Medicaid Update
Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

August 21, 2020

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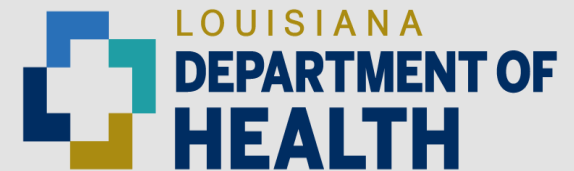
Medicaid Update/Follow-Up Items

- Donor human breast milk coverage

- HEDIS 2019 report posted, feedback welcomed

- Feedback on health plan report card

- Patient experience survey report under development

- Quality strategy evaluation report under development

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Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

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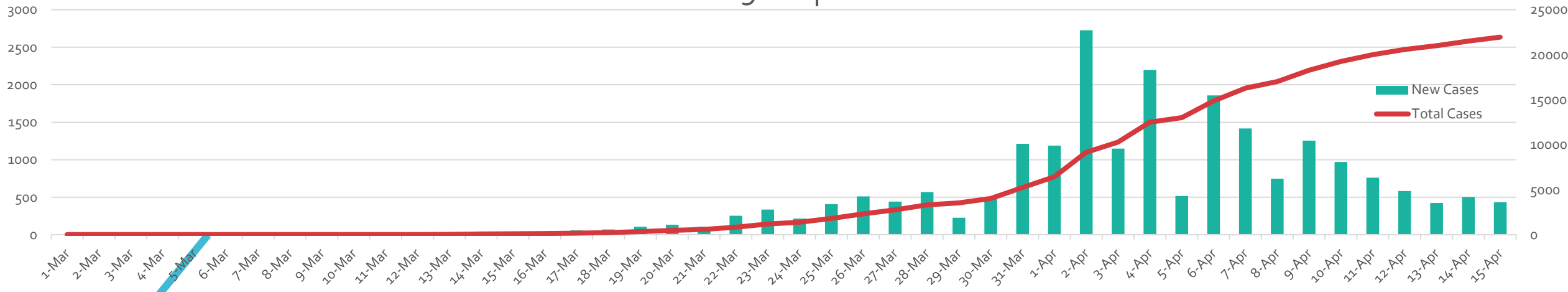**DEPARTMENT OF**
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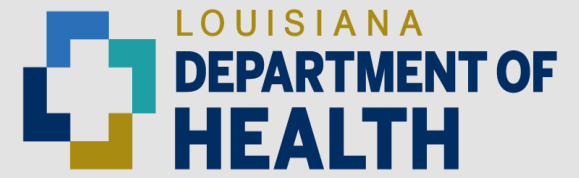
Overall Goals

- COVID-19 testing and treatment coverage

- Ensure access to care and continuity of care

- Reduce/eliminate requirements for in-person contact wherever possible

- Reduce/eliminate health plan side barriers to hospital throughput
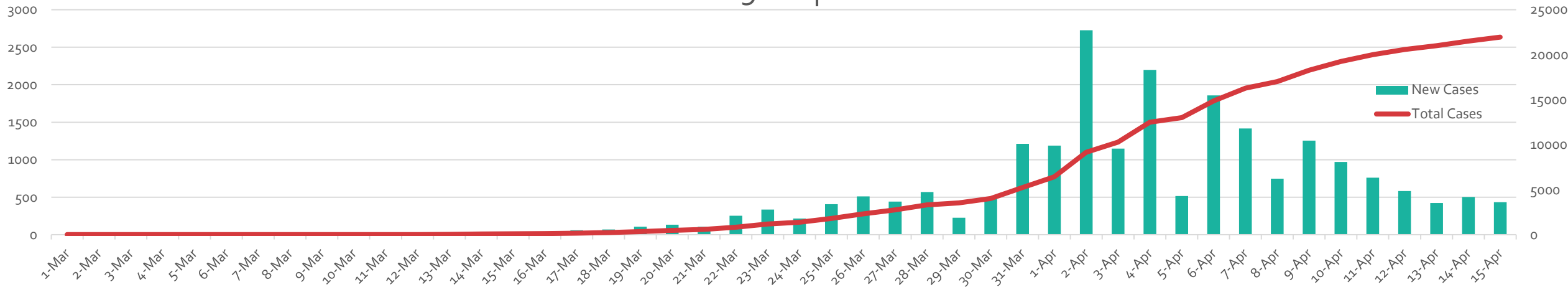
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Timeline of Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

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Implementation of COVID-19 testing coverage
3/5/2020

New Cases
Total Cases

Timeline of Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

Legend:
- New Cases
- Total Cases

Implementation of COVID-19 testing coverage **3/5/2020**

First case in Louisiana identified **3/9/2020**

Timeline of Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

Legend:
- New Cases (teal bars)
- Total Cases (red line)
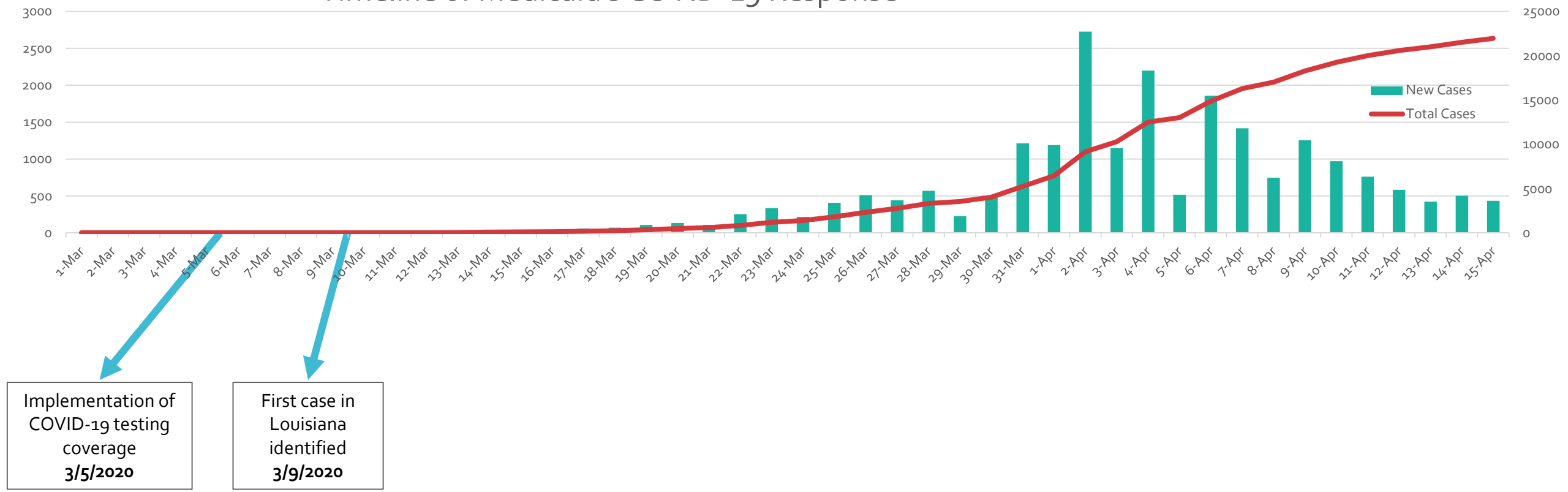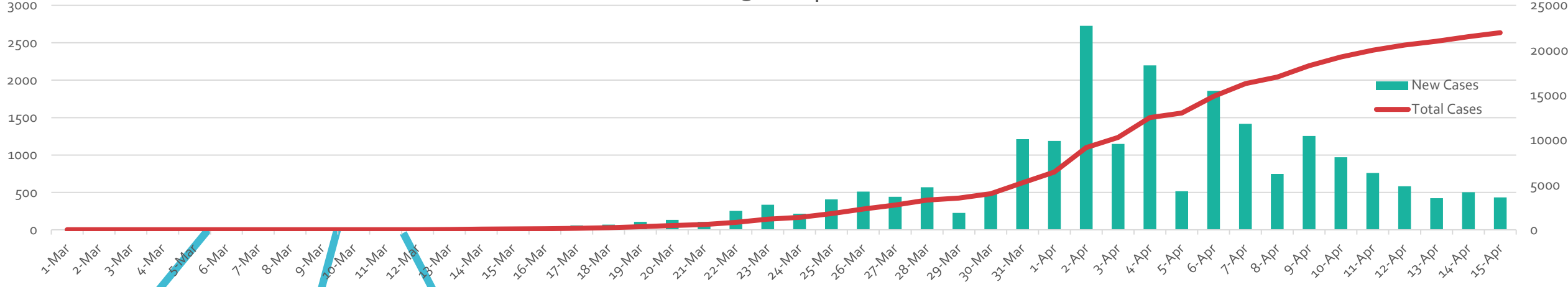
Implementation of COVID-19 testing coverage
3/5/2020

First case in Louisiana identified
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Louisiana Public Health Emergency declaration
3/11/2020

WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic
3/11/2020

Timeline of Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

Legend:
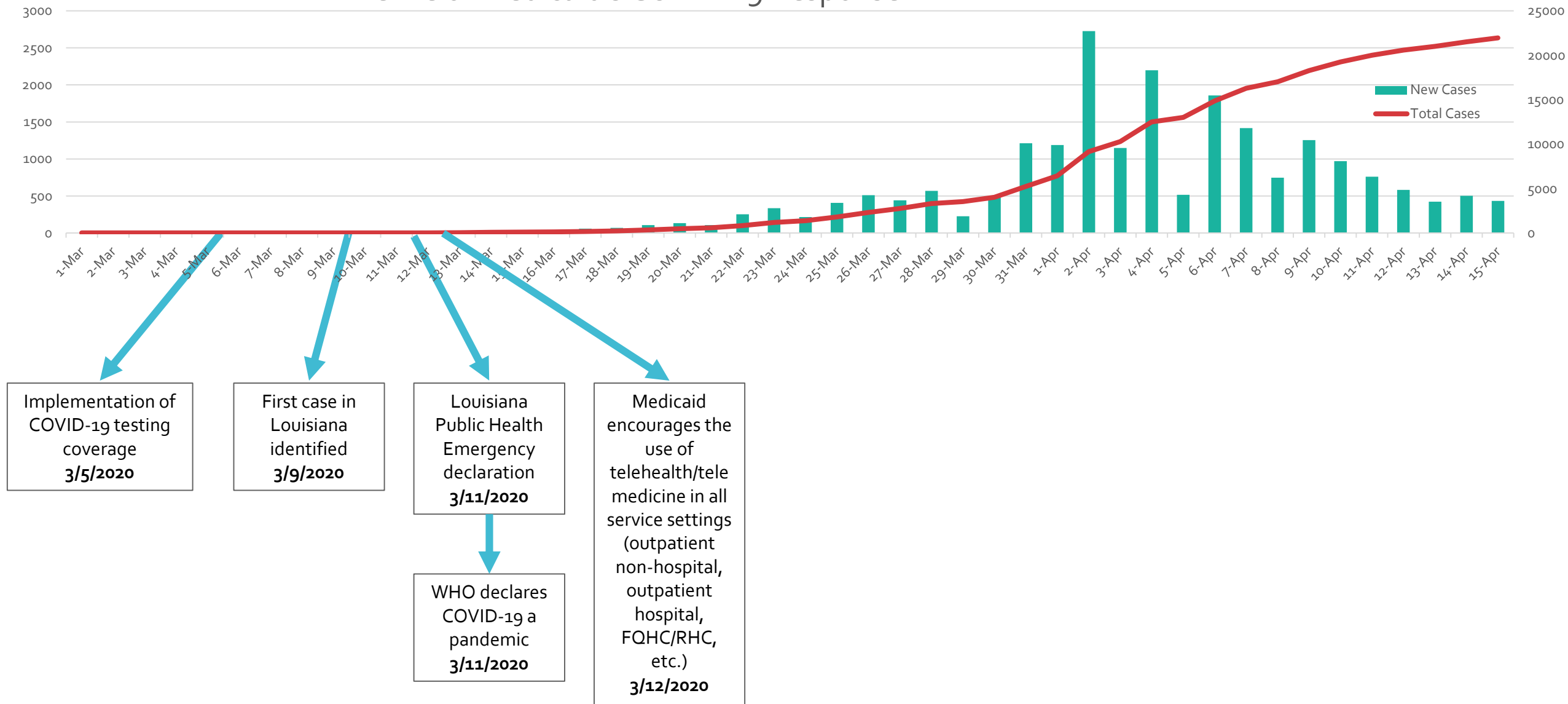- New Cases
- Total Cases

Annotations:
- Implementation of COVID-19 testing coverage **3/5/2020**
- First case in Louisiana identified **3/9/2020**
- Louisiana Public Health Emergency declaration **3/11/2020**
- WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic **3/11/2020**
- Medicaid encourages the use of telehealth/telemedicine in all service settings (outpatient non-hospital, outpatient hospital, FQHC/RHC, etc.) **3/12/2020**

Timeline of Medicaid's COVID-19 Response

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Implementation of COVID-19 testing coverage
3/5/2020
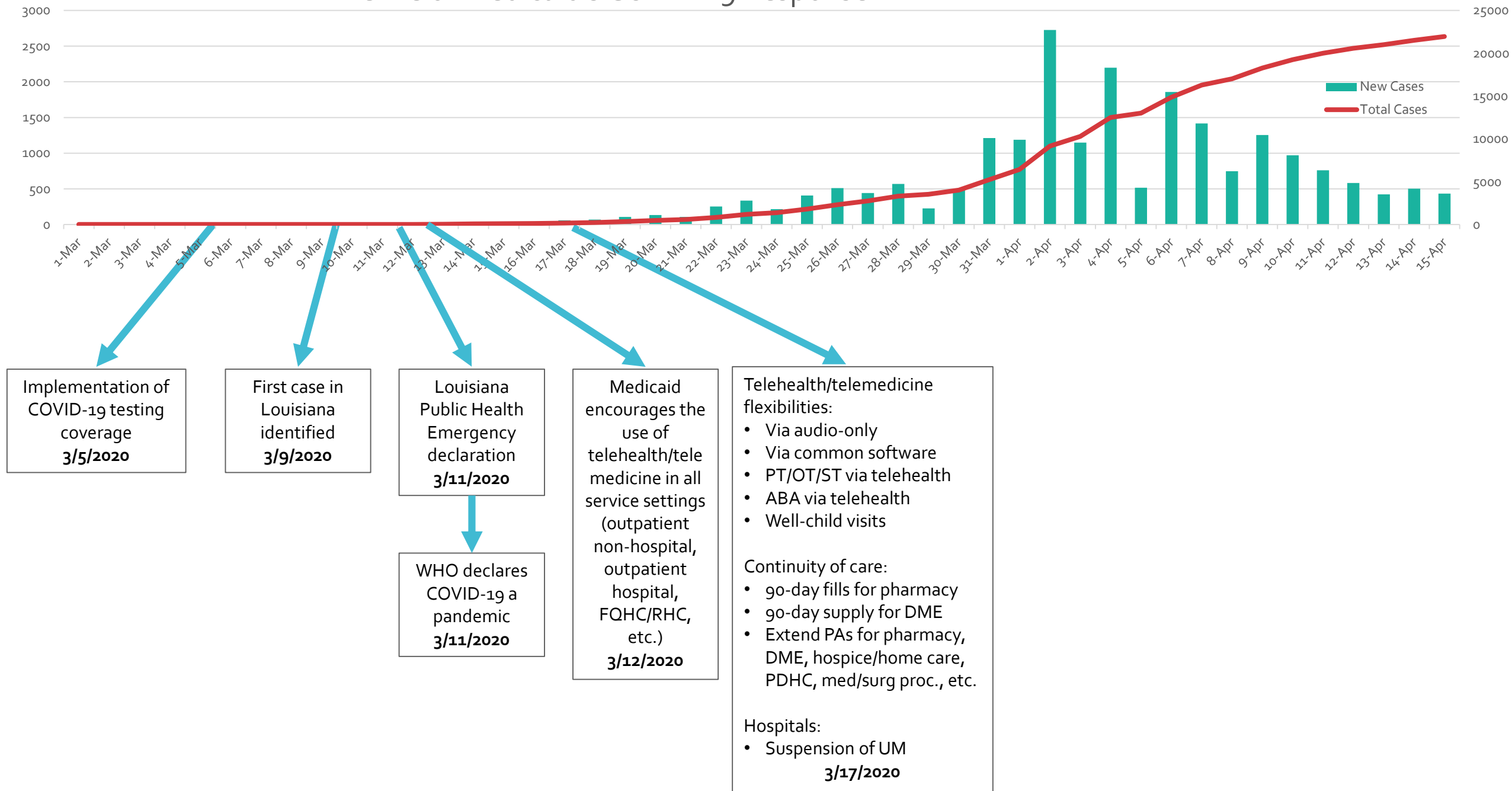
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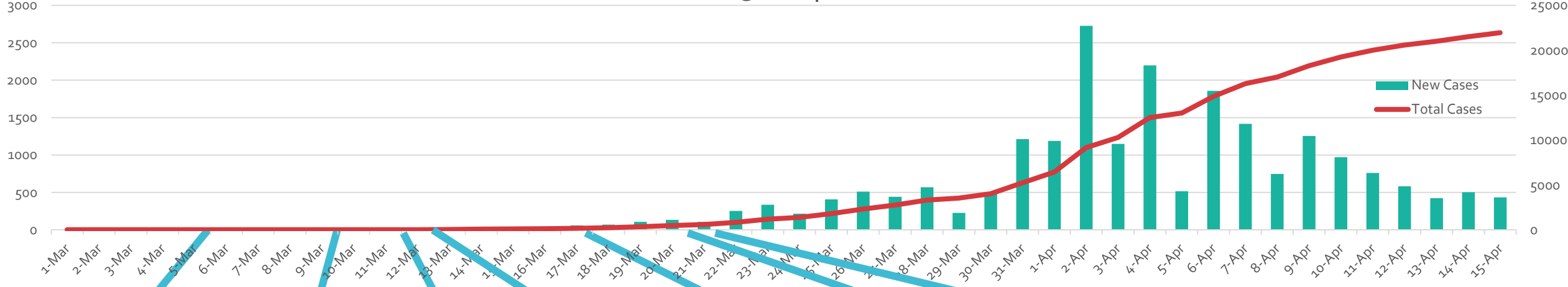**3/11/2020**

WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic
3/11/2020

Medicaid encourages the use of telehealth/telemedicine in all service settings (outpatient non-hospital, outpatient hospital, FQHC/RHC, etc.)
3/12/2020

Telehealth/telemedicine flexibilities:
- Via audio-only
- Via common software
- PT/OT/ST via telehealth
- ABA via telehealth
- Well-child visits

Continuity of care:
- 90-day fills for pharmacy
- 90-day supply for DME
- Extend PAs for pharmacy, DME, hospice/home care, PDHC, med/surg proc., etc.

Hospitals:
- Suspension of UM

3/17/2020

Implementation of MHR services via telehealth
3/20/2020

Implementation of LMHP services via telehealth
3/21/2020

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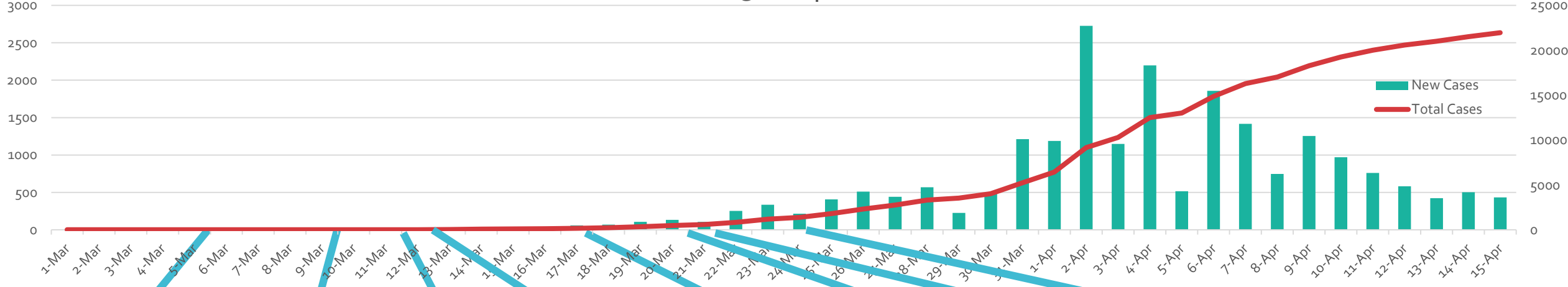
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- Suspension of UM
3/17/2020

Implementation of MHR services via telehealth
3/20/2020

Implementation of LMHP services via telehealth
3/21/2020

Member copays for prescribed drugs waived
3/24/2020
(effective)

Other Changes

- "Maintenance of Effort" for eligibility: no closures unless out-of-state move, death, or request to withdraw

- Directing MCOs to ensure that COVID-19 does not negatively impact provider quality and value-based payment incentive programs

- Reducing/eliminating in-person visit requirements across the program

- Transition to teleconference for all LDH/MCO required activities

- Temporarily suspending many required MCO activities and MCO-provider activities to allow focus on COVID-19 response (many have since resumed)

- Allowing and encouraging MCOs to engage with contracted providers virtually

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Next Steps

- Addition of new COVID-19 testing codes as information becomes available

- We are exploring adding coverage for interprofessional assessment/management services (Medicare covered service)

- We are open to any provider suggestions about additional telehealth/telemedicine services or other policies that promote access to care and continuity of care

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Next Steps

- Currently, most flexibilities are aligned with Medicare/Federal Public Health Emergency declaration

- If and how to unwind any flexibilities? What goes? What stays?

- What is the quality of care?

- Is there cost effectiveness or cost savings?

- What is working well and what is not working well?

- Clinician feedback is essential

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Questions/ Comments?