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QIN-QIO
Quality Innovation Network -
Quality Improvement Organizations
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES
iQUALITY IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION GROUP



Health Equity Updates



The Latest in Health Equity News, Events, and Resources

September 2021

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September 1, 2021

HEALTH EQUITY UPDATES



The latest health equity news, events and resources to support the IPRO QIN-QIO efforts to eliminate health care disparities for Medicare beneficiaries.

Communicating About FDA Approval to Build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence

According to a poll conducted on behalf of the de Beaumont Foundation, more than one-third of unvaccinated adults (35%) said the FDA's full approval of one of the vaccines would address most or all of their concerns about the vaccines' safety and effectiveness. An additional 20% said it would address "some" of their concerns. The poll, conducted by data intelligence company Morning Consult, also identified messaging that would make unvaccinated adults feel more confident in the COVID-19 vaccines. The messaging has been consolidated into a [one-pager](#) by de Beaumont.

The [Public Health Communications Collaborative](#) has a [webpage](#) with COVID-19 vaccine messaging and outreach tools to promote vaccination and boost confidence. It includes research and topline messages, answers to tough questions, social media sample posts, and tips and tactics for sharing in the community. The PHCC website has other COVID messaging resources such as [Daily Downloads](#) that reflect the current scientific understanding and can be used on websites, blogs, social media and presentations.

Promoting COVID-19 vaccination can help reduce disparities that put racial and ethnic minorities at greater risk of contracting the virus. According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), as of August 16th, 72% of the U.S. adult population have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine but Black and Hispanic persons remain less likely than their White counterparts to have received a vaccine.

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Biden-Harris Administration Invests over \$19 Million to Expand Telehealth Nationwide and Improve Health in Rural, Other Underserved Communities

On August 18th, the Biden-Harris Administration announced key investments that will strengthen telehealth services in rural and underserved communities and expand telehealth innovation and quality nationwide. These investments—totaling over \$19 million—are being distributed to 36 award recipients through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Bringing Heat and Light: A Health Equity Guide for Transformation & Accountability

Developed by national organizations with experience at the forefront of healthcare transformation and health equity initiatives, this Guide outlines a strategic process for leaders and managers of healthcare institutions to commit to, own, and advance health equity and racial justice (bringing light) and outlines key questions stakeholders can use to help hold these systems accountable for this critical work (bringing heat).

Building Skills for Anti-Racism Work: Supporting the Journey of Hearts, Minds, and Action

This [Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#) (IHI) course builds skills to counter structural racism and improve health equity. It examines the ways racism and anti-racism operate in our organizations and systems, with a focus on addressing inequities in health and health care. Participants will learn strategies for starting or continuing your work in this area individually and collectively. IHI offers training hours for the course. There is no cost for the course but registration is required.

Innovative Approaches to Addressing Social Determinants of Health for Medicare Advantage Beneficiaries

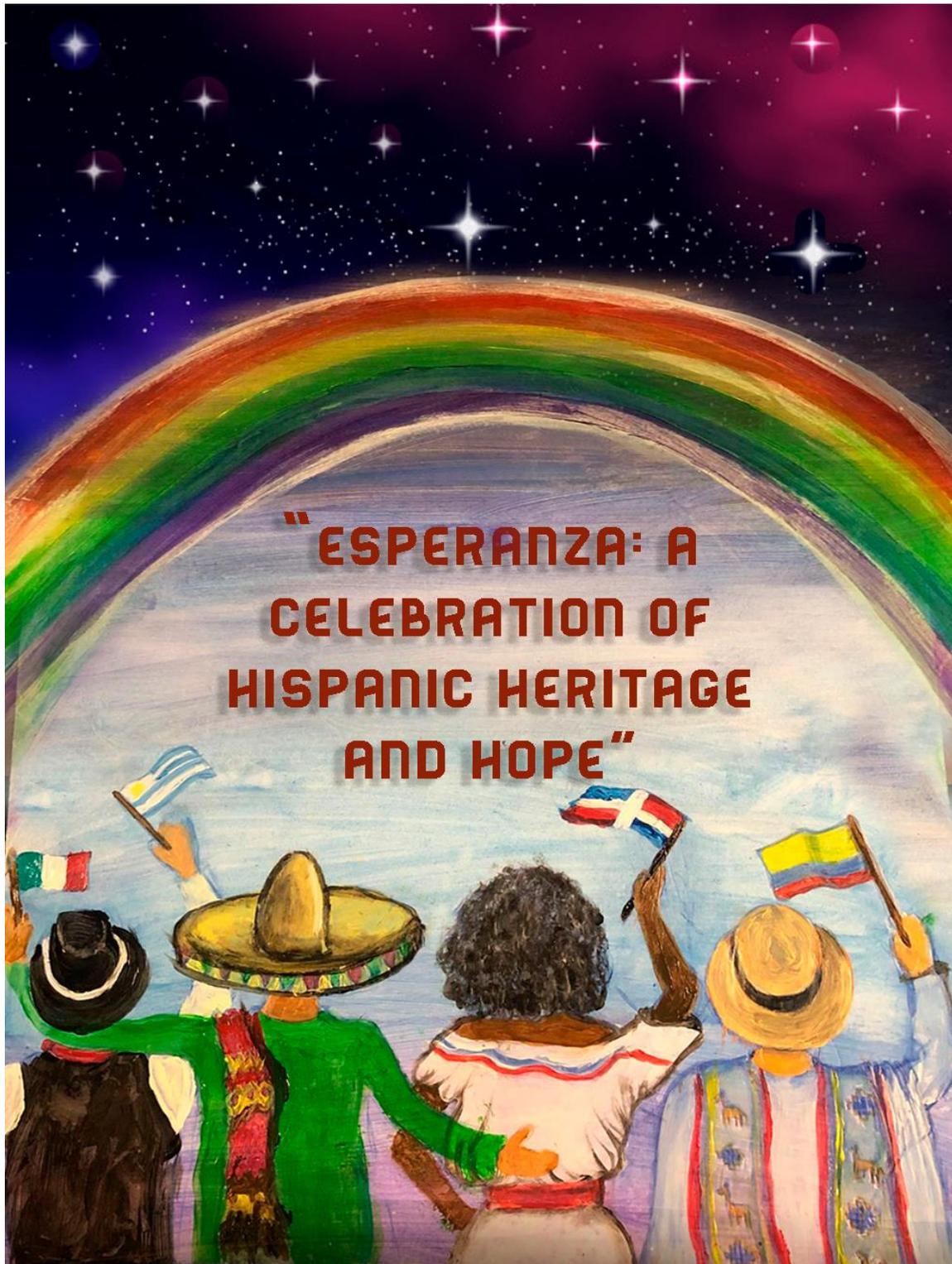
The Better Medicare Alliance's [Center for Innovation in Medicare Advantage](#) and [NORC at the University of Chicago](#) issued a report in August highlighting innovative approaches to addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) for Medicare Advantage beneficiaries, but barriers remain. NORC's findings show a "dramatic increase in plan activity to address social needs", particularly in the areas of social isolation, transportation, housing, and food. The report describes how Medicare Advantage plans and partners – which serve a [higher-risk and more diverse](#) patient population than traditional Medicare – collect data on beneficiaries' social risk factors using methods that include investing in Artificial Intelligence and predictive analytics, and incorporating SDOH questions into Health Risk Assessments.

Commonwealth Fund Report: U.S. Ranks Last in Several Key Measures

A new report from The Commonwealth Fund states the U.S. ranks last on health equity, access to care, administrative efficiency, and healthcare outcomes measures compared to ten other high-income countries. Commonwealth did a comparison of 71 performance measures across five domains for 11 wealthy countries (listed in order of performance): Norway, the Netherlands, Australia, the U.K, Germany, New Zealand, Sweden, France, Switzerland, Canada, and the U.S. The report outlines four features that distinguished the top performers: 1) universal coverage and removal of cost barriers; 2) investment in primary care; 3) reduced administrative burdens that divert resources from health improvement efforts; and 4) investment in social services.

Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 – October 15



Health Equity Webinar/Event Materials

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Community Health Workers' Role in Advancing Health Equity

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are taking a larger role in patient-centered care and community health. Yet, questions remain around the scope of their work, licensure requirements, and available funding sources to build a capable workforce. In this webinar, presenters clarified CHWs' work and explored their role in advancing equity. The content is especially helpful for those seeking strategies to strengthen CHWs' capacity to build equity in communities.

- [Recording, Slides and Resource Guide](#)

HHS Office of Minority Health

Trauma and COVID-19: Addressing Mental Health Among Racial/Ethnic Minority Populations

The HHS Office of Minority Health hosted a webinar on the mental health impact of COVID-19 on racial and ethnic minority populations. The webinar provided information on the signs, symptoms, and impact of trauma, strategies to maintain mental wellness, mental health programs and resources, and current federal efforts to addressing racism and health inequities.

- [Recording & Resources](#)

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network

Partnering with Faith Communities to Improve Prevention Outcomes: Reducing Stigma, Gaining Faith in Prevention

This session provided strategies to begin a relationship with, or reinvigorate, a current relationship with faith and spiritual members of the community. The webinar discussed the value of engaging faith communities in prevention planning, faith's role in prevention, how faith communities can disrupt stigma, and evidence-based strategies used in faith communities.

- [Recording](#)

RWJF Research In Progress

Aligning Health and Social Systems to Expand Evidence-Based Home-Visiting

This webinar gave an overview of a study that is examining the effects of multi-sector financing and delivery strategies in expanding the reach and impact of the [Nurse-Family Partnership](#)® (NFP) program across the United States using a mixed-methods approach. NFP is a non-profit that transforms the first thousand days of life for babies born to moms living in poverty in the U.S.

- [Slides](#)
- [Recording](#)

IPRO Upcoming Event

Opioid and Pain Management Best Practices

An important focus of IPRO's work is spreading strategies for implementing opioid and pain management best practices. Both naloxone and medications for opioid use disorder, such as buprenorphine, are proven to save the lives of opioid users. This webinar will share an overview of the Opioid and Pain Management Best Practices Assessment and how the results are used to identify improvement opportunities.

Date: September 22, 2021

Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM EDT

[REGISTER HERE](#)

IPRO Event Materials

Nuts & Bolts of Quality Improvement for Nursing Homes

The IPRO QIN-QIO hosted a three-part education series on quality improvement strategies for nursing homes.

The series covered:

- strategies to encourage change
- the root cause of common nursing home concerns
- an approach to test new interventions

Planning the Change: SMART Goals, Process & Outcome Measures

- [Recording](#)
- [Slides](#)

Getting to the Root Cause

- [Recording](#)
- [Slides](#)

Plan-Do-Study-Act: A Tool for Testing

- [Recording](#)
- [Slides](#)

Upcoming Events

Healthy Aging Symposium

HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Dates: September 8 – 9, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM each day

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Advancing Excellence in Transgender Health Conference

LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center

Dates: September 30 – October 3, 2021

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

2021 National Hispanic Latino Behavioral Health Conference

National Hispanic & Latino Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network

Dates: September 16 – 17, 2021

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

A Dialogue about Poverty in America

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Date: September 28, 2021

Time: 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

[REGISTER](#)

Amplifying All Voices in Aging

The SCAN Foundation

Dates: October 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM ET

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Supporting Older LGBTQIA+ Adults during COVID-19

LGBTQIA+ Health Education Center

Dates: October 12, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM ET

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Monthly Observances

September, 2021

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#) (September 15 – October 15)

[Sepsis Awareness Month](#)

[Blood Cancer Awareness Month](#)

[Healthy Aging® Month](#)

[National Atrial Fibrillation Awareness Month](#)

[National Cholesterol Education Month](#)

[National Recovery Month](#)

[National Sickle Cell Month](#)

[National Suicide Prevention Month](#)

[Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month](#)

[Pain Awareness Month](#)

[Prostate Cancer Awareness Month](#)

[World Alzheimer's Month](#)

[Falls Prevention Awareness Week](#) (September 20 – 24)

[World Heart Day](#) (September 29)

October, 2021

[Hispanic Heritage Month](#) (September 15 – October 15)

[Health Literacy Month](#)

[Disability Employment Awareness Month](#)

[National \(Long-Term Care\) Residents' Rights Month](#)

[National Depression Screening Day](#) (October 7)

[World Mental Health Day](#) (October 10)

[National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day](#) (October 15)

[International Infection Prevention Week](#) (October 17 – 23)

[National Healthcare Quality Week](#) (October 17 – 23)

[National Health Education Week](#) (October 18 – 22)

[National Check Your Meds Day](#) (October 21)

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