

**DFW-APIC Government Affairs Committee
February 2022**

APIC Public Policy and E-News Highlights (2022-2023)

<http://cqrcengage.com/apic/home>

<https://apic.org/publications/enews/>

1/5/22	<p>FDA Authorizes First Oral Antiviral COVID-19 Treatments The FDA issued EUAs for Pfizer's Paxlovid and Merck's Molnupiravir in the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in people who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19. Paxlovid is approved for patients age 12 and older, but Molnupiravir is not authorized for use in patients younger than 18 years of age because it may affect bone and cartilage growth.</p>
1/5/22	<p>OSHA Withdraws Portions of the COVID-19 Healthcare ETS OSHA announced that it is withdrawing the non-recordkeeping portions of the COVID-19 Healthcare Emergency Temporary Standard. The COVID-19 log and reporting provisions remain in effect while OSHA continues to develop COVID-19 protections within the context of a permanent infectious disease standard. Read the OSHA announcement.</p>
1/5/22	<p>Covidien Recalls Ventilator Due to Manufacturing Error Covidien, LP, is recalling its Puritan Bennett 980 Series Ventilator due to a capacitor manufacturing assembly error that may cause the ventilator to become inoperable or stop working as intended. Read the FDA recall notice.</p>
1/12/22	<p>NIOSH Rescinds Approvals for ALG Health Respirators As of January 6, any ALG Health respirator marked with a NIOSH approval label is no longer NIOSH-approved. Specific approval numbers to look out for can be found in the NIOSH notice. These respirators will not be listed on the NIOSH Certified Equipment List and may no longer be manufactured, assembled, sold, or distributed.</p>
1/19/22	<p>CMS Suppresses NHSN HAI Measures Due to Pandemic As part of the FY 2022 Medicare hospital annual payment update rule, CMS implemented a measure suppression policy, under which certain measures, including NHSN HAI measures, will not be used for payment determination during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Read more.</p>
1/19/22	<p>HHS Renews COVID-19 PHE HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra renewed the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), effective January 16, 2022. A PHE remains in effect for 90 days but may be extended. Read the secretary's statement.</p>
1/26/22	<p>FDA Limits Use of Monoclonal Antibodies to Treat Omicron The FDA has withdrawn authorization for two monoclonal antibody treatments—bamlanivimab and etesevimab (administered together) and REGEN-COV (casirivimab and imdevimab)—for use in any U.S. states, territories, and jurisdictions at this time. These treatments are not effective against the COVID-19 omicron variant, and CDC data shows that omicron accounts for more than 99 percent of COVID-19 cases in the U.S. at this time. Read the FDA announcement.</p>
1/26/22	<p>OSHA Non-Healthcare Employer Vaccine Requirement Withdrawn Following the recent Supreme Court ruling striking down the OSHA COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS, OSHA is withdrawing the ETS effective January 26. Neither this OSHA ETS nor the Supreme Court ruling pertained to healthcare personnel vaccination; however, healthcare personnel employed by facilities receiving Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement are required to receive COVID-19 vaccinations under a CMS interim final rule that has been upheld by the Supreme Court. Read more.</p>

Texas Register (2022-2023)

<http://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreg/index.shtml>

Key: X Pending

Last Review Completed: 1/28/2022

Current Search Parameters

for Review:

25 TAC: Chapters 2, 97, 133,
135, 200

30 TAC: Chapter 330;

Subchapter Y

X	Date Filed	Action	Title/Ch./Rules/SB/HB	Topic / Comments
	1/26/22	Adopted	TAC25/Chapter 97	The Executive Commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), on behalf of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), adopts an amendment to §97.7, concerning COVID-19 school exclusion criteria

**Prepared by 2022 APIC-DFW Governmental Affairs Committee:
Jasmine Cluck, Patti Grant, Stephanie Kreiling, Rachel Watson**