

Highlights for LPCs:

Setting/Service Type “Cheat Sheets” for Atlanta! We look forward to seeing members at the LeadingAge Annual Meeting next week in Atlanta. Sometimes it’s difficult to pick a session from the many enticing education offerings. Many sessions that are likely of high interest to providers that offer certain settings or types of services don’t necessarily say the name of the service in the title. Many are cross cutting and address the interests of multiple types of providers. Here is the one for [Life Plan Community Sessions](#)

COVID-19 Related Updates:

NO UPDATE CALLS NEXT WEEK. We hope to see many of you next week at Annual Meeting. We are expecting a few policy developments, possibly while we are in Atlanta. If they do happen, we will, of course, let you know. The next Coronavirus Update Call is set for **Monday, November 1 at 3:30.** We’ll be talking with by Scott McCall from PHI who will provide the insights and lessons learned from their most recent study, [Workforce Displacement and Reemployment During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Implications for Direct Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention.](#)

Determining Fully Vaccinated Status: CDC updated guidance to provide an annex for determining fully vaccinated status for those with mix-and-match initial series or for those who were vaccinated outside the US/with vaccines approved by WHO. Read the annex [here.](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates Perspective: Policies, Procedures and Unemployment. Equifax recently published [a short article](#) about what businesses should consider when they explore vaccine mandates, including how such policies and procedures may impact unemployment benefits and costs. The article identifies key considerations employers need to understand before they develop and communicate their plan. Also, it explores how such policies may impact unemployment claims and how states may decide on such claims for those that do not get vaccinated and seek benefits.

FROM HHS:

1. **Renewal of Determination That A Public Health Emergency Exists.** On Friday, as a result of the continued consequences of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, Secretary Becerra [renewed, effective October 18, 2021, that a public health emergency exists.](#) This is a renewal of the January 31, 2020 public health emergency determination by former Secretary Alex Azar, that he previously renewed on April 21, 2020, July 23, 2020, October 2, 2020, and January 7, 2021, and that Secretary Becerra renewed on April 15, 2021 and July 19, 2021, that a public health emergency exists and has existed since January 27, 2020, nationwide.
2. **Guidance for Fully Vaccinated People:** CDC [updated their guidance for fully vaccinated people.](#) Specifically, CDC recommends fully vaccinated people get tested 5-7 days after close contact with a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. The previous guidance had been 3-5 days. CDC also provided additional information describing what vaccines qualify people as fully

vaccinated and how to interpret vaccine records. These changes are reflected in the CDC's webpage, "[When You've Been Fully Vaccinated](#)," as well.

- 3. Evidence for Conditions that Increase Risk of Severe Illness:** CDC [updated its list of underlying medical conditions](#) that put adults of any age at higher risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19; these updates are based on evidence from published reports, scientific articles in press, unreviewed pre-prints, and internal data. Updates to the following conditions were completed based on evidence from the date range below: Chronic lung disease (including bronchiectasis, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary embolism, tuberculosis) and chronic liver disease (including cirrhosis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, alcoholic liver disease, and autoimmune hepatitis) were added in September based on evidence published between December 1, 2019 and August 31, 2021 using the updated review methods outlined below. Mental health disorders (such as mood disorders including depression, and schizophrenia spectrum disorders) were added in September based on evidence published between December 1, 2019 and August 31, 2021. No conditions were removed from the previous underlying medical conditions list.

Advocacy Alerts and Hill News:

Housing in Build Back Better Act: LeadingAge Hearing Statement. LeadingAge has submitted a statement for the record for an October 21 hearing, A Strong Foundation: How Housing is the Key to Building Back a Better America, to be held by the House Committee on Financial Services. The hearing will highlight the many important features of the Build Back Better Act's \$327 billion investments in affordable housing programs. Committee Chair Maxine Waters (D-CA), a strong affordable housing champion who spoke passionately at LeadingAge's 2017 "Save HUD 202" rally, included \$2.4 billion for HUD's Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program in the Committee's Build Back Better housing package. "LeadingAge firmly believes the availability of affordable, quality housing is critical for an America where older adults with low incomes are not living longer just to be saddled with exorbitant housing costs that squash their ability to live with dignity and choice. The Build Back Better Act must retain its \$2.4 billion for HUD's Section 202 program," LeadingAge's statement says. "For [older adult households on housing waiting lists] and the many more who don't even bother getting on a waiting list or cannot do so because the waiting list is closed, the solution is to expand the supply of affordable senior housing. HUD's Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program provides not only the affordable housing, but also the connection to services and supports. A significant expansion of this program is decades overdue." Read a LeadingAge article and our statement [here](#).

News from LeadingAge:

2022 Annual Meeting Call for Sessions. Have a great idea for a session that should be part of next year's LeadingAge Annual Meeting + EXPO, happening Oct. 16-19, 2022 in Denver, CO? You can begin submitting proposals now! Learn more, get answers to common questions, and complete your submission [here](#).