No Surprise Act is Here: Compliance Obligations and Strategic Planning for Hospitals](#): Wednesday, March 2 - Wednesday, March 9
- [Iowa Rehab Managers Spring Conference](#): Thursday, March 3
- [The Art of the Interview](#): Tuesday, March 8
- [Iowa Hospital Auxilian and Volunteer Conference](#): Wednesday, March 9
- [Critical Access and Rural Hospital Forum](#): Wednesday, March 23
- [Understanding Hospital Board and Medical Staff Responsibilities Under Medicare COPs](#):

Tuesday, April 12

- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration Spring Conference](#): Thursday, April 14
- [IHA Governance Forum](#): Friday, April 22 - Saturday, April 23
- [Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act \(EMTALA\) Series](#): Wednesday, May 11 - Wednesday, May 25
- [Workplace Violence Program Workshop](#): Thursday, June 30 - Thursday, Aug. 18

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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