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Distributed by the NH Health Alert Network
Health.Alert@nh.gov
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NH-HAN 20200507



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak, Update # 15 *Updated Testing Recommendations and Resources*

Key Points and Recommendations:

- Community mitigation efforts have been successful in “flattening the curve”. The epidemic has plateaued and the number of new hospitalizations has stabilized and even shown a decrease. An increasing proportion of cases and deaths, however, are associated with outbreaks at long-term care facilities (LTCFs).
- As the COVID-19 outbreak stabilizes in New Hampshire we are transitioning to a [containment strategy](#). Therefore, we recommend that providers test any patient for COVID-19 who presents with even mild symptoms, including any of the following:
 - Fever (subjective or documented fever)
 - Upper or lower respiratory tract symptoms including rhinorrhea (unexplained), pharyngitis, cough, chest congestion, or shortness of breath
 - Flu-like symptoms including myalgia, chills, and new significant fatigue
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Other symptoms or clinical syndromes at a providers discretion
- Many options for specimen collection for COVID-19 PCR testing are available (see **Table** below). We encourage providers to check with their local hospital or healthcare system first about specimen collection/testing options. Other options may exist in your community including through Community Health Centers, city public health agencies, or commercial agencies. The NH Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) continues to operate specimen collection services around the state.
- Healthcare facilities that are in need of personal protective equipment (PPE) should fill out the attached PPE request form below and e-mail it to ESU@dhhs.nh.gov.
- We also have a supply of cloth face masks (these are not appropriate as PPE and are intended for source control), and can also be requested through the same process.
- Facilities should continue to order specimen collection supplies (e.g. swabs, transport media) through your own purchasing mechanisms. If supplies are unavailable or difficult to obtain, please contact the NH Public Health Laboratories (PHL) to request specimen collection supplies at 603-271-4605, or email phlclinicalkitorders@dhhs.nh.gov.
- Even with an increased emphasis on containment, individual social distancing efforts need to remain in place to prevent worsening of the current outbreak or a second future outbreak. It is especially important for older adults and people with chronic health conditions to continue to stay home as much as possible and away from public places. Recommendations and restrictions for LTCFs still remain in effect:
 - [General guidance for LTCFs](#)
 - [Actions to take in response to institutional outbreaks](#)
 - [Universal mask recommendations for long-term care and assisted living facilities](#)
 - [NH HAN Update #12](#) (see LTCF guidance section)

- In partnership with the New Hampshire Health Care Association, we continue weekly calls every **Wednesday** from **12:00 – 1:00 pm** for LTCFs and other congregate settings with vulnerable patients (next call Wednesday, May 13th):
 - Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/511075725>
 - Call-in phone number: (929) 205-6099
 - Meeting ID: 511 075 725
- We continue to host weekly calls every **Thursday** from **12:00 – 1:00 pm** for healthcare providers and local partners (next call Thursday, May 7th):
 - Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/s/94841259025>
 - Call-in phone number: (646) 558-8656
 - Meeting ID: 948 4125 9025
 - Password: 003270
- All COVID-19 cases must be reported to NH DPHS by filling out and faxing the [COVID-19 Case Report Form](#) to our confidential fax at 603-271-0545.
 - Please use this form to report any confirmed COVID-19 cases who become hospitalized or who die even if they were previously diagnosed and reported.

Table: COVID-19 Specimen Collection Sites for PCR Testing

Facility Name	Town/City	Contact Information
HOSPITALS		
Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital	Lebanon	(603) 442-5665
Androscoggin Valley Hospital	Berlin	Arranged through primary care office
Catholic Medical Center	Manchester	Arranged through primary care office
Cheshire Medical Center	Keene	(603) 354-5400
Concord Hospital	Concord	(603) 789-9123
Cottage Hospital	Woodsville	(603) 747-9000
Dartmouth-Hitchcock (D-H)	Multiple locations	Arranged through primary care/D-H provider office
Elliot Hospital	Manchester	(603) 663-2843
Exeter Hospital	Exeter	Arranged through primary care office
Franklin Regional Hospital	Franklin	(603) 527-7069
Frisbie Memorial Hospital	Rochester	Arranged through primary care office; Website COVID-19 Screening Tool
Huggins Hospital	Wolfeboro	(603) 569-7558
Lakes Region General Hospital	Laconia	(603) 527-7069
Littleton Regional Healthcare	Littleton	(603) 575-6000
Memorial Hospital	North Conway	(603) 356-4978
Monadnock Community Hospital	Peterborough	Arranged through primary care office
New London Hospital	New London	Arranged through primary care office
Parkland Medical Center	Derry	Arranged through primary care office; Website COVID-19 Screening Tool
Portsmouth Regional Hospital	Portsmouth	Arranged through primary care provider; Website COVID-19 Screening Tool
Southern NH Medical Center	Nashua	(603) 402-2080
Speare Memorial Hospital	Plymouth	(603) 238-6464
St. Joseph Hospital	Nashua	(603) 882-3000

Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital	Colebrook	(603) 388-4259
Valley Regional Hospital	Claremont	(603) 542-7850
VA Medical Center (Manchester)	Manchester	(800) 892-8384, ext. 3199
Weeks Medical Center	Lancaster	(603) 788-5656
Wentworth-Douglass Hospital	Dover	(603) 609-6000
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS		
Ammonoosuc Community Health Services	Littleton	(603) 444-2464
Harbor Care Health & Wellness Center	Nashua	(603) 759-8976
HealthFirst Family Care Center	Franklin	(603) 934-1464
	Laconia	(603) 366-1070
Lamprey Health Care	Newmarket	(603) 659-3106
	Raymond	(603) 895-3351
	Nashua	(603) 883-1626
CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS		
City of Manchester COVID-19 Hotline	Manchester	(603) 668-1547
City of Nashua COVID-19 Hotline	Nashua	(603) 589-3456
OTHER STATE-WIDE & COMMERCIAL OPTIONS		
NH Department of Health & Human Services	Lancaster	Complete a test requisition form and send back through fax (603-271-3001) or e-mail: covidtesting@dhhs.nh.gov OR Fill out an online testing request (preferred) OR Call (603) 271-5980
	Plymouth	
	Tamworth	
	Claremont	
	Rochester	
	Mobile teams	
	Home visits by VNA	
ConvenientMD	Multiple locations	Patient: call (833) 263-0131, or go online: https://convenientmd.com/virtual-visit/
Rite Aid Pharmacy	Manchester	Appointment scheduled online (begins 5/11/20): https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing
	Portsmouth	
LabCorp Pixel Self-Collection At-Home Kit	Mailed to your home	Order kit online: https://www.pixel.labcorp.com/at-home-test-kits/covid-19-test

COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019; PCR: polymerase chain reaction; VNA: Visiting Nurse Association

Additional Information

- NH DHHS COVID-19 website: <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/>
- CDC COVID-19 website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
 - CDC Information for Healthcare Professionals:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/guidance-hcp.html>
- World Health Organization COVID-19 website:
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

- For any questions regarding this notification, please call the NH DHHS, DPHS, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at (603) 271-4496 during business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).
- If you are calling after hours or on the weekend, please call the New Hampshire Hospital switchboard at (603) 271-5300 and request the Public Health Professional on-call.
- To change your contact information in the NH Health Alert Network, please send an email to DHHS.Health.Alert@dhhs.nh.gov.

Status: Actual
Message Type: Update
Severity: Moderate
Sensitivity: Not Sensitive
Message Identifier: NH-HAN 20200507 COVID-19, Update #15
Delivery Time: 12 hours
Acknowledgement: No
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Method:
Distributed to: Physicians, Physician Assistants, Practice Managers, Infection Control Practitioners, Infectious Disease Specialists, Community Health Centers, Hospitals, Hospital CEOs, Hospital Emergency Departments, EMS, Nurses, NHA, Pharmacists, Laboratory Response Network, Manchester Health Department, Nashua Health Department, Public Health Networks, DHHS Outbreak Team, DPHS Investigation Team, DPHS Management Team, Northeast State Epidemiologists, Zoonotic Alert Team, Health Officers, Deputy Health Officers, MRC, NH Schools, EWIDS, Dialysis & Transplant Clinics, STD Clinics, Immunization Practices, Travel Centers, Influenza Sentinels, Urgent Care Centers, Ambulatory Surgical Centers, Walk-in Clinics, Poison Center, Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Centers, Long-Term Care Facilities, Community Mental Health Centers, Health Departments, Internal Medicine, Occupational Health, Gastroenterology, Schools and Daycare Providers, Regional Public Health Networks, Environmental Services, Family Planning Programs, Department of Corrections, Home Care Providers, Local and State Partners, Area Agencies
From: Benjamin P. Chan, MD, MPH, State Epidemiologist
Originating Agency: NH Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services

Attachments: PPE Request Form

PPE Request Form for COVID-19

Name: _____

Facility: _____

Facility Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ (note: please ensure this is a number where you can be reached both during the work day and after hours/weekends)

Date: _____

Inventory Levels and Request:

	N95 Masks	Surgical Masks	Face Shields	Goggles	Gowns	Gloves	Other
Current Inventory							
Daily Burn Rate							
Requested Amount							
Approved Amount							

Comments:

Send completed request form to ESU@dhhs.nh.gov

-For Official Use Only Do Not Write Below This Line-

Email	WebEOC Tracking #	EICS Tracking #