



2020 Election Anxiety



When asked what made Americans extremely or somewhat anxious, they said the top issues were: keeping themselves and their family safe (80%), COVID-19 (75%), their health (73%), gun violence (73%) and the upcoming presidential election (72%).

With all the new stressors introduced over the past year, The Alabama Psychiatric Physicians Association (APPA) and The Medical Association of the State of Alabama want to encourage Alabamians to address their feelings and if needed seek medical care if feelings of distress persist.

[See the full release from the Medical Association and APPA](#)

Flu Shot Friday



Today is Flu Shot Friday and our staff took the opportunity to get vaccinated this morning. We were joined by Dr. Taylor with ADPH and Dr. Wybenga of Prattville.

In the midst of a pandemic, it's more important than ever to mask up, social distance, and get your flu shot!

[See our press release here](#)

Medicare Coverage and Payment of Vaccines and Therapeutics



Yesterday, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a fourth COVID-19 [Interim Final Rule](#) with Comment, which provides coverage and payment details for COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics. Medicare will cover the cost of COVID-19 vaccines and their administration and will waive out-of-pocket costs for both traditional fee-for-service beneficiaries and beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans. Medicare will pay physicians \$28.39 to administer coronavirus vaccines.

Additional notable provisions in the interim final rule include:

- Physicians and other health care professionals who perform COVID-19 diagnostic tests must post their cash prices online via their website.
- CMS will pay hospitals add-on payments in the inpatient and outpatient settings for COVID-19 therapeutics.
- CMS also extends for six months the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement (CJR) model, which will now end on Sept. 30, 2021.

The rules are effective immediately and have a 60-day comment period. CMS released additional information including a [fact sheet](#) and [FAQs on billing](#) for therapeutics.

[More COVID-19 vaccine resources](#)

Alabama extends mask order through Dec. 11; some restrictions eased



Alabama is extending its mask order through Friday, Dec. 11 at 5 p.m., Gov. Kay Ivey announced yesterday.

Ivey announced there were some changes to the state's "Safer at Home" order first announced in July as the state battles the coronavirus pandemic. The new amended order:

- Removes emergency occupancy rates for retailers, gyms, fitness and entertainment venues
- Allows for an exception for 6-foot social distancing rules at many businesses – including barber shops, hair salons, gyms and restaurants – if people are wearing masks and separated by barriers.
- Restaurants that have dividers will also be allowed to increase the number of patrons allowed inside.
- Six foot distancing and masks are still required.

[See the full story from AL.com](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

- [COVID-19 Outbreak, Antigen Testing Recommendations from ADPH](#)
- [Reminder to clinicians regarding Legionnaires' disease and Legionella testing during COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [FAQs on Information Blocking Provisions](#)
- [Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children \(MIS-C\) Potentially Associated with COVID-19](#)
- [Alabama schools report 1,056 coronavirus cases this week](#)



Need PPE?

PPE is still available!

- Direct Shipping now available
- Free shipping on orders over \$500
- Nitrile gloves now in stock

[Click here for info.](#)



SaniStrap

SaniStrap contains wristband, two refillable bottles, and one travel size refill bottle. Sanitizer is NOT included in order - liquid gel sanitizer is recommended.

[Click here for info.](#)



Hand Sanitizer

Hand Sanitizer Options Available are:

70% Alcohol Gel Hand Sanitizer. Twelve (12), One (1) Liter bottles with pull-tab cap.

[Click here for info.](#)

MAJOR CHANGES COMING TO 2021 E/M CODING!

[Click here for more information.](#)



 MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

COVID-19

EARN FREE CME

[FIND MORE INFORMATION ON COURSES HERE](#)



If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please [unsubscribe](#)