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Dear Member:

Medical Director Oversight of Nursing Home Staff Screening Post-Vaccination

In response to member questions on staffing considerations post-vaccination, Bill Montejo of the Division of Licensing suggests that nursing homes utilize their Medical Directors to oversee the management of staff screening post-vaccination. Because some, but not all, vaccination side effects are consistent with COVID-19 symptoms, the screening process is very important when determining return to work.

The US CDC has developed their guidance with an aim to prevent unnecessarily excluding HCW with only post-vaccination signs and symptoms from work that may mimic COVID-19, while not inadvertently allowing HCW with COVID-19 or another transmissible infection to work. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/post-vaccine-considerations-healthcare-personnel.html> for details and helpful decision making trees.

For more discussion on the US CDC recommendations, please see AHCA/NCAL guidance on [Staffing Considerations Post-Vaccine](#).

MaineMDA Still Encourages Your Vaccination Feedback!

We know many of you are beginning or in the midst of your COVID 19 vaccination clinics. The Maine Medical Directors Association is seeking anonymous feedback on your clinic experiences so far. Please complete this quick 2 minute survey with your vaccine clinic feedback. This will assist in advocacy efforts moving forward into the next stage of the Maine Vaccination Plan.

Web link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GV9W5K5>
Mobile link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RQ3LFNL>

What You Should Know: Economic Impact Payments and Representative Payees

Millions of Americans are slated to receive a second Economic Impact Payment (EIP) as part of the recently passed and enacted Coronavirus bill. This follows the EIP that was distributed in 2020 as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These payments aim to support Americans and provide some financial relief.

It is important to note that CARES Act EIP requirements also apply to the EIPs in the most recent stimulus package, as well as any future payments. If you or someone you know serves as a representative payee for a Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiary, that designee is only responsible for managing Social Security or SSI benefits. The EIP is not an SSA benefit, and it belongs to the beneficiary. Representative payees should discuss the payment with the beneficiary, when possible. If the beneficiary requests access to the funds, they're obligated to provide it.

AHCA/NCAL recorded a [webinar](#) in 2020 focused on EIPs from the IRS and important facts for skilled nursing facilities, ICFs/IID, and assisted living centers to know on the use of them. A variety of resources from the Social Security Administration to the National Center on Elder Law and Rights are available at the end of the webinar.

Sincerely,

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