

American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update - Thursday, October 8, 2020

The following information comes from directly from news sources including Bloomberg Government, Kaiser Health News, and other news sources.

Schedules: White House and Congress

WHITE HOUSE

- President Trump has no public events scheduled as he continues to recover from coronavirus
 - 8am: Trump is set to give a live interview to Fox Business Network

CONGRESS

- Senate, House out
- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Treasury Sec. Steven Mnuchin will talk again today after a conversation about airlines aid yesterday
- Pelosi set to hold weekly press conference at 10:45am

Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: Stimulus Talks Continue:** Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) signaled openness to an airline-relief bill in a call with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin after President Donald Trump pulled his negotiators from broader stimulus talks. Pelosi's receptiveness to stand-alone legislation for airlines doesn't appear to include other elements of what was to have been a comprehensive relief package, however. The two spoke last night for about 20 minutes about airline aid, and Pelosi spokesman Drew Hammill said they agreed to talk again on Thursday.
- **The New York Times: Nursing Homes In Nevada Told To Stop Using Rapid Coronavirus Tests:** The coronavirus tests kits are small and fast – they produce results in as a little as 15 minutes – and when they were first distributed to nursing homes around the country in August by the federal government, they were welcomed with open arms. ... But now Nevada has ordered its nursing facilities to immediately suspend the use of two of the rapid virus tests after their performance was found to be lacking, according to a directive issued by the state's department of health.
- **Government Executive: Trump Orders Agencies To Tackle Coronavirus-Related Mental Health Challenges:** President Trump issued an executive order on Monday to establish a multi-agency working group to address mental health issues resulting from the novel coronavirus pandemic. ... The pandemic and the resulting economic recession have "disproportionately" affected young adults (ages 18-24), racial and ethnic minorities, unpaid adult caretakers and essential workers in terms of mental health challenges, substance abuse and thoughts of suicide, according to a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in September. The president issued the order--that included a "national call to action" to remedy these issues--before leaving Walter Reed National Military Medical Center where he was being treated for coronavirus.

- **AP: Lilly Seeks Emergency Use Of Its Antibody Drug For COVID-19:** A drug company says it has asked the U.S. government to allow emergency use of an experimental antibody therapy based on early results from a study that suggested the drug reduced symptoms, the amount of virus, hospitalizations and ER visits for patients with mild or moderate COVID-19. Eli Lilly and Company announced the partial results Wednesday in a news release; they have not yet been published or reviewed by independent scientists. Its drug is similar to one that President Donald Trump received on Friday from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc. These medicines supply concentrated versions of specific antibodies to help the immune system clear the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. They're given as a one-time treatment through an IV.