



COVID-19 Update, 6/29

June 29, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://arkmed.org/covid19)

Status Update as of 6/29 from ADH Website:

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

- Confirmed cumulative cases in Arkansas - 20,257
- Active cases - 5,926
- Recovered patients - 14,066
- New cases since 6/28 - 439
- Deaths - 265
- Patients in the hospital - 300
- Patients on ventilators - 63

COVID-19 Update from the American Medical Association

Last week [CMS announced that physicians will have the option to opt-out completely or partially from the 2020 MIPS program](#) by completing a hardship exemption application and indicating it is due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). Individual clinicians and group practices have until December 31, 2020 to complete the [hardship application](#).

CMS plans on providing physicians with a couple of options on the hardship exemption application. For example, a practice may submit a hardship application and indicate that they do not want to be scored on Cost and Quality and have their score calculated based on just Promoting Interoperability and Improvement Activities.

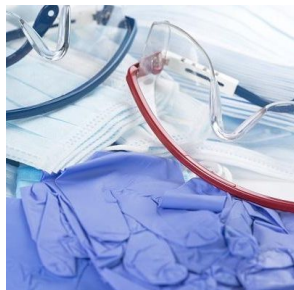
Alternatively, practices may submit a hardship application and opt-out of all four performance categories and be held harmless from a 2022 payment adjustment. Submitting any MIPS data to CMS will override the hardship exception application and physicians will be scored on their submission.

It is also our understanding the CMS QPP.CMS.GOV website is in the process of being updated with the 2020 policy and should reflect the announcement along with additional educational materials in a couple weeks. The information currently posted on the website is regarding the 2019 MIPS COVID-19 policy. CMS has also indicated that additional information on MIPS COVID-19 policy will be included in upcoming rulemaking.

Arkansas Medicaid PCMH 6-Month Activities Deadline Extended

The deadline for Arkansas Medicaid PCMH 6-Month Activities has been extended from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020. For a complete list of 6-month and 12-month activities, please review the [2020 PCMH Program Policy Addendum](#) on the Arkansas Department of Human Services' website.

PPE



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