

Please continue to reach out to your market leader with questions and concerns.

On Capitol Hill

- Per our 4/23 alert, The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released details on the next wave of funding to providers:
 - All providers will need to submit 2018 net patient revenue.
 - We will alert you when the portals open for general funding and uninsured patients, respectively.
 - There are new terms for this relief listed [here](#).
- Congress passed, and President Trump signed, an increase in funding to both the small business loans (Economic Injury Disaster Loan and Paycheck Protection Program) and healthcare grants to HHS:
 - \$75B was added to the Public Health Emergency Grants (we do not yet know how this will be directed), and \$25B was added to reimbursement for testing.
 - We are hearing reports that the new small business loan money is already allotted to address the backlog of submissions during the time the programs were closed down.
 - The next aid package is anticipated to come sometime in May, but there is partisan disagreement on the size of the funding.
 - Congress is due to come back May 4 at the earliest.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) delayed the interoperability rule to allow compliance flexibilities regarding implementing the final rules that were announced on March 9 in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency:
 - The Office of the National Coordinator for Information Technology (ONC) will exercise enforcement discretion for three months at the end of certain ONC Health IT Certification Program compliance dates associated with the ONC Cures Act Final Rule. CMS will provide hospitals an additional six months to implement the new requirements.
- CMS issued guidance on reopening the government and starting back on elective procedures. CMS now says health facilities may resume some procedures if they are located in regions or states that have satisfied the so-called gating criteria announced by the White House last week as part of a plan for businesses to reopen. Those criteria include a two-week downward trajectory of COVID-19 cases in a state or region.