

COVID-19 Update, 6/1

June 1, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19)

Status Update as of 6/1 from ADH Website:

[View the ADH COVID-19 Dashboard here.](#)

- Confirmed cumulative cases in Arkansas - 7443
- Active cases - 1909
- Recovered patients - 5401
- New cases since 5\31 - 190
- Deaths - 133
- Patients in the hospital - 121
- Patients on ventilators - 26

Update on CARES Act Provider Relief Fund

From the American Medical Association: As we reported in the AMA Advocacy Update of May 22, HHS announced that [providers need to take action by June 3, 2020](#) regarding the CARES Act Provider Relief Fund distribution of the first \$50 billion, referred to as the General Distribution. Specifically, HHS indicated that by June 3, those who had received funds need to accept the HHS Terms and Conditions and submit revenue information to be considered for an additional General Allocation payment. Subsequently, HHS announced that it had extended the attestation deadline for an additional 45 days, but the June 3 deadline has remained on the [Provider Relief Fund website](#). The AMA asked HHS why the website still has a deadline of June 3 when the attestation deadline has been further extended. The department's response is below. Physicians should also be aware that this site is frequently revised and that new FAQs were added as recently as May 29.

HHS response:

Folks will have a total of 90 days to attest. However, they will only have until June 3 to access the application portal to submit their revenue / loss information.

Folks must accept or reject funds in order to enter the application portal.

So, if on June 3 folks are still deciding whether to accept funds they have already received, but haven't yet submitted their tax information to the

application portal, they should (1) reject the funds; (2) submit info to the application portal for consideration.

They will be reallocated all General Distribution funds they are owed based on their submitted application, and will then have 90 days to attest or reject.

We have implemented this so that we can have all applications by June 3, and can start rolling out other distributions.

The attestation portal (as opposed to the application portal) will remain open for 90 days. Only the application portal will close on June 3.

UnitedHealthcare Program Summary Update

The following resources will help you quickly reference the effective dates for UnitedHealthcare's temporary benefit, program and procedure changes related to COVID-19, as well as billing guidelines for services such as COVID-19 testing, treatment and telehealth.

Our [Summary of COVID-19 Dates by Program](#) outlines the beginning and end dates of program, process or procedure changes that UnitedHealthcare implemented as a result of COVID-19. Full details of these changes, including applicable benefit plans and service information, can be found [online](#). Please be aware of the following key dates:

- June 1 – All currently effective prior authorization requirements and site of service reviews resume.
- June 30 – Claims with a date of service on or after Jan. 1, 2020 will not be denied for timely filing if submitted by June 30, 2020.
- July 24 – COVID-19 telehealth service coverage and related cost-share waivers for Individual and fully insured Group Market health plan members are extended through July 24, 2020. We'll adhere to state regulations for Medicaid plans.
- Sept. 30 – [Cost share is waived for Medicare Advantage members](#) for both primary and specialty office care visits, including telehealth, through Sept. 30, 2020.

Billing Guidance

To help you understand how UnitedHealthcare will reimburse services during the national public health emergency period, please download the [COVID-19 Provider Billing Guidance](#). It outlines billing codes and modifiers. Because guidance may change, please check regularly for updates.

Other Key Reminders

- Mental Health Resources for Health Care Professionals: [Resources and support](#) are available to help you focus on, manage and understand your mental and physical well-being during this challenging time.
 - [HouseCalls and Optum at Home Visits](#) : These visits resumed in some markets on May 22, 2020. We are continuing virtual visits in other markets and will continue to evaluate and resume in-person visits where possible.
 - Antibody Test Registration: We're asking all laboratories and health care professionals who perform COVID-19 antibody tests to register the tests they use. The [registration](#) takes only a few minutes to complete.
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Medicare Learning Network's COVID-19 Guide to Using the CR Modifier and DR Condition Code

CMS revised MLN Matters Special Edition Article SE20011 on [Medicare Fee-for-Service \(FFS\) Response to the Public Health Emergency on the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) to clarify when you must use modifier CR (catastrophe/disaster related) and/or condition code DR (disaster related) when submitting claims to Medicare. The update includes a chart of blanket waivers and flexibilities that require the modifier or condition code.

Mako Medical Laboratores Available to Assist with Testing

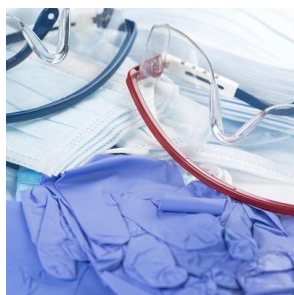
Mako Medical Laboratories has the capacity to run 25,000 covid samples a day with a 24-48 hour turnaround time. They supply all swabs and shipping materials, with no supply chain issues. For more information, contact Marc

[Read the Mako COVID-19 FAQ here.](#)



Our AMA/AMS physician survey will be active for just a few more days, so don't wait. We want to hear from you. [Click here to take the survey.](#)

PPE



View our updated information on personal protective equipment at [ARKMED.org/ppe](https://www.arkmed.org/ppe) or visit [arkansasready.com/ppe](https://www.arkansasready.com/ppe) for Arkansas PPE vendors.

Telemedicine



View the latest information from insurance carriers, HIPAA, and other sources on telemedicine during the COVID-19 crisis at [ARKMED.org/telemedicine](https://www.arkmed.org/telemedicine)

Financial Resources



We've compiled all of the financial resources that you may need for your clinic or practice during the COVID-19 crisis at <https://www.arkmed.org/financial-assistance-during-covid-19/>.

[Join our COVID-19 Mailing List](#)

Got Questions? Let Us Help.

The Arkansas Medical Society is here to serve our physician members and their medical teams. On our website, we have a place that you can send us questions or share what you're experiencing. Visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19) and click on the Got Questions box. We will respond to your question as soon as possible. Thank you for your hard work and together we will make it through this crisis.

For more AMS COVID-19 Resources, visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19).

Arkansas Medical Society [ARKMED.org](https://www.arkmed.org)

