

Subject: COVID-19: Helpful resources during virus resurgence

Preheader: The AAFP is here to support you as you serve your patients and community

Dear colleagues,

It has been over a month since my last COVID-19 update. Unfortunately, this awful virus continues to wreak havoc across our country. The AAFP remains committed to advocating on your behalf and helping you navigate this situation as you care for your patients, community and practice. With many cities experiencing a resurgence in cases, I want to remind you about some resources that you may find helpful for your practice and your patients.

First, the AAFP's COVID-19 site [LINK TO <https://www.aafp.org/covid19>] contains resources on topics ranging from practice management to clinical guidance to financial relief. Here are a few recent updates that may interest you:

- **School reopening:** Communities around the country are making plans regarding if/how to reopen local schools. The clinical management section (LINK TO: https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/2019-coronavirus/covid-19_resources.html#clinical-management) of our COVID-19 site contains a link to the latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. In addition, we recently issued a statement (LINK TO: <https://www.aafp.org/media-center/releases-statements/all/2020/return-to-school-guidelines-should-be-evidence-based-and-flexible.html>) regarding considerations for return-to-school guidelines.
- **Financial relief**
 - On July 6, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) clarified that for-profit health care clinicians must pay taxes on any grant payments received from the Provider Relief Fund. You can find details on the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act section (LINK TO: <https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/2019-coronavirus/financial-relief/provider-relief-fund.html>) of our COVID-19 site.
 - The deadline for small businesses to apply for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan has been extended to August 8. Visit our page on Small Business Administration loans (LINK TO: <https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/2019-coronavirus/financial-relief/sba.html>) for more details.
 - The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) has extended the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Provider Relief Fund distribution provider application deadline to August 3. The fund is open to eligible providers who participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs and have not yet received a payment from the \$50 billion general distribution. Visit the CARES Act section (LINK TO: <https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/2019-coronavirus/financial-relief/provider-relief-fund.html>) of our COVID-19 site for more details.

Second, familydoctor.org (LINK TO: <https://familydoctor.org/>) offers a variety of patient education resources on COVID-19 topics including general virus facts, face masks, testing and handwashing. Feel free to send your patients links to these resources.

Recently, the role of the CDC and the expertise of scientific and public health leaders have come into question. During the biggest health crisis of our time, it is important that these organizations and experts help guide our nation's efforts to protect public health now and in the future. With this in mind, the AAFP joined forces with the other Group of Six organizations to send a [letter to Vice President Mike Pence and HHS Secretary Alex Azar](http://www.groupof6.org/content/dam/AAFP/documents/advocacy/prevention/crisis/LT-G6-WhiteHouse-CDCSupport-071720.pdf) (LINK TO: <http://www.groupof6.org/content/dam/AAFP/documents/advocacy/prevention/crisis/LT-G6-WhiteHouse-CDCSupport-071720.pdf>) calling on them to support the valuable work of public health agencies.

It has been six months since the first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the United States. During this time, you have faced a variety of challenges in fighting the virus. Through it all, you have put your patients and communities first and are the heroes and sheroes in this battle. I am honored and humbled to call you my colleagues. Keep up the good fight!

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