



Executive Office of Elder Affairs

RESPECT INDEPENDENCE INCLUSION

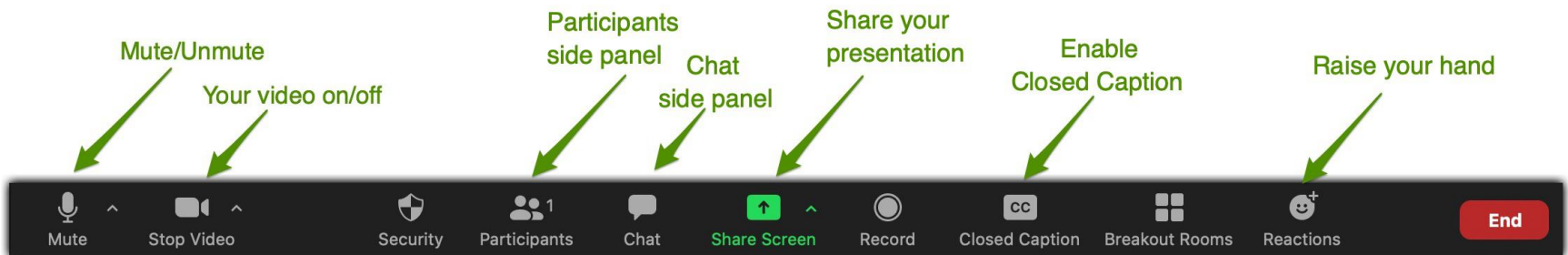
End of Federal PHE & Implications for Home
Care Related COVID-Flexibilities Webinar

May 15, 2023 3:00pm-4:30pm



Logistics

- Please **mute** yourself when not speaking
 - *6 to mute/unmute if you're calling in from your phone
- Utilize the **raise hand** feature to identify you would like to speak
- Utilize the **chat** feature to enter comments or questions
- **Closed Caption** is enabled – you must select it to utilize this feature
- This presentation will be **recorded**

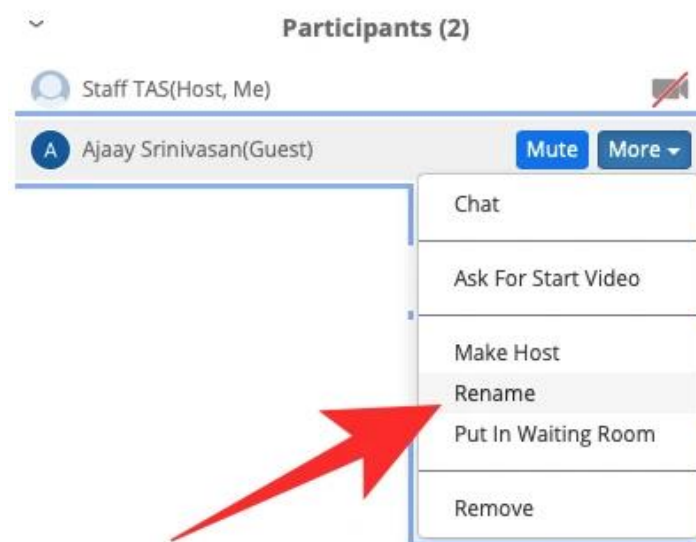


Logistics

- Attendance – Please **rename** yourself and include:
 - First Name
 - Last Name
 - ASAP

How do I rename myself when in a Zoom meeting?

1. Click the "Participants" icon in the Zoom toolbar.
2. In the Participants window, next to your name click "More" and choose "Rename"
3. Enter a new name and click "Rename" to save it for that meeting.
4. You will see the new name showing in the Participants window.



Agenda

Expectations Post - End of Federal Public Health Emergency

- Aging & Disability Updates
- Interim COVID Services
- COVID Critical Incident Reports
- Nursing Flexibilities
- Home Health Aide Updates
- MassHealth Guidance
- Interim Provider Actions: Previously Rescinded



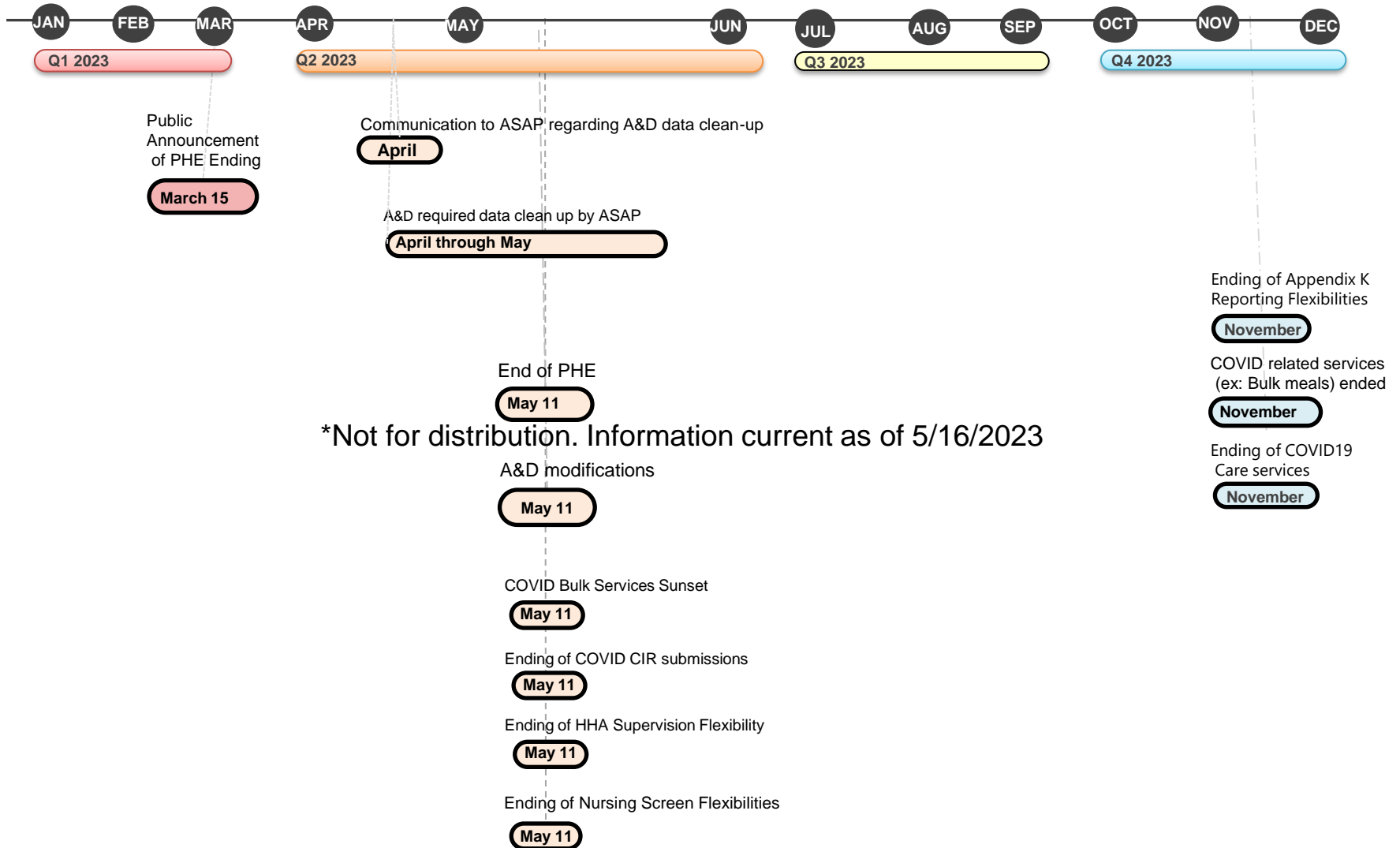
Introduction

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Introduction

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End of Federal Public Health Emergency Timeline



*Not for distribution. Information current as of 5/16/2023

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Aging & Disability

COVID19 Journal Notes
COVID19 Service Suspensions
COVID19 Activities & Referrals

Aging & Disability COVID19

Field Updates

A & D Data Field	End Date	Staff Impact	Current Status
Journal types Covid19	Effective Close of Business (COB) May 11, 2023	No longer utilized by staff	End dated/deactivated COB May 11, 2023
Action types Covid19	Effective Close of Business (COB) May 11, 2023	No longer utilized by staff	End dated/deactivated COB May 11, 2023
Action Type Status Reasons Covid19	Effective Close of Business (COB) May 11, 2023	No longer utilized by staff	End dated/deactivated COB May 11, 2023
Service Suspensions Covid19	Effective Close of Business (COB) May 11, 2023	No longer utilized by staff	End dated/deactivated COB May 11, 2023

Modifications for open suspensions / activities can be made after May 11, 2023

New / additional entries cannot be made after May 11, 2023

COVID19 Journal Notes

Deactivated effective May 11, 2023

COVID19 – consumer well-being check	COVID19 – follow up	COVID19 – modified RN initial	COVID19 – modified RN Annual RD
COVID19 – modified RN Initial Waiver	COVID19 – modified RN Annual RD Waiver	COVID19 - modified RN HV	COVID19 – modified RN NF
COVID19 – modified CM Annual RD	COVID19 – modified CM RA	COVID19 – modified CM HV	COVID19 – modified CM Initial Assessment
COVID19 – consumer death	COVID19 – service suspension	COVID19 – service plan change	

Addition of permanent “Modified Assessment” Journal Type - effective May 12, 2023

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New Journal Note

Effective May 12, 2023

- Best practice for all assessments is via in-person modality
- "Modified Assessment"
 - added to Aging & Disability effective May 12, 2023
- Examples of when to use "Modified Assessment"
 - RN completes annual re-determination via Hybrid Model
 - Part of the assessment completed telephonically / part completed in-person
 - Consumer requests reassessment be completed via telephonic means
 - Case Manager completes reassessment via telephonic means
 - Utilizes resources available to complete reassessment
 - Provider Agency
 - Any formal / informal supports available



COVID19 Activities & Referrals (A/R)

Deactivated May 11, 2023

Action Types

- COVID19
- COVID19 – Follow Up

Status Reason – Completed

- Completed Late – COVID19

Status Reason – In Progress

- On Hold – COVID19

ASAP Required Tasks:

- All ASAPs must run reports and review open COVID19 Action Types and Action Status for active & closed consumers
 - *Report has been made available in HAR: Report Location*
 - **Community > Useful Reports > End of PHE – Reports May 2023**
 - *Report is named **End of PHE – Covid related Activities***
 - *Use the parameter field to filter out the results for your ASAP.*
 - *An **End of PHE-User Guide** has also been made available within HAR*
- ASAPs will utilize these reports to review current consumer status and
 - Update & complete data entry for these consumers using
 - Withdrawn if no action was taken or completed if action was completed

COVID19 Suspensions

Deactivated May 11, 2023

COVID19 (consumer)

COVID19 (provider)

COVID19
(hospitalization)

COVID19 (nursing
home placement)

ASAP Required Tasks:

- All ASAPs must run reports and review open COVID19 Service Suspensions for active & closed consumers
 - *Report has been made available in HAR: Report Location*
 - **Community > Useful Reports > End of PHE – Reports May 2023.**
 - **Report is named End of PHE –Open COVID Suspensions**
 - *Use the parameter field to filter out the results for your ASAP.*
 - *A End of PHE-User Guide has also been made available within HAR*
- ASAPs will utilize these reports to review current consumer status and,
 - Update or complete data entry for these consumers with appropriate suspension reasons

Example: Suspension for COVID19 (provider) open October 2022, no longer relevant as another provider is authorized for homemaking. Close COVID19 (provider) suspension

Interim COVID Services

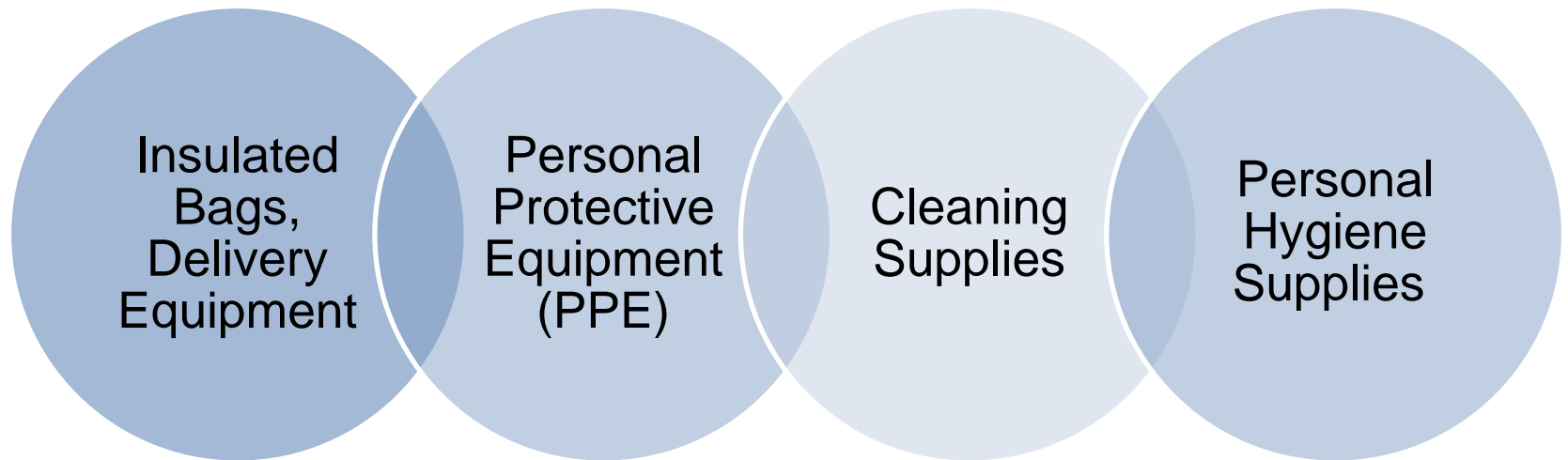
COVID Bulk Order Services

COVID Care Services

COVID Related Services

Interim Bulk Order Services - Consumer Group

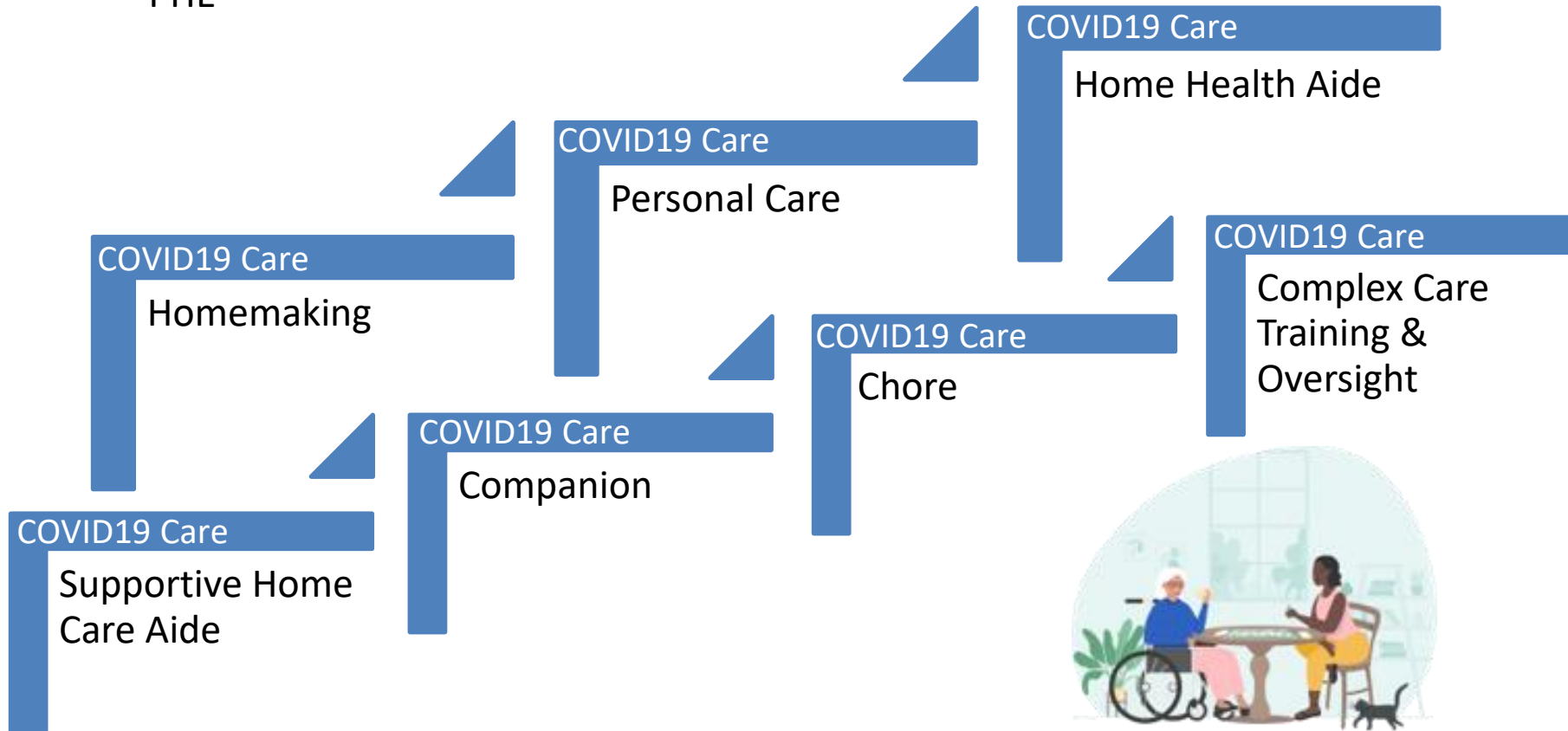
Deactivated May 11, 2023



Interim COVID Care Services For COVID Positive Consumers

Will continue under the Appendix K Authority

- Appendix K scheduled to end 6 months (November 11, 2023) after end of Federal PHE



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Interim COVID Related Services

Continues under Appendix K until 11/11/23, approved in FEW amendment & will be rebranded post 11/11/2023

- COVID – Assistive Technology Communication Device
- COVID - Necessity Shopping
- COVID – Companion Telehealth

Continues under Appendix K until 11/11/23 & under review for utilization

- COVID - Bulk Meal Lunch (5 day) & (7 day)
- COVID – Bulk Meal Supper (5 day) & (7 day)
- COVID – Snack Packs
- COVID – Visitation Wellness Check

Under Utilization Review for Continued Need

- COVID - Alternate Setting Day Program
- COVID – Short Term Live in Aide
- COVID – Tele-Communications Prepaid Phone, Data, Internet usage cards
- COVID – Medically tailored nutritional supplements

Approved in FEW Amendment & is currently being rebranded

- COVID – Virtual Consumer Monitoring (Video & Portal Communication)
- COVID – Care Coach

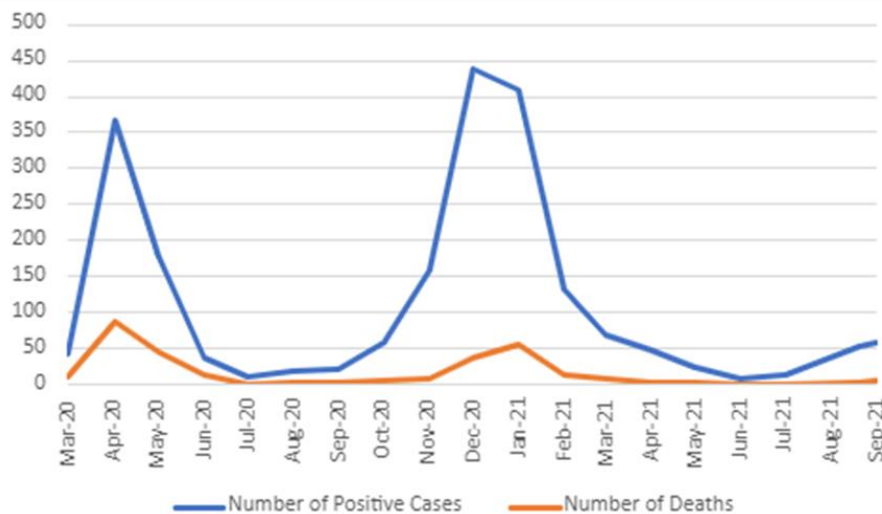
COVID19 Critical Incident Reporting

COVID19 Critical Incident Reports

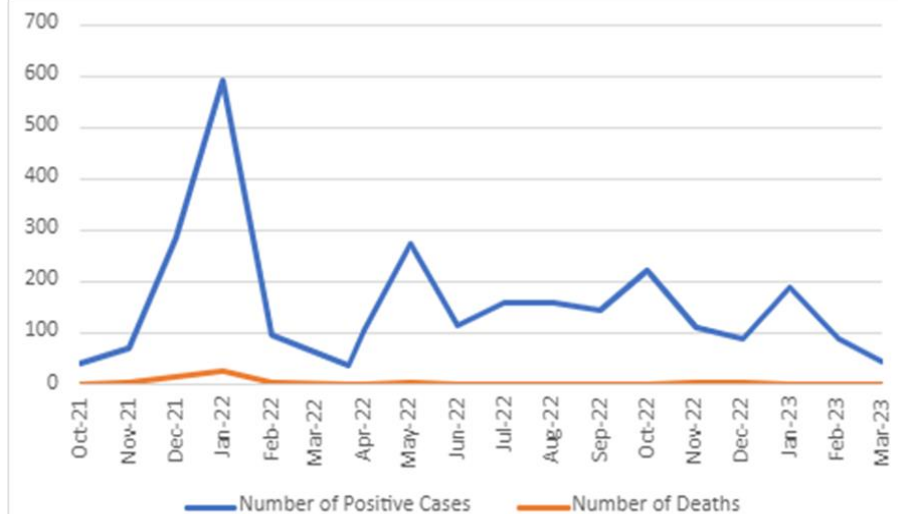
Ended May 11, 2023

- ASAPs are no longer required to submit CIRs for consumers who tested positive or subsequently passed away from COVID19.
- EOEA has been tracking COVID19 positive consumers via CIRs since March 2020.

March 2020 – September 2021



October 2021 – March 2023



Nursing Flexibilities
Home Health Aide Updates
&
MassHealth Guidance

Nursing Flexibilities

End Effective May 11, 2023

Programmatic Considerations for CAE, CSSM, and OC is rescinded

- Ends flexibility to conduct desk review (paper screening) to determine clinical eligibility for MassHealth payment of nursing facility services

ASAPs must complete NF screenings in accordance with *PI 22-07 – Clinical Assessment and Eligibility for Nursing Facility Assessments*

- All nursing facility screenings require an on-site assessment except for the exceptions listed in PI 22-07
- When no on-site assessment is performed the ASAP RN will utilize the Nursing Determination Module for rendering a clinical determination
- When an on-site assessment is performed the ASAP RN will utilize either the CDS-RN or the CDS-NF as indicated within the PI



Flexibilities related to Home Health Aides*

Home Health Aide Supervision:

- Effective May 11, 2023: MassHealth has ended the flexibility waiving supervision requirements
- Providers must comply with the supervision requirement outlined in 130 CMR 403.416(A) Conditions of Payment
- Under EOEAA authority supervision flexibility was extended to Personal Care Homemakers, Homemakers & Supportive Home Care Aides in Massachusetts



***Home Health Aide Flexibilities aligns with guidance issued by MassHealth & CMS**
[MassHealth Home Health Agency Bulletin 83](#)

*Not for distribution. Information current as of 5/16/2023

Flexibilities related to Home Health Aides*

12-Hour Annual Home Health Aide In-Service Training Requirement:

- Following the end of the federal PHE, providers will have through the **first full quarter (September 30, 2023)** after the end of the federal PHE to comply with 12-Hour Annual In-Service Training Requirement for home health aides
- Under EOEAA authority training flexibility was extended to Personal Care Homemakers & Supportive Home Care Aides in Massachusetts
 - NOTE: In accordance with CMS Guidance issued 5/10/2023 In-service training requirements will return to pre-PHE requirements at the end of the calendar year that the PHE ends - EOEAA is applying this additional guidance to Supportive Home Care Aide & Personal Care Homemaking In-Service Training Requirements



– [CMS Guidance 5/10/2023](#)

*Home Health Aide Flexibilities aligns with guidance issued by MassHealth & CMS
[MassHealth Home Health Agency Bulletin 83](#)

MassHealth End of Federal PHE Guidance

- MassHealth PHE Provider bulletins
 - Continuous Skilled Nursing Agency Bulletin 11: Continuous Skilled Nursing Agency Retention Bonuses for Nurses
 - Home Health Agency Bulletin 82: Home Health Agency Retention Bonuses for Nurses Providing Continuous Skilled Nursing Services
 - Home Health Agency Bulletin 83: COVID-19 Flexibilities after the End of Public Health Emergency
 - Home Health Agency Bulletin 84: Conclusion of Temporary Expansion of Home Health Aide Services COVID-19 Flexibility
 - Independent Nurse Bulletin 12: Continuous Skilled Nursing Retention Bonuses for Independent Nurse Providers
- Adult Day Health Bulletin
 - Adult Day Health Bulletin 36: COVID19 Flexibilities Expiring after the End of the Federal Public Health Emergency
- MassHealth updated PHE bulletins located
 - <https://www.mass.gov/lists/2023-masshealth-provider-bulletins>



Interim Provider Actions

Interim Provider Actions Previously Rescinded

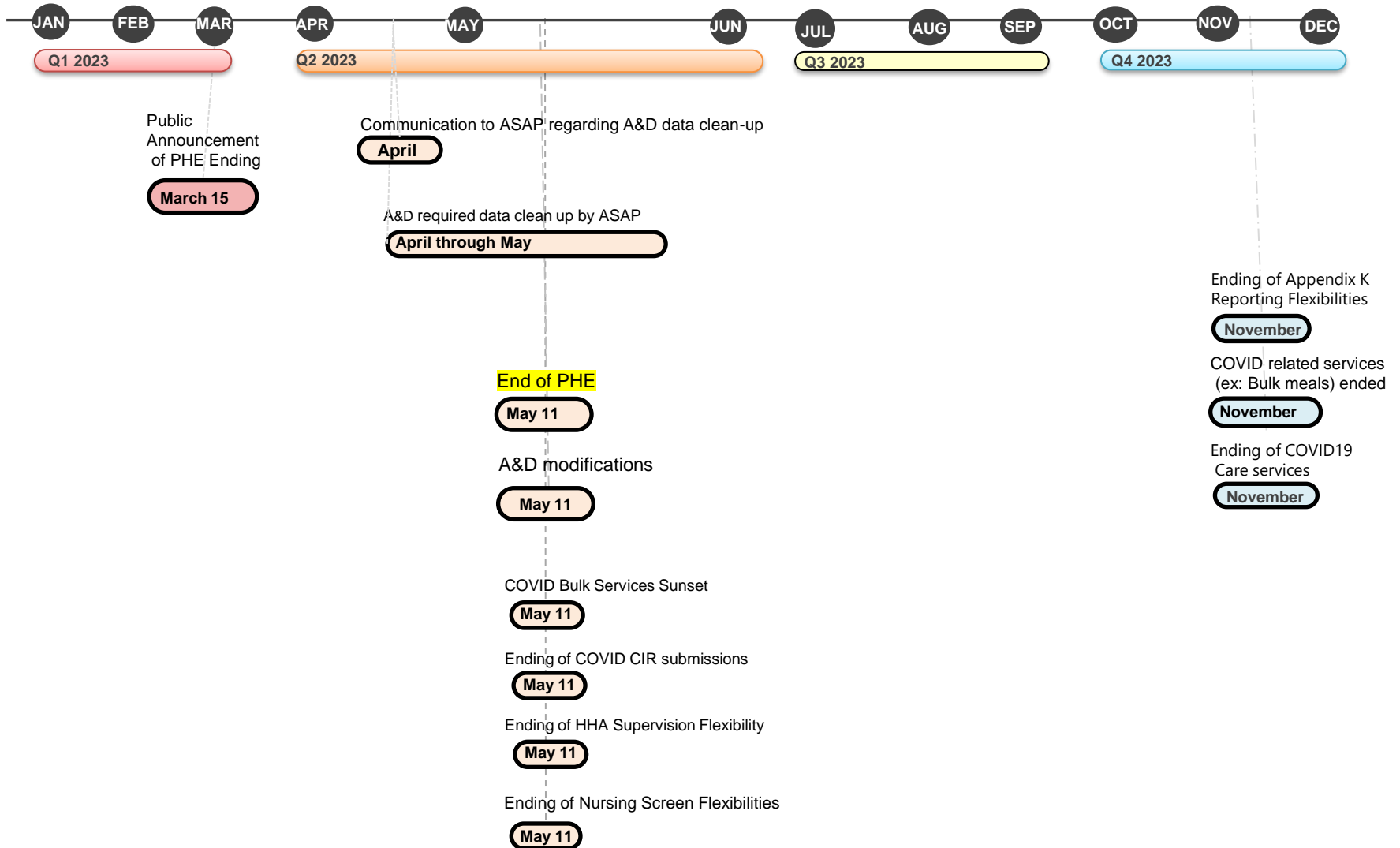
Interim Actions for Provider Procurement (Flexibility ended 6/15/2021)

- Flexibility regarding advertising in a newspaper
- ASAP is required to advertise the Request for Procurement (RFP) for their 3 year contracting cycle

Interim Actions for Provider Monitoring (Flexibility ended 4/2022)

- Suspended provider monitoring activities until 90 days following the state PHE except in instances:
 - abuse,
 - neglect,
 - immediate jeopardy concerning a participants health & welfare
- Required to complete Provider Monitoring
 - released virtual/hybrid audit capabilities
 - EOEAs addressed Provider Monitoring Plan at Contract Managers meeting 4/20/23

End of Federal Public Health Emergency Timeline



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Discussion & Questions