

BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COVID-19 Provider Updates

August 20, 2020

COVID-19 Quick Hits

Baltimore City [clinician page](#) & COVID-19 [dashboard](#)

Recovery and Isolation

1. Baltimore Convention Center Field Hospital is a well-equipped setting for patients who require extra support as they convalesce from COVID-19. See [here](#) to find out if this option should be used for your patients who are medically complicated and vulnerable if recovering at home unmonitored, but not ill enough to require acute hospital care.
2. The CDC has [updated guidance](#) regarding discontinuing home isolation based on being symptom-free for at least 24 hours (reduced from 72 hours).
3. The [Triage, Respite, and Isolation \(TRI\) Center](#) at Lord Baltimore Hotel is still accepting provider- or self-referrals for people unable to safely self-isolate at home.

Testing and Reporting

1. [COVID-19 is a reportable disease](#). Point-of-care test results can be updated through [CRISP](#) (if not already reporting to the Maryland Health Dept via another mechanism). [Providers are also required to report](#) COVID-19 cases by completing a case report form ([Form 1140](#)), which can be faxed to the Baltimore City Health Department at 410-625-0688.
2. Any healthcare provider or healthcare facility may perform COVID-19 point of care (POC) test analysis, subject to Maryland State terms and conditions outlined in the [August 6th 2020 health directive](#). Refer to the directive for details on reporting.
3. See [here](#) for Baltimore City test site information including sites where patients can self-schedule testings, without a provider's referral.
4. Please refer to the Maryland Department of Health website for the most recent [testing priorities](#) when ordering COVID-19 testing. CDC has released [recommendations](#) regarding antibody testing.
5. Maryland Department of Health has updated its [COVID-19 test site website](#) with a "Find a testing site near you" feature to search by an address.
6. Please inform your patients who are positive for COVID-19 that the health department will be calling them to conduct contact tracing. When the phone rings, the caller ID will read "MD COVID" (240-466-4488). The health department will never ask for your patient's social security number, financial information, or their immigration status.

On Aug 6, the Maryland Department of Health updated answers to the most frequently asked testing questions [here](#). You can direct your patients to this information.

Recently Published Research

Wang Y, Wang Y, Chen Y, Qin Q. Unique epidemiological and clinical features of the emerging 2019 novel coronavirus pneumonia (COVID-19) implicate special control measures. J Med Virol. 2020;92(6):568-576. doi:10.1002/jmv.25748 [Link](#)

Frequently Requested Resources

1. **Physician Support:** For free & confidential peer-to-peer provider calls dial 1(888)409-0141 open 7 days a week from 8am - 12am EST, or click [here](#).
2. **CHARMcare:** Our Community Resource Database can be found [here](#). If you have any resources that you would like to see in CHARMcare, please e-mail Charmcare@baltimorecity.gov and Lindsay.Adams@baltimorecity.gov
3. **COVIDView:** A Weekly Surveillance Summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity can be found [here](#).
4. **FAQs:** Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19 can be found [here](#).
5. **COVID-19 forecasts:** National and State forecasts of cumulative deaths due to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).
6. **COVID-19 literature:** A summary of recently published articles focusing on COVID-19 can be found [here](#).
7. **CDC Training for Healthcare Professionals:** A hub of CDC webinars on COVID-19 Clinical Care & Infection control, PPE Donning & Doffing, Emergency Preparedness and Response can be found [here](#).
8. **Volunteer Staffing Opportunities:** information on the Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps (MRMRC) can be found [here](#).
9. **Employment Opportunities:** Job requests for healthcare professionals and support staff can be found [here](#). Baltimore City Health Corps contact tracing and related job postings can be found [here](#).
10. **PPE Request Process:**
 - Complete the MDH Emergency Medical Materials Request [Form](#).
 - Send the request form to MedResourceRequest@baltimorecity.gov.
 - BCHD staff will contact you directly to discuss the specifics of your request. Please allow up to 48 hours for review and processing.
 - If BCHD is able to fulfill your request, you will be asked to designate a facility representative we can work with to coordinate pick-up of the supplies. Your delivery driver will be required to show a facility ID badge

