

COVID-19 Provider Updates

April 27, 2020

COVID-19 Quick Hits

Baltimore City Health Department Clinician Page [here](#) | Baltimore City COVID-19 [dashboard](#)

1. The Baltimore City Health Department has created new [guidance](#) for clinicians who have patients on COVID-19 testing availability in Baltimore City. The state's list of current testing sites can be found [here](#).
2. The City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) shared information on how healthcare facilities can access a decontamination service for N95 respirators -see page 2
3. Volunteer staffing opportunities -Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps (MRMRC). Visit <https://mdresponds.health.maryland.gov>.
4. Employment opportunities for healthcare professionals and support staff can be found in the following link: <https://www.smartrecruiters.com/lab/marylandmednow/>
5. The FDA [authorized](#) the first at-home test from LabCorp using nasal sample self-collection.
 - a) Testing availability is currently limited, with priority given to health care workers with doctors' orders
 - b) At this time, kits are not available in Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island due to laws prohibiting testing with at home sample collection
6. This week an expert NIH panel released a "[living document](#)" of COVID-19 treatment options and guidelines.
 - a) At present, no drug has been proven to be safe and effective for treating COVID-19.
7. Governor Hogan announced this week that the State of Maryland has [acquired](#) 500,000 COVID-19 tests in a partnership with South Korea. The Baltimore City Health Department will keep clinicians informed as more information becomes available about these tests.
8. New employees at nursing homes and assisted living facilities are in need of clinician appointments. Recently hired employees need medical clearance and immunizations to begin work at these critical locations. CDC [recommends](#) that adults continue to receive immunizations during the pandemic in cases of compelling need.

Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Local Information

Other MDH Resources



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1. MDH has updated their answers to most frequently asked testing questions [here](#). (4/16)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Guidances

1. Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 [link](#) (4/20)
2. CDC Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19 [here](#). (4/19)

Resources

1. COVID-19 Surge: spreadsheet tool to estimate surge for hospital-based services [Link](#) (4/21)
2. CDC modeling of COVID-19 death forecasts nationwide and at state level [link](#) (4/21)

COVID-19 Clinical Management Links

1. Society of Critical Care Medicine: [Critical Care for the Non-ICU Clinician](#) – free, online modules & other training resources
2. Emory’s Infectious Disease Department maintains a weekly curated summary of the latest COVID-19 clinical management literature. You can find it [here](#).
3. The American Society for Microbiology maintains a COVID-19 literature registry addressing diagnostics, treatment, and other topics. You can find it [here](#).

Research Spotlight

1. CDC MMWR Report. Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 Infection Prevalence in Homeless Shelters — Four U.S. Cities, March 27–April 15, 2020. [link](#)
2. CDC MMWR Report. COVID-19 Outbreak Among Three Affiliated Homeless Service Sites — King County, Washington, 2020. [link](#)
3. He et al. Temporal dynamics in viral shedding and transmissibility of COVID-19. Nature Medicine. 15 April 2020. [link](#)

Telehealth Resources

1. National Council for Behavioral Health Best Practices for Telehealth During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency [link](#)
2. CMS General Provider Telemedicine Toolkit [link](#)
3. American College of Physician Telemedicine Checklist [link](#)

N95 Decontamination Service

The City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) shared information on how healthcare facilities can access a decontamination service for N95 respirators through Battelle CCDS (Critical Care Decontamination System). A Baltimore location is coming soon that will

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Provider Updates

service the state. More information is available on their website including [FAQ's](#), [instructions](#), and [Fact Sheets](#). To get started, visit www.Battelle.org/decon and fill out the enrollment form.

A few additional notes:

- Heavily soiled masks with blood, make-up, or oil on them are not able to be decontaminated
- Estimated turn-around time may be approximately 72 hours
- Battelle recommends using FedEx as the courier for this service