



Post-Maria Recovery: The CMS Perspective



Kimberly Brandt
Principal Deputy Administrator for Operations
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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“Working to Achieve Health Equity”

Today's Presentation

- Overview of Emergency Declarations
- Federal & CMS Response Efforts
- Medicare and Medicaid Responses
- Recovery Efforts and Stakeholder Engagement

Overview of Emergency Declarations

- Presidential declaration of emergency under the Stafford Act
- Public Health Emergency declaration by the HHS Secretary
- CMS works with the HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and other partners to coordinate response and recovery efforts
- CMS exercises authorities to waive certain program requirements and provide flexibilities to Medicare and Medicaid providers and suppliers

Federal & CMS Emergency Response Efforts

- CMS worked with ASPR, the Kidney Community Emergency Response Program and the End Stage Renal Disease Networks to monitor conditions before, during, and after the storms to predict and assess the impact to the vulnerable dialysis patient population
- CMS uses waiver and program flexibility authorities to ensure our Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries have access to care and providers and suppliers are able to deliver needed services

Medicare & Medicaid

- Addressed provider questions related to accelerated payments and hospital outlier payments
- Clarification of Medicare Advantage policy questions
- Operational Status and Oversight of Medicare Providers
- Offer Medicaid waivers and flexibilities to facilitate access to care and services within and beyond the provider networks

CMS Recovery Efforts

- Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018
- Medicare Advantage and Part D Advance Notice and Draft Call Letter
- Special Enrollment Periods

Stakeholder Engagement

- In December 2017, CMS hosted a series of conference calls with key stakeholders
- Top Issues Discussed
 - Improving healthcare sector's understanding of emergency response roles and responsibilities
 - Establishing communication alternatives
 - Developing energy alternatives and rethinking of priority groups for diesel and generators
 - Educating providers about CMS waivers, billing and payment policies during an emergency
 - Developing strategies to improve situational awareness on issues and challenges in specific geographic areas

CMS Recovery Efforts

- CMS understands all of the areas impacted by the recent hurricanes and natural disasters will continue to encounter challenges as they rebuild
- CMS will continue to work with the impacted communities and Medicare and Medicaid providers to address the health care needs of our beneficiaries