

# NPAIHB COVID-19 Weekly Update

May 4, 2021

Please sign in using the chat box:

Enter the tribe or organization you are representing  
and names of all people participating with you today



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
*Indian Leadership for Indian Health*

# Information for Today's Call

## Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction: Celeste Davis
- NPAIHB COVID-19 Situation Report: Celeste Davis
- Indian Health Service Update: Dean Seyler
- State Partner Updates:
  - Washington: Tamara Fife
  - Oregon: Julie Johnson
  - Idaho: Joyce Broadsword, Liz Coronado
- Legislative and Policy Update: Liz Coronado

## Guidelines

- Please place yourself on mute unless speaking
- Sign in, using chat box, with your tribe/organization and names of all participants
- Use the chat box for questions, for Q&A after updates and announcements



# NPAIHB COVID-19 Situation Report

Celeste Davis



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# C-19 Emergency Response - NPAIHB Situation Report: 5/4/21

*Be a Patriot, Get Vaccinated!*

Get vaccinated, wear a mask, maintain distance, avoid crowds, wash your hands

- Toward Community Immunity - We will win the battle through vaccinations
  - **The battle wages on....**

	US	WA	OR	ID
Total Cases and Trends	32.5M, trending down	409,000, trending up	187,000, trending up	188,000, trending down
% Total Pop Vaccinated	32%, 105.5M	34%, 2.57M	32%, 1.34M	28%, 500K

- Until then, we must continue to use testing for diagnoses and screening
- Mask mandates are going away – about half of US states have mandates
- Here comes summer and a season of US holidays – and travel



# C-19 Emergency Response - NPAIHB Situation Report: 5/4/21

*Be a Patriot, Get Vaccinated!*

Get vaccinated, wear a mask, maintain distance, avoid crowds, wash your hands

- **Vaccination News**
  - Pfizer to request EUA from FDA for COVID-19 vaccine for 12-16 y.o. next week
  - Pfizer and Moderna clinical trials for 2-12 y.o.; Pfizer expects to submit data to FDA by September
  - Pfizer to seek full authorization of its COVID-19 vaccine
- **Full authorization – easier to implement mandates for vaccination**
  - Vaccine certificates on the horizon
- **Prepare kids for the COVID-19 vaccine – make sure current with all immunizations**
- **Meet people where they are – get mobile with the vaccine**
- **We must master our risk communications and counter “fake news”**



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# Upcoming NPAIHB telehealth opportunities

-May 4-May 11

- Hepatitis C Elimination ECHO

- Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12pm PT (Topic: **MAT and the HCV Provider**)

- To learn more and join:

- <https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/hepatitis-c-elimination/>

- Harm Reduction ECHO

- Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 12pm PT (Topic: **Fentanyl Testing Strips 101**)

- To learn more and join:

- <https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/harm-reduction/>

- Substance Use Disorders ECHO

- Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 11am PT (Topic: **Adolescent Prevention of and Screening for Substance Use Disorders**)

- To learn more and join:

- <https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/substance-use-disorder/>



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# Upcoming NPAIHB telehealth opportunities

-May 4-May 11

- Community Health Representative ECHO
  - Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 12pm PT (Topic: **Reproductive Health and STIs**)
  - To learn more and join:  
<https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/community-health-series/>
- PrEP ECHO
  - Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12pm PT (Topic: **Indications and Contraindications for PrEP**)
  - To learn more and join:  
<https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/prep/>
- COVID-19 ECHO
  - Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 12pm PT (Topic: **Clinical and Treatment Updates**)
  - To learn more and join:  
<https://www.indiancountryecho.org/program/covid-19/>

# Indian Health Service Update

Dean Seyler



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# State Partner Updates

Washington DOH: Tamara Fife

Oregon OHA: Julie Johnson

Idaho DHW: Joyce Broadsword and Liz Coronado



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# Legislative and Policy Update

Liz Coronado



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# Legislative and Policy Update Agenda

- House and Senate Hearings
- Legislative & Policy Updates
- Administrative and Regulatory Updates
- Litigation Updates
- Upcoming Regional and National Meetings



# House and Senate Hearings

May 4, 2021 (8:30 am Pacific) - House Committee on Energy and Commerce Hearing  
"Negotiating a Better Deal: Legislation to Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs"

May 5, 2021 (9:00 am Pacific) - [House Education and Labor Hearing](#)  
"Lower Drug Costs Now: Expanding Access to Affordable Health Care"

May 6, 2021 (8:30 am Pacific) - [House Energy and Commerce Hearing](#)  
"Broadband Equity: Addressing Disparities in Access and Affordability"



# Legislative Updates

## **S.914 - Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021**

- Passed and agreed to in Senate on April 29, 2021 by a vote of 89-2. Amends the Safe Drinking Water Act and Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes.

## **S.1365 - Extending Tribal Broadband Priority Act of 2021**

- Introduced on April 26, 2021 by Sen. Warren (D-MA) and referred to Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Requires the FCC to open a new 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window that lasts at least 180 days, to commence no later than 30 days after the bill is enacted.

## **S.1397 - Tribal Health Data Improvement Act**

- Introduced on April 27, 2021 by Sen. Smith (D-MN) and referred to Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Strengthens data sharing between Tribes, Tribal Epidemiology Centers and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This bill clarifies that Tribes and Tribal Epidemiology Centers, as public health authorities, should be granted access to the data they request.



# CHAP Funding Allocation

- IHS issued DTLL on announcement of funding allocation of \$10 million for national CHAP expansion for FY 2020 and 2021 appropriations
  - \$3 million in grants for Tribes and Tribal Organizations positioned to begin operating CHAP – IHS is awarding 3 grants of \$1 million each for a period of 2 years
  - \$4.7 million in grants for Tribes and Tribal Organizations to assist with planning efforts and assessing the applicability of CHAP
  - \$1.7 million to IHS headquarters to support national CHAP infrastructure, including the National Certification Board, National S&P, and ongoing TA
  - \$640,000 for IHS Area Offices



# Administrative and Regulatory Updates

- **HHS releases new Buprenorphine practice guidelines for treating OUD**
  - Exempts eligible practitioners treating up to 30 patients from certification requirements
  - Still need to apply for the X Waiver and provide valid DEA registration and state license
- **IHS Tribal Consultation on Tribal Consultation Policy**
  - June 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am Pacific
  - Seeking 2 Tribal Leaders from each Area to serve on the IHS Director's Advisory Workgroup on Tribal Consultation; Nominations due June 15<sup>th</sup>
- **VA Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs**
  - VA posted notice of the establishment of this Committee
  - Comprised of 15 members, including one member from each of the 12 IHS areas
  - Nominations due June 1<sup>st</sup>



# Litigation Updates

- **County of Santa Clara et al v. HHS (N.D. Cal.)**

- Judge issues order staying the case through 7/30/2021 to provide HHS additional time to assess the claims.
- HHS states in their request that they anticipate issuing a notice or proposed rulemaking repealing the SUNSET Rule.

- **Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe v. Blue Cross Blue Shield (E.D. Mich.)**

- On Aug. 6, 2020, the court held that payments made by the Tribe's Self-Insured Plan did not qualify for repricing at Medicare-Like Rate (MLR) because they were Purchased/Referred Care payments.
- On Mar. 3, 2021, the Tribe appealed to the 6th Circuit. The appellate brief is due May 3, 2021 and amici briefs are due no later than May 10, 2021.



# NPAIHB Policy Resources

- **Weekly COVID-19 Call Lists (Mondays)**
- **Weekly Legislative and Policy Updates (Tuesdays)**
  - NEW Federal Health Agency and Congress Tracker (FHACT)
- **Cindy Darcy's D.C. Legislative Update (Fridays)**
- **NEW Monthly Tribal Advisory Committee updates**



# Upcoming Deadlines

- **Annual Tribal Budget Consultation**
  - Written testimony due **May 7, 2021**
- **CHAP PAO DTLL**
  - Seeking input on critical components of the Portland Area CHP Certification Board
  - Written comments due **May 14, 2021**
- **HHS proposed modifications to HIPAA**
  - Changes to support care coordination and value-based healthcare
  - Written comments are due **May 6, 2021**



# Upcoming Regional & National Meetings

May 5	American Indian Health Commission Delegates Quarterly Meeting 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Pacific
May 5-6	Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee Meeting
May 10	MMPC Monthly Meeting 11:00 am Pacific
May 12	TTAG Monthly Meeting 11:30 am Pacific
May 12-13	SAMHSA Tribal Advisory Committee
May 24-27	ATNI Mid-Year Convention



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**Please contact Liz Coronado at [ecoronado@npaihb.org](mailto:ecoronado@npaihb.org) or Veronica Smith at [vsmith-contractor@npaihb.org](mailto:vsmith-contractor@npaihb.org) for more information on any of these meetings**

# Questions or Comments



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