

COVID-19 Daily Update

March 19, 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>.

We understand there were some technical problems with today's call, so please refer to this Zoom reference found [here](#) if you experience similar issues on future calls.

Personal Protective Equipment

AHP has taken delivery on a supply of gowns. We will be allocating this supply based on the information from our latest PPE survey that was linked in yesterday's communication. If you have not completed the new survey (dated March 18), please do so ASAP. The survey can be found [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.**

Electronic Payments

AHP-participating primary care practices are asked to please share select banking information that will allow AHP to pay your practice for clinical integration and other incentives electronically. Please fill out the form located [here](#) and fax to AHP at 585-424-1268. Your information will be recorded and stored securely.

Testing Guidance

As we reported on today's call, the Erie County Public Health Lab has ceased testing while it awaits additional reagent. While the UR and RRH labs are ramping up capacity, testing is still prioritized for the backlog of inpatient tests.

Consequently, our guidance on testing remains the same: stable febrile patients with flu-like symptoms, regardless of travel or contact history, should 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

Several practices have taken advantage of the AHP-provisioned Zoom licensing to launch telemedicine. If you are interested and have not yet been contacted, please email [Elizabeth Sharp](#).

AHP is working with the Monroe County Medical Society to obtain information from payers

regarding reimbursement for telemedicine services. We will share this information as it comes in. In answer to a question received earlier this week, we have learned that Excellus will reimburse all telehealth visits billed with place of service code 02 at the same rate as in-person visits for the same CPT code, and we will use the higher non-facility (office) relative value units for dates of service from March 16, 2020 until the State of Emergency has been lifted. More information about telemedicine relative to Excellus reimbursement can be found [here](#).

Rounding

We are advising that community physicians rounding at Strong and/or Highland Hospital consider suspending that activity during the outbreak. We have been advised that the hospitalist service is resourced sufficiently to care for all inpatients. Rounding may expose community physicians, while also introducing additional vectors for the disease unnecessarily.

New Additions to COVID-19 Practice Resource Documents

[**New England Journal of Medicine Report**](#): SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Children

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



LJ Shipley, MD
Pediatric Medical Director



Renée Sutton
Senior Director, Provider
Relations

Practice Resources

[**UR Medicine Urgent Care Centers**](#)

[**Swabbing Procedures**](#)

[**Screening Script**](#)

[**Pediatric Behavioral Health Resource**](#)

[**Breastfeeding and Coronavirus**](#)

[**Instructions for Home Isolation**](#)

[**Sample Office Signage**](#)

[**Community Resource Guide**](#)

[**Resources for Medically Complex Pediatric Patients**](#)

[**Pharmacy Pearl: COVID and Commonly Prescribed Drugs**](#)

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/>

To access more information on the value of AHP

Visit our website



Connect with us

