

# American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update - Wednesday, July 7, 2021

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

- Biden will meet officials at 9:30 a.m. to discuss efforts to counter ransomware.
- The president will then depart the White House at 10:30 a.m. en route to Illinois, where he will tour McHenry County College and tout his economic proposals in a speech at 2:05 p.m.
- Biden in Illinois today will discuss tax cuts for businesses and consumers investing in clean energy technologies and setting a clean electricity standard. He will lay out a goal for climate, conservation and resilience workers, White House said.

### CONGRESS:

- Out of Session.

## Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **The Hill: White House Signals New COVID-19 Strategy As Delta Variant Spreads:** President Biden on Tuesday pleaded with Americans to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as the White House signaled a shift toward grassroots tactics to reach those who have yet to get a shot. Biden, who just days earlier hosted more than a thousand people at the White House for an outdoor Independence Day gathering, cautioned against getting overconfident in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic as the delta variant contributes to rising case counts in less vaccinated parts of the country.
- **Modern Healthcare: Health System Executive Named Medicare Chief:** President Joe Biden's administration has selected a former not-for-profit health system executive as director of CMS' Center for Medicare, an office that oversees health benefits for tens of millions of seniors, people with disabilities and dialysis patients. Dr. Meena Seshamani, who most recently was vice president of clinical care transformation at MedStar Health, started her new position Tuesday. Seshamani is a medical doctor and holds a PhD in health economics. At MedStar Health, Seshamani "conceptualized, designed and implemented" public health and value-based care initiatives and oversaw efforts around community health, geriatrics and palliative care, according to a CMS news release.
- **CBS News: Dangerously Low Blood Supply In U.S. Forces Some Hospitals To Postpone Surgeries:** Blood centers in some U.S. cities are down to a one-day supply, forcing hospitals to postpone surgeries. The blood shortage is yet another fallout from the pandemic, experts say. OneBlood, the Southeast's largest blood center, is scrambling to manage the blood shortage

crisis. "It's a 24/7 operation," said OneBlood's Susan Forbes. "The donors are not in the traditional locations anymore. We lost large corporations, religious organizations, movie theater drives, festivals that were taking place ended."

- **Stat: Transplant System Scrambled Amid Covid To Keep Donations Almost Steady:** This is not a pandemic "silver lining" story. This is a could-have-been-far-worse story about how the pandemic did not fuel a catastrophe in transplantation or worsen the persistent gap between people who need organs and the donations that supply them. But just as the pandemic is not over yet, neither is the potential danger of related ramifications for people whose organs may fail and need replacement.