# COVID-19 SPECIAL EDITION PANDEMIC RESPONSE

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A ProAssurance Company

# One Year Later: The PREP Act and COVID-19

#### Brief Overview of PREP Act



The Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act ("PREP" Act).

The PREP Act provides liability immunity to a large group of entities and individuals for the manufacture, distribution, prescription, and use of drugs, biological products, or devices meant to combat a pandemic.

♦ 42 U.S.C. § 247d-6d and 6e.

#### Declaration and Seven Amendments



- ▶ Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 15198-01 (Mar. 10, 2020, published Mar. 17, 2020).
  - Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 21012-02 (Apr. 10, 2020, published Apr. 15, 2020);
  - ▶ Second Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 35100-01 (June 4, 2020, published June 8, 2020);
  - ▶ Third Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 52136-01 (Aug. 19, 2020, published Aug. 24, 2020);
  - Fourth Amendment to the Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19 and Republication of the Declaration, 85 FR 79190-01 (Dec. 3, 2020, published 9, 2020);
  - Fifth Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 86 FR 7872-02 (Jan. 28, 2021, published Feb. 2, 2021);
  - Sixth Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 86 FR 9516-01 (Feb. 11, 2021, published Feb. 16, 2021); and
  - Seventh Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 86 FR 14462-02 (Mar. 11, 2021, published Mar. 16, 2021).

#### Six Advisory Opinions



- *Advisory Opinion on the PREP Act Declaration* (Apr. 17, 2020, as modified on May 19, 2020);
- *Advisory Opinion 20-02 on the PREP Act Declaration* (May 19, 2020);
- *Advisory Opinion 20-03 on the PREP Act Declaration* (Oct. 23, 2020);
- *Advisory Opinion 20-04 on the PREP Act Declaration* (Oct. 23, 2020);
- *Advisory Opinion 21-01 on the PREP Act Declaration* (Jan. 8, 2020); and
- *Advisory Opinion 21-02 on the PREP Act Declaration* (Jan. 12, 2021).

Available at <a href="https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx</a>

#### Case Law on Nursing Home PREP Act COVID Litigation



- McCalebb v. AG Lynwood, LLC, No. 2:20-CV-09746-SB-PVC, 2021 WL 911951 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 1, 2021).
- Robertson v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 220CV02561HLTTJJ, 2021 WL 764566 (D. Kan. Feb. 26, 2021);
- Saunders v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 220CV02608HLTTJJ, 2021 WL 764567 (D. Kan. Feb. 26, 2021);
- Garcia v. Welltower, No. SACV2002250JVSKESX, 2021 WL 492581 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 10, 2021);
- Lyons v. Cucumber Holdings, LLC, No. CV2010571JFWJPRX, 2021 WL 364640 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 3, 2021);
- Dupervil v. All. Health Operations, LCC, No. 20CV4042PKCPK, 2021 WL 355137 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 2, 2021);
- Grohmann v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS OPCO LLC, No. 20-2304-DDC-JPO, 2021 WL 308550 (D. Kan. Jan. 29, 2021);
- Goldblatt v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS Opco LLC, No. 20-2489-DDC-KGG, 2021 WL 308158 (D. Kan. Jan. 29, 2021);
- Anson v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS OPCO LLC, No. 20-2346-DDC-JPO, 2021 WL 308156 (D. Kan. Jan. 29, 2021);
- Hatcher v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS OPCO LLC, No. 20-2374-SAC-JPO, 2021 WL 733326 (D. Kan. Jan. 27, 2021);
- Estate of Smith by & through Smith v. Bristol at Tampa Rehab. & Nursing Ctr., LLC, No. 8:20-CV-2798-T-60SPF, 2021 WL 100376 (M.D. Fla. Jan. 12, 2021);
- Parker through Parker v. St. Jude Operating Co., LLC, No. 3:20-CV-01325-HZ, 2020 WL 8362407 (D. Or. Dec. 28, 2020);
- Gunter v. CCRC OPCO-Freedom Square, LLC, No. 8:20-CV-1546-T-36TGW, 2020 WL 8461513 (M.D. Fla. Oct. 29, 2020);
- Saldana v. Glenhaven Healthcare LLC, No. CV205631FMOMAAX, 2020 WL 6713995 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 14, 2020);

- Sherod v. Comprehensive Healthcare Mgmt. Servs., LLC, No. 20CV1198, 2020 WL 6140474 (W.D. Pa. Oct. 16, 2020);
- Martin v. Serrano Post Acute LLC, No. CV 20-5937 DSF (SKX), 2020 WL 5422949 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 10, 2020);
- Fortune v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20 -CV-2318-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815097 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020):
- Rodina v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2319-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815102 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Lutz v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., 480 F. Supp.3d 1207 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Campbell v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2265-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815082 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Eaton v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2291- HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815085 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Long v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV- 2263-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815079 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Jackson v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2259-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815099 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Brown v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2261-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815078 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Block v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2262-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815076 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Baskin v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2267-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815074 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Harris v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2266-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815098 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020); and
- Estate of Maglioli v. Andover Subacute Rehab. Ctr. I, 478 F. Supp.3d 518 (D.N.J. Aug. 12, 2020).

#### Case Law on Product Liability PREP Act COVID Litigation



## Case Law on (non-Nursing Home) Med Mal PREP Act COVID Litigation

#### Case Law on Wage Claim PREP Act COVID Litigation



*Haro v. Kaiser Found. Hosps.*, No. CV 20-6006-GW-JCX, 2020 WL 5291014 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 3, 2020).

#### The Big Question:



◆So, are we out of the woods?

Or, are we waiting for the other shoe to drop?

#### PREP Act's Key Terms



- Covered Person
  - Manufacturers and Distributors
  - Providers ("qualified persons")
  - Governmental and related entities ("program planners")
- Covered Countermeasure
  - Approved/Cleared/Licensed Products
  - ▶ Investigational Products
  - Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Products
- ♦ Willful Misconduct

#### The Covered Countermeasure Process Fund



- **♦** Since its inception in 2010 :
  - ▶ 551 claims for all of the various public health emergencies.
  - ▶ 450 of those claims were ineligible for compensation.
  - ▶ 62 of those claims of those claims are currently in the medical review process.
  - ▶ 39 of those claims were eligible for compensation.
    - Of the 39 claims eligible for compensation:
      - > 10 of the claims did not have any compensable expenses or losses.
      - > 29 claims were compensable.
  - Total payments for 29 claims has been more than \$6 million.

Available at <a href="https://www.hrsa.gov/cicp/cicp-data">https://www.hrsa.gov/cicp/cicp-data</a> (last visited on Mar. 1, 2021).

#### The Seven Amendments to the Declaration



- Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 21012-02 (Apr. 10, 2020, published Apr. 15, 2020);
- ▶ Second Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19, 85 FR 35100-01 (June 4, 2020, published June 8, 2020);
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#### Case Law on Product Liability PREP Act Litigation



★ Kehler v. Hood, No. 4:11CV1416 FRB, 2012 WL 1945952 (E.D. Mo. May 30, 2012) (H1N1 Vaccination).

## Case Law on (non-Nursing Home) Med Mal PREP Act Litigation

- MEDMARC.
  Treated Fairly
- Casabianca v. Mount Sinai Med. Ctr., Inc., 2014 NY Slip Op 33583(U), 2014 WL 10413521 (N.Y. Sup. Ct., N.Y. Cty. Dec. 2, 2014) (H1N1 Vaccination);
- → Parker v. St. Lawrence Cty. Pub. Health Dep't, 102 A.D.3d 140, 954 N.Y.S.2d 259 (App. Div. 3rd Dept. 2012) (H1N1 Vaccination); and
- *Kehler v. Hood*, No. 4:11CV1416 FRB, 2012 WL 1945952 (E.D. Mo. May 30, 2012) (H1N1 Vaccination).

#### Case Law on Nursing Home PREP Act COVID Litigation



- McCalebb v. AG Lynwood, LLC, No. 2:20-CV-09746-SB-PVC, 2021 WL 911951 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 1, 2021).
- Robertson v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 220CV02561HLTTJJ, 2021 WL 764566 (D. Kan. Feb. 26, 2021);
- Saunders v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 220CV02608HLTTJJ, 2021 WL 764567 (D. Kan. Feb. 26, 2021);
- → Garcia v. Welltower, No. SACV2002250

  JVSKESX, 2021 WL 492581 (C.D. Cal.

  Feb. 10, 2021);
- Lyons v. Cucumber Holdings, LLC, No. CV2010571JFWJPRX, 2021 WL 364640 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 3, 2021);
- Dupervil v. All. Health Operations, LCC, No. 20CV4042PKCPK, 2021 WL 355137 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 2, 2021);
- Grohmann v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS OPCO LLC, No. 20-2304-DDC-JPO, 2021 WL 308550 (D. Kan. Jan. 29, 2021);
- Goldblatt v. HCP Prairie Vill. KS Opco LLC, No. 20-2489-DDC-KGG, 2021 WL 308158 (D. Kan. Jan. 29, 2021);
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- Sherod v. Comprehensive Healthcare Mgmt. Servs., LLC, No. 20CV1198, 2020 WL 6140474 (W.D. Pa. Oct. 16, 2020);
- Martin v. Serrano Post Acute LLC, No. CV 20-5937 DSF (SKX), 2020 WL 5422949 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 10, 2020);
- Fortune v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20 -CV-2318-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815097 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
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- Long v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV- 2263-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815079 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Jackson v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2259-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815099 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Brown v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2261-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815078 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
- Block v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2262-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815076 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
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- Harris v. Big Blue Healthcare, Inc., No. 2:20-CV-2266-HLT-JPO, 2020 WL 4815098 (D. Kan. Aug. 19, 2020);
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#### Case Law on Wage Claim PREP Act COVID Litigation



*Haro v. Kaiser Found. Hosps.*, No. CV 20-6006-GW-JCX, 2020 WL 5291014 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 3, 2020).

#### What to do ....



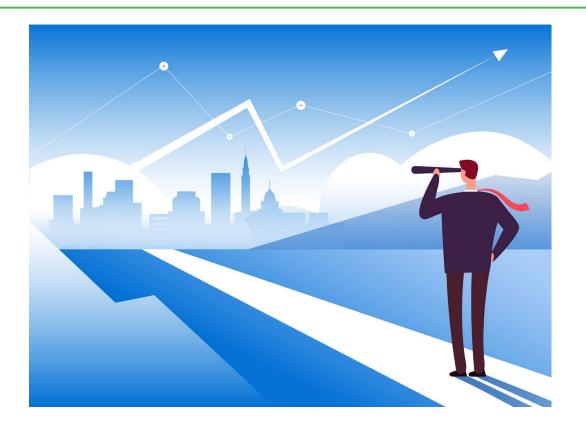
▶ Risk Assessment / Underwriting

Manufacturers and Distributors

▶ Providers

#### Gazing Into the Future ...







### **QUESTIONS?**

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