

Pandemic Response Workgroup Biden Administration Updates

- **CMS Chief Dental Officer – Dr. Natalia Chalmers**
- Position in the Office of the Administrator, Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
- CMS “Centers”
 - Center for Medicare (CM)
 - Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS)
 - Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) – makes grants to test innovative approaches to payment
 - Center for Program Integrity (CPI) – conducts provider audits and fraud investigations
 - Center for Clinical Standards and Quality (CCSQ) - led by CMS’s CMO; handles all quality, clinical and medical science issues
 - Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) – ACA Marketplace

Other Updates

- The Biden-Harris Administration to **require COVID-19 vaccination of staff within all Medicare and Medicaid certified facilities** – CMS with CDC announced that emergency regulations requiring vaccinations for nursing home workers will be expanded to include hospitals, ambulatory care settings, home health agencies, etc.
- HHS releases **proposal to lower prescription drug costs** – The Drug Pricing Plan is guided by the Administration’s principles for equitable drug pricing reform through price negotiation, improved competition and innovation
- The new federal **Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE)** seeks to address the effects of climate change on public health, use regulatory and statutory measures of HHS to address matters affecting disadvantaged communities and people on the frontline of the climate crisis
- **FY 2022 Appropriations...?** Probably a Continuing Resolution