

COVID-19 Daily Update

March 18, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

In order to provide updates on the evolving response and best practices in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, AHP will be delivering brief, critical updates on an ongoing basis addressing important highlights and frequently asked questions.

Daily COVID-19 Response Call

AHP will be hosting a call at 12:15 pm each day to share new information and/or be available for provider questions and concerns. You may dial-in to **1 669 900 6833** and enter **Meeting ID: 585 730 1255**. Although we do not plan on showing any slides, you can also use your computer to listen to the call using <https://urmc.zoom.us/my/rsuttonahp>.

Pharmacy Pearl

A new Pharmacy Pearl, “COVID-19 and Commonly Prescribed Medications” has been posted to the COVID resources page and can be viewed [here](#). This edition of Pharmacy Pearls addresses concerns about ACEs/ARBs, NSAIDs, and steroids as they relate to COVID-19 risk. Contact the [Pharmacy Team via email](#) for questions about this information or any pharmacy topic.

Testing Guidance

Today does not bring new testing guidance: we continue to recommend that at present, stable febrile patients with flu-like symptoms, regardless of travel or contact history, not be tested or referred for testing. These patients should be sent home (or be advised to stay home) and instructed to follow the isolation guidelines found [here](#). **Please note that this guidance will change as our capacity to test improves.**

Telemedicine

Elizabeth Sharp, Director of Performance Optimization will be taking the lead on assistance for practices implementing the AHP-provisioned Zoom platform. Practices that indicated an interest in implementing the Zoom platform for telemedicine will be contacted soon with instructions for accessing their Zoom license and other information to help you implement telehealth successfully.

Excellus released additional guidance regarding claims for telehealth services, including the news that they will waive the cost-share for all telehealth visits (not just those related to COVID-19) for all Excellus members until the State of Emergency has been lifted. Read that communication [here](#).

Behavioral Health Teleconference

Starting tomorrow, Thursday March 19th, the BHI team will be available for just in-time, virtual consultation support to assist you with the behavioral health needs of both pediatric and adult patients. Consultations may include anything from questions about diagnostic evaluation/clarification, medication or behavioral management, as well as system related concerns. **You may participate in these calls in every Thursday at 7:30 am by dialing in to 1 (646) 876-9923, with meeting ID 697081962.**

Personal Protective Equipment

To ensure that we are keeping up to date with your practice's need for PPE, please complete a new survey to indicate your stock on hand. The survey can be accessed [here](#). **Only private, AHP-participating primary care (FM, IM and peds) practices should complete this survey. We are unable to assist with meeting PPE needs for hospital-employed practices.**

We continue to partner with Dr. Mendoza and County Health Department officials on preparedness and response protocols and will convey information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your continued collaboration in this important public health endeavor.

All the best,

J. Chad Teeters, MD
Executive Medical Director, AHP



Practice Resources

[UR Medicine Urgent Care Centers](#)

[Instructions for Home Isolation](#)

[Swabbing Procedures](#)

[Sample Office Signage](#)

[Screening Script](#)

[Community Resource Guide](#)

[Pediatric Behavioral Health Resource](#)

[Resources for Medically Complex Pediatric Patients](#)

[Breastfeeding and Coronavirus](#)

COVID-19 Resource Links

American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Site

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/>

Archive of AHP COVID-19 Updates

<https://ahpnetwork.com/category/news/covid-19/>

Monroe County Health Department

<https://www2.monroecounty.gov/health-coronavirus>

CDC Coronavirus Site

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

New York Department of Health Coronavirus site:

<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>



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