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|  | The Tuesday Digest  Issue # 10 November 3, 2020  *The Tuesday Digest* is information complied by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts concerning long-term services, support, and care issued each Tuesday. |
| Webinars / Online sessions | 1. **Multicultural Efforts to End Sexual Assault (Purdue University)**   November 5, 2020 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  ***Webinar: Sexual Violence and Disability: A Social Justice Framework for Service Providers***  <https://tinyurl.com/yy4k5dja>   1. **MASSCAP Training Center**   November 24, 2020 10:00 to 11:15 a.m.  ***Real Life Resiliency, the Science and Tools***  <https://tinyurl.com/yyg6b79m>   1. **Long Term Care Discussion Group**   November 30, 2020 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.  ***Making Sense of the Election: The President and the Congress and Where We Go from Here***  Speakers: Bob Blancato and Joel White  Bob Blancato is the President of Matz, Blancato and Associates. In that capacity, he also serves as the National Coordinator of the bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition, the Executive Director of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs and National Coordinator of the Defeat Malnutrition Today coalition.  Joel White is the Founder and President of Horizon Government Affairs. He is the President of the Council for Affordable Health Coverage and its campaigns on transparency and medication adherence.  For free access information see: <https://tinyurl.com/y5xxgpxq>   1. **Center for Medicare Advocacy**   December 2, 2020 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. (online presentation)  ***Overview of Nursing Home Quality of Care & Quality of Life Standards from a consumer perspective***  Presented by Center for Medicare Advocacy Senior Policy Attorney Toby Edelman.  Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y4dm3ee2>   1. **Massachusetts Department of Public Health**   December 2, 2020 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  ***Invitation to the Listening Session with Community Health Workers (CHW), CHW Supervisors and Allies***  <https://tinyurl.com/yxrwpqtt> |
| Featured websites | 1. **Kaiser Health News**   November 2, 2020  ***Look Up Your Hospital: Is It Being Penalized by Medicare?***  You can search by hospital name or location, look at all hospitals in a particular state and sort penalties by year. Under programs set up by the Affordable Care Act, the federal government cuts payments to hospitals that have high rates of readmissions and those with the highest numbers of infections and patient injuries. For the readmission penalties, Medicare cuts as much as 3 percent for each patient, although the average is generally much lower. The patient safety penalties cost hospitals 1 percent of Medicare payments over the federal fiscal year, which runs from October through September.  <https://tinyurl.com/y5lry648> |
| Featured articles | 1. **The 19th**   November 2, 2020  *Pandemic restrictions may impact the nursing home vote*  National nursing home advocate and Dignity Alliance Massachusetts member, Penny Shaw, was interviewed for this article.  <https://tinyurl.com/y4joafze>   1. **Tufts Health Plan Foundation**   October 28, 2020  *How Innovative Community Responses to COVID-19 Support Healthy Aging*  The research focused on six communities particularly affected by the pandemic. Four cities—Brockton, Chelsea, Lawrence and Lynn—are diverse and experienced some of the highest COVID-19 infection rates in the state; and Cape Cod and the Hilltowns regions are rural and geographically isolated communities with significant older populations.  <https://tinyurl.com/yycn2ztj> |
| Nursing homes | 1. **NPR / Kaiser Health News**   November 2, 2020  *They Work in Several Nursing Homes to Eke Out a Living, Possibly Spreading the Virus*  <https://tinyurl.com/yy4a9349>   1. **ABC News**   November 2, 2020  *Nursing homes, after seeing improvements, now face a fresh COVID-19 threat*  <https://tinyurl.com/y2bxsaqr>   1. **\*Wall Street Journal**   November 1, 2020  *Staffing at Some Nursing Homes Plummeted During Early Covid-19 Outbreaks*  Several Massachusetts nursing facilities included in report as well as quotes by David Grabowski, Harvard Medical School.  <https://tinyurl.com/y278q8ot>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 30, 2020  *Why State Mask Stockpiling Orders Are Hurting Nursing Homes, Small Providers*  <https://tinyurl.com/y55kdsv2>   1. **\*New York Times**   October 30, 2020 (updated October 31, 2020)  *Nursing Homes, Racked by the Virus, Face a New Crisis: Isolation*  <https://nyti.ms/2HL2Kkq>   1. **\*Modern Healthcare**   October 30, 2020  *Testing Turnaround Times at Nursing Homes Lag as U.S. COVID-19 Cases Climb*  <https://tinyurl.com/y5l9vmgw>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 29, 2020  *Despite COVID Concerns, Teams Venture into Nursing Homes to Get Out the Vote*  <https://tinyurl.com/y57fe5l5>   1. **\*New York Times**   October 29, 2020 (updated October 30, 2020)  *40 Dead, Now 40 Laid Off: Inside a Nursing Home in Crisis*  <https://tinyurl.com/y6qaeuoq>   1. **\*Washington Post**   October 29, 2020  *As pandemic raged and thousands died, government regulators cleared most nursing homes of infection-control violations*  <https://tinyurl.com/y2z8vdxw>   1. **Medscape**   October 29, 2020  *Black People Still Less Likely to Get Flu Shots in US Nursing Homes*  <https://tinyurl.com/yygm476g>   1. **WWLP (News 10 ABC)**   October 29, 2020  *Staff from Soldiers’ Home in Holyoke testify Thursday*  <https://tinyurl.com/yxmn3lgj>   1. **CBS News**   October 28, 2020  *Nursing homes cite shortages of masks, gloves, gowns, and other PPE*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4x2oc6o>   1. **USA Today**   October 28, 2020  *Pandemic restrictions may impact the nursing home vote*  <https://tinyurl.com/y5qd3z52>   1. **The Hill**   October 26, 2020  *Nursing homes prepare for third COVID-19 surge*  <https://tinyurl.com/y49azhwe>   1. **ABC News**   October 25, 2020  *COVID-19 outbreak at Massachusetts nursing home kills 5, infects 30*  <https://tinyurl.com/y6t3vnyb>   1. **Skilled Nursing News**   August 10, 2020  *COVID-19 Strains Cast ‘Substantial Doubt’ on Nursing Home Giant Genesis’s Ability to Survive Next Year*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4b5hfz2>   1. **Journal of American Geriatrics Society**   August 8, 2020  *Staffing Levels and COVID‐19 Cases and Outbreaks in U.S. Nursing Homes*  <https://tinyurl.com/yycsusw5> |
| Assisted Living | 1. **Bangor Daily News**   November 2, 2020  *Virus outbreak at Rockland, Maine assisted-living facility grows to 18*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4gmtxej> |
| Home and Community | 1. **\*Modern Healthcare**   October 29, 2020  *CMS Makes Telehealth Permanent for Home Health*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4gdhrxr>   1. **Tufts Health Plan Foundation**   October 28, 2020  *How Innovative Community Responses to COVID-19 Support Healthy Aging*  The research focused on six communities particularly affected by the pandemic. Four cities—Brockton, Chelsea, Lawrence and Lynn—are diverse and experienced some of the highest COVID-19 infection rates in the state; and Cape Cod and the Hilltowns regions are rural and geographically isolated communities with significant older populations.  <https://tinyurl.com/yycn2ztj>   1. **STAT News**   October 25, 2020  *There’s no place like home for older and high-risk people to get Covid-19 vaccines*  <https://tinyurl.com/y3368wso>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 16, 2020  *Most Home Health Aides ‘Can’t Afford Not to Work’ — Even When Lacking PPE*  <https://tinyurl.com/y48tayz2> |
| Housing | 1. **Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Community Development**   October 12, 2020  *Baker-Polito Administration Announces Comprehensive Eviction Diversion Initiative to Keep People Safely Housed During Pandemic*  <https://tinyurl.com/y5hxrtsu> |
| Behavioral Health | 1. **NBC News**   October 27, 2020  *The hidden Covid-19 health crisis: Elderly people are dying from isolation*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4qf7992>   1. **The Hill**   October 27, 2020  *Researchers link severe COVID-19 cases to mental decline equal to aging a decade*  <https://tinyurl.com/y6qol8g3>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 20, 2020  *Older COVID Patients Battle ‘Brain Fog,’ Weakness and Emotional Turmoil*  <https://tinyurl.com/y6lmubfv>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 7, 2020  *Lifetime Experiences Help Older Adults Build Resilience to Pandemic Trauma*  <https://tinyurl.com/y29wqgtm> |
| Covid-19 | 1. **\*Boston Globe**   October 29, 2020  *New data shed more light on source of coronavirus clusters around Mass.*  <https://tinyurl.com/y42u8a8a>   1. **Kaiser Health News**   October 28, 2020  *For Each Critically Ill COVID Patient, a Family Is Suffering, Too*  <https://tinyurl.com/yyfye6r8>   1. **\*Boston Globe**   October 27, 2020  *Health care workers for the elderly need to get flu vaccinations. But why aren’t more of them doing that?*  <https://tinyurl.com/yy3pmk2v>   1. **\*Wall Street Journal**   October 19, 2020  *Some California Hospitals Refused Covid-19 Transfers for Financial Reasons, State Emails Show*  <https://tinyurl.com/y3g6ko7s> |
| Other | 1. **The 19th**   November 2, 2020  *Pandemic restrictions may impact the nursing home vote*  National nursing home advocate and Dignity Alliance Massachusetts member, Penny Shaw, was interviewed for this article.  <https://tinyurl.com/y4joafze>   1. **HealthDay**   October 26, 2020  *Fading Sense of Smell Could Signal Higher Death Risk in Older Adults*  <https://tinyurl.com/y3msa87q>   1. **Kaiser Family Foundation**   October 20, 2020  *The Landscape of Medicaid Demonstration Waivers Ahead of the 2020 Election*  <https://tinyurl.com/y26ggyal>   1. **PEW Stateline**   October 28, 2020  *Pandemic Raises, Lowers Hurdles for Voters with Disabilities*  <https://tinyurl.com/y4zlpa8z> |
|  | \*May require registration before providing article. |
| *Websites of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Members* | **AARP Massachusetts**  [**https://states.aarp.org/massachusetts/**](https://states.aarp.org/massachusetts/)  **Alzheimer’s Association of Massachusetts and New Hampshire**  [**https://www.alz.org/manh**](https://www.alz.org/manh)  **Boston Center for independent Living**  [**https://bostoncil.org/**](https://bostoncil.org/)  **Massachusetts Advocates for Nursing Home Reform**  [**https://manhr.org/**](https://manhr.org/)  **MetroWest Center for Independent Living**  [**https://mwcil.org/**](https://mwcil.org/)  **Mystic Valley Elder Services**  [**https://www.mves.org/**](https://www.mves.org/)  **National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA)-Massachusetts Chapter**  [**https://massnaela.com/**](https://massnaela.com/) |
| Recommended websites | **AARP**  [**https://tinyurl.com/y5xk6eha**](https://tinyurl.com/y5xk6eha)  **Massachusetts scorecard can be found at:**  [**https://tinyurl.com/y3ryfzua**](https://tinyurl.com/y3ryfzua)  Long-Term Services & Supports State Scorecard  The fourth edition of the LTSS State Scorecard, released in fall 2020, takes a multi-dimensional approach to measure state-level performance of LTSS systems that assist older adults, people with physical disabilities, and family caregivers. Unlike many other rankings that focus on a particular aspect of LTSS system performance, the Scorecard compares state LTSS systems across multiple dimensions, reflecting the importance and interconnectedness each has on the overall LTSS system.  **Coalition for Serious Medical Care**  *Massachusetts e-MOLST Web Portal*  The *e-MOLST Web Portal* supports providers in engaging in advance care planning with patients in the current, largely virtual care world. On the portal, clinicians and patients or surrogates can remotely complete and digitally sign MOLST forms.  To sign up for the portal, send full name, licensure/role, institution, work address, work email, and phone number to: [masssupport@vyncahealth.com](mailto:masssupport@vyncahealth.com?subject=MA%20eMOLST%20Portal%20Sign%20Up%20Request&body=Full%20Name:%0ALicensure/Role:%0AInstitution:%0AWork%20Address:%0AWork%20Email:%0APhone%20Number:). You will receive an email invitation to create a password and log in within two business days. This is a work in progress; feedback is requested. <http://maseriouscare.org/emolst>  **Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)**  Requires free registration:[**https://tinyurl.com/y4768fxw**](https://tinyurl.com/y4768fxw)  COVID-19 Rapid Response Network for Nursing Homes  The Institute for Healthcare Improvement, with support from The John A. Hartford Foundation, offers the COVID-19 Rapid Response Network for Nursing Homes to support nursing home leadership, staff, residents, families, and communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.  Access to webinars, online and print resources, links to relevant sites.  **Kaiser Health News**  ***Look Up Your Hospital: Is It Being Penalized by Medicare?***  [**https://tinyurl.com/y5lry648**](https://tinyurl.com/y5lry648)  You can search by hospital name or location, look at all hospitals in a particular state and sort penalties by year. Under programs set up by the Affordable Care Act, the federal government cuts payments to hospitals that have high rates of readmissions and those with the highest numbers of infections and patient injuries. For the readmission penalties, Medicare cuts as much as 3 percent for each patient, although the average is generally much lower. The patient safety penalties cost hospitals 1 percent of Medicare payments over the federal fiscal year, which runs from October through September.  **Pioneer Network**  [**https://www.pioneernetwork.net/**](https://www.pioneernetwork.net/)  Pioneer Network is the national leader of the culture change movement, helping care providers to transition away from a medical, institutional model of elder care to one that is life affirming, satisfying, humane and meaningful. Pioneer Network advocates for a culture of aging in which individual voices are heard and individual choices are respected.  **The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care**  [**https://theconsumervoice.org/**](https://theconsumervoice.org/)  Leading national voice representing consumers in long-term care issues. |
| *Dignity Alliance Massachusetts is a broad-based coalition of organizations and individuals pursuing fundamental changes in the provision of long-term services, support, and care for older adults and persons with disabilities.*  *Our guiding principle is the assurance of dignity for those receiving the services as well as for those providing them.*  *The information presented in “The Tuesday Digest” is obtained from publicly available sources and does not necessarily represent positions held by Dignity Alliance Massachusetts.*  *Previous issues of The Tuesday Digest are available at:* [*https://dignityalliancema.org/the-tuesday-digest/*](https://dignityalliancema.org/the-tuesday-digest/)  *For more information about Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, please visit* [*www.DignityAllianceMA.org*](http://www.DignityAllianceMA.org)*.*  *To contact us or to request weekly receipt of The Tuesday Digest, email to* [*info@DignityAllianceMA.org*](mailto:info@DignityAllianceMA.org)*.* | |