COVID-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency Expiration

The Oregon Health Authority’s Health Care Regulation & Quality Improvement (HCRQI) section regulates hospitals and other health care facilities across Oregon. The federal and state Public Health Emergency declarations due COVID-19 pandemic have offered many flexibilities and other regulatory waivers for Oregon licensed health care facilities in response to the state of emergency. This memo provides an initial summary of the impacts of expiring declarations.

Hospital and Health Care Facility Regulatory Flexibilities

Although the April 1st lifting of Executive Order 20-3 was announced by Governor Brown, this change will not impact the following:

- CMS 1135 waivers and blanket flexibilities
- Addition of services based on the CMS 1135 waivers such as Hospital@Home programs
- Temporary licensed surge space in hospitals

Hospitals and other health care facilities can continue to utilize the federal CMS 1135 waivers until they expire. While OHA – HCRQI does not have any information about extension of the federal waivers past April 16, 2022, CMS has stated that the expiration will include a reasonable phase-out period for the items listed above.

Health Care Workforce Flexibilities

Please refer to specific health professional regulatory boards for detailed information about expiration of temporary licenses and authorizations to practice in Oregon.

Medicaid Flexibilities

Please refer to specific guidance regarding Medicaid Flexibilities.

Additional Regulatory Requirements

Masking in health care facilities – refer to OHA Rules and FAQs.

Revised CMS Infection control and screening requirements for entering hospitals and acute & continuing care facilities

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Contact Information for additional questions:

Call (971) 673-0540 or email mailbox.hclc@state.or.us

If you need this material in an alternate format, please call (971) 673-0540 or TTY (711).