The Private Duty Source

Issue: January 14, 2022

FEATURE ARTICLE

Supreme Court Blocks Biden’s Covid Rule for Biz, Upholds Health Worker Mandate

The Supreme Court handed down a split decision on two Biden administration workplace rules to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19, blocking an OSHA rule requiring businesses with at least 100 employees to compel their workers to get vaccinated or wear masks and test negative at least once per week, but upholding a separate rule from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requiring vaccination for about 20 million health care workers.

The OSHA rule would have covered about 80 million workers and administration estimated it would save about 6500 lives in six months.

“Today’s decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court brings home care a step closer to the essential clarity that is needed to determine what is required for compliance,” said NAHC President William A. Dombi in response to the rulings. “The OSHA rule is blocked from implementation and enforcement for the moment. The CMS rule can fully take effect for the moment. Both cases return to the lower courts for further adjudication. The Administration has further options to it. We strongly encourage both Congress and the Administration to quickly reach a conclusion so that affected health care businesses can focus on providing care. Infection control in patient care and staffing is an essential responsibility in all of health care. Home care is committed to protecting its patients and its staff from Covid-19.”
TOP STORIES

Emerging Legal Trends in Home Care & Hospice: Marketing; Compliance, Fraud and Abuse, & Pitfalls

- Day: January 18, 2022
- Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern Time
- Register now for the webinar
- Register for the Series

Good and effective marketing strategies can increase patient census, and can help with patient and staff satisfaction, however, improper marketing activities can lead to significant financial penalties, exclusion from participation in federal and state programs, and even jail. This session will

- address the incorrect methods of marketing,
- identify the potential pitfalls and penalties associated with improper marketing activities,
- provide strategies and solutions to market your home health and hospice in a compliant manner.

The State of the Market: From Valuations to Volume in 2022 and Beyond

- Thursday, Jan 20, 2022
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET
- REGISTER
- Free to members!

Join the National Association for Home Care & Hospice for this up-to-date look at the home health, home care, hospice and behavioral health markets,
including current supply and demand, valuation trends, and how regulatory changes and potential increases to capital gains tax rates may affect market performance in 2022.

**Learning objectives:**

- Explain how upcoming regulatory changes and potential capital gains tax increases could affect health care industry transactions;
- Describe how to prepare for a potential future sale of a health care company and what to expect during the course of a transaction;
- Discuss projections for the home health, home care, hospice and behavioral health markets in 2022.

**The Private Duty Leadership Summit Will be a Virtual Conference**

It is with regret that the National Association for Home Care & Hospice must announce that the 2022 Private Duty Leadership Summit, originally scheduled as an in-person event from February 22-24, 2022, in Hilton Head, South Carolina, will move forward as a virtual event.

This decision was not made lightly and we are enormously grateful for the support people have shown for the private duty home care community. However, despite considerable enthusiasm for the Leadership Summit, we have heard back from many who wanted to attend that the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic and the now-dominant Omicron variant that is more contagious than previous variants, has created unprecedented stress on already depleted workforces, making travel and time away from patients simply impossible.

“This was a very difficult decision to make and everyone at NAHC is disappointed that it became necessary to change the Leadership Summit from an in-person event to a virtual event said NAHC President William A.
Dombi. “We have an incredible program to offer, however the safety of our guests and faculty, and of their patients, is of paramount importance.”

NAHC Wants Your Input for 2022 Legislative & Regulatory Agendas

The policy staff of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) and its affiliates — the Hospice Association of America (HAA), the Home Care & Hospice Financial Managers Association (HHFMA), and the National Medicaid Action Council — are in the process of developing their agendas for legislative and regulatory activities in the coming year. NAHC, along with its affiliated organizations, is seeking member input with regards to crafting the 2021 agenda documents.

The policy staff is seeking input to help develop these blueprints, which provide the action plans and basis for advocacy efforts for the coming year. Throughout the year as issues develop, NAHC, HAA, and the National Medicaid Action Council gather ideas for these agendas from members, state association affiliates, advisory committees, and the NAHC Board of Directors.

With the potential for big changes on the legislative and regulatory horizon for next year on Capitol Hill and in the Administration, NAHC and its affiliates are developing strategies now to protect the continued viability of home care and hospice. Please take a moment to communicate your thoughts for these agendas to guide us as an association and a community. We are particularly interested in any new issues that you believe should be included as part of NAHC’s overall advocacy agenda.

4 Resolutions for Elevating Your Homecare Agency in 2022
In two short (but very long) years, the homecare industry has changed forever.

Traditionally, homecare was built on delivering high-quality services wherever clients call home. Almost without exception, these services were downstream within the care continuum, and were thus limited in scope. Then came COVID-19.

Suddenly, the pandemic's at-home-first approach forced health care providers to collaborate with homecare agencies throughout the patient journey. Homecare agencies demonstrated remarkable value in helping clients get the right level of care at the right time. COVID-19 highlighted the common goals in health care, whether that was reducing fall risks, preventing readmissions or saving Medicare dollars. The wider health care industry took notice, and more providers across the continuum came to recognize homecare’s impact.

**READ THE REST @ HomeCare Magazine**

**Big Investments Fuel Record Growth in Home Accessibility Market**

In Iowa—where VGM Live at Home is based—there are two sayings from the iconic movie “Field of Dreams" that are reiterated often. They are, “If you build it, they will come;” and “Is this heaven? No, it’s Iowa.” I can’t help but think of these two phrases as I report on the current state of the home accessibility market.

**Clients Are Starting to Come**

For many years, the home accessibility contractor market has been asking whether clients will respond if a service platform is built that allows people to age in place successfully. In the last two years or so, the health care industry as a whole has seen a spike in support for telemedicine, hospital-at-home programs and other services that help people remain in their homes over the years; in-home care is also growing at a rapid rate. New technologies for
senior home automation and easy connectivity to family are growing markets. But until recently, little attention was paid to the home living environment. It seems home access professionals are now being welcomed to the party as others in the care continuum are realizing that their concepts don’t work if the home setting isn’t appropriate.

Families bearing weight of caregiver shortage, survey finds

The burdens of caregiving and the shortage of home care workers are putting added strain on families, according to a new survey.

Family First, a technology-powered caregiving support benefit, polled health plan Medicare and Medicaid members who have a family caregiver and found nearly 60% experienced suicidal thoughts during the pandemic. More than half of respondents said they felt like they were a burden on the family and more than 60% said their caregiving needs were having a negative impact on their relationship with their family caregivers. Nearly 70% wanted caregiver support to be a benefit included in their health plans.

RESOURCES

The Human Experience 2020: Vision for the Future of Health Care - The Beryl Institute

Littler Operational Guidelines for the Home Care Industry Amid COVID 19 - Littler Mendelson, P.C.

PDHCA Education - PDHCA Website
SPONSOR

Generations Homecare System is the all-in-one agency management solution that gives providers the power to connect care teams, simplify daily tasks, and maintain security and privacy compliance.

Key features include intuitive scheduling, Electronic Visit Verification (EVV), mobile apps, comprehensive reporting, and more. If your state requires the use of EVV, Generations has a solution for you.

With the mobile app, your team can take care of business, no matter where the day may take you. Visit our website homecaresoftware.com.

Private Duty Home Care at NAHC is a fully integrated service line of the National Association for Home Care & Hospice focused on Leadership, Education, Advocacy, and Innovation exclusively for the private duty home care community.

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