



## COVID-19 Provider Updates

June 1, 2020

### COVID-19 Quick Hits

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

1. Patients need to isolate as soon as possible after symptom onset. Counsel your patients to isolate as soon as symptoms start, and counsel their household members to quarantine. You can find CDC's isolation guidance [here](#).
2. 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" if calling from the state or from a 410 number if calling from the Baltimore City Health Department. The health department will never ask for your patient's social security number, financial information, or their immigration status.
3. You can get your patient tested! Use CRISP and send them to a testing site. There is also some additional testing capacity at some [drive ups throughout the state](#). Patients who have symptoms should be tested! Patients who have an exposure but are asymptomatic can be sent for testing, at their physician's discretion. For more details, see Maryland Department of Health updates below.
4. **Pediatric vaccinations** in Maryland this April decreased between 30 and 90 percent when compared to April 2019. You can find more information about declines in vaccination from CDC's weekly reports [here](#). In addition, data from Immunet report show that the largest decreases in childhood vaccines given to children younger than 24 months were seen in the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, with a decrease of 71%, and varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, with a decrease of 68%. Please continue with well-child and vaccination visits. Please also consider implementing reminder/recall procedures in an effort to urge patients/parents to schedule or reschedule immunization appointments. Vaccinating children and teens is of the utmost importance. Postponing vaccination puts Maryland children at risk for preventable infection.
5. **Pharmacists** may now order COVID-19 tests directly in the state of Maryland. This follows April federal guidance licensing pharmacists to [order tests](#) nationally. Pharmacists may also administer tests according to CDC guidelines.
6. Baltimore City continues with its stay at home order, but there are modifications including the permitting of outdoor dining as long as [guidelines](#) are followed. Baltimore City continues to see a high testing positivity rate in Baltimore City, need for increased testing, and need to expand rapid contact tracing within 24 hours. Currently, Baltimore City's positivity rate is at 20% ([Benchmark by the World Health Organization is less than 10%](#)). The City also should provide approximately 2,700 to 2,800 tests per day based on [WHO and expert recommendations](#), and must expand contact tracing services.

7. The CDC opened a 24/7 [Clinician On-Call Center hotline](#) as a resource to healthcare workers to prevent, detect, and respond to COVID-19. Call **800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)** and ask for the Clinician On-Call Center to be routed to this service.

## Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

### Local Information

1. MDH has again updated their answers to **most frequently asked testing questions** [here](#). (6/5) You can direct your patients to this information.
2. Patients may ask about MDH's COVID-19 testing at **Vehicle Emission Inspection Program (VEIP) sites**. You can find updated details about this program [here](#) (5/14.) There are eight total locations.
3. **Non-appointment testing** is available at **Timonium Fairgrounds**, the **Glen Burnie** location, and the future Hyattsville location. At other locations, patients need a provider referral to the site AND a confirmed appointment made in CRISP and an appointment time. Baltimore City Health Department testing locations and VEIP sites are:

*(a) Druid Hill Park  
Rawlings Conservatory  
3100 Swann Dr  
Baltimore MD 21217*

*(b) Clifton Park  
2801 St Lo Dr  
Baltimore MD 21213*

*(c) Timonium Fairgrounds  
2200 York Road  
Timonium, MD 21093*

*(d) Carroll County Agriculture Center  
706 Agricultural Center Dr  
Westminster, MD 21157*

*(e) Glen Burnie VEIP (Anne Arundel County)  
721 E. Ordnance Road  
Curtis Bay, MD 21226*

*(f) Bel Air VEIP (Harford County)  
1631 Robin Circle  
Forest Hill, MD 21050*

*(g) Waldorf VEIP (Charles County)  
28 Henry Ford Circle  
Waldorf, MD 20601*

*(h) Columbia VEIP (Howard County)  
6340 Woodside Ct., #1071  
Columbia, MD 21046*

(i) White Oak VEIP (Montgomery County)  
2121 Industrial Parkway  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

(j) Owings Mills VEIP  
11510 Cronridge Dr  
Owings Mills, MD 21117

(k) Prince Frederick VEIP  
1035 N Prince Frederick Blvd  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

(l) Hagerstown VEIP (Washington County)  
12100 Insurance Way #5176  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

### Guidances

1. Interim **Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations** for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings (5/18) [Link](#)
2. Evaluation and Management **Considerations for Neonates at Risk for COVID-19** (5/20) [Link](#)
3. Information for Pediatric Healthcare Providers- **Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome** in Children (MIS-C) (5/20) [Link](#)
4. Guidance for **Dental Settings** (5/21) [Link](#)
5. Special Considerations for **Patients on Home Dialysis** (5/13) [Link](#)

### Resources

1. COVIDView: A Weekly Surveillance Summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity (5/15) [Link](#)
2. Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19 (5/20) [Link](#)
3. COVID-19 National and State Forecasts (5/21) [Link](#)

### COVID-19 Clinical Management Links

1. CDC **Training for Healthcare Professionals** (hub of CDC webinars on COVID-19 Clinical Care & Infection control, PPE Donning & DOffing, Emergency Preparedness and Response) [Link](#)
2. The Royal College of Pediatrics and Child health (RCPCH) guidance on the **recognition and management of Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory syndrome**. [Link](#)
3. A group of physicians, researchers, and students from a coalition of medical schools is maintaining a **daily COVID-19 Literature Surveillance Team**. They issue a daily report. [Link](#)

### Research Spotlight

1. Beigel et al. **Remdesivir for the Treatment of Covid-19 – Preliminary Report**. NEJM. May 22 2020. [Link](#)
2. Jordan et al. **Evidence for Limited Early Spread of COVID-19 Within the United States, January – February 2020**. MMWR. May 29 2020 early release. [Link](#)

3. Hung et al. **Triple combination of interferon beta-1b, lopinavir-ritonavir, and ribavirin in the treatment of patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19: an open-label, randomized, phase 2 trial.** Lancet. May 8 2020. [Link](#)
4. Hamiel et al. **SARS-CoV-2 Rates in BCG-Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Young Adults.** JAMA. May 13 2020. [Link](#)
5. Stadnytskyi et al. **The Airborne Lifetime of Small Speech Droplets and their Potential Importance in SARS-CoV-2 transmission.** PNAS. May 13 2020. [Link](#)
6. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH). **Preliminary Estimate of Excess Mortality During the COVID-19 Outbreak – New York City.** MMWR. May 15 2020. [Link](#)

## What to Tell Your Patients about Contact Tracing

1. Please **provide an accurate phone number** when you get tested – make sure your medical provider has an accurate phone number for you (otherwise BCHD can't reach you)
2. The health dept (BCHD or MDH) will call you if you test positive.
- 3. All information is confidential**
4. If you receive a call from a number you don't recognize a few days after you got tested – please **answer your phone.** It could be the health department notifying you of your testing results.
5. **Share your contacts with the health department.** We know it's not fun. We know it's awkward and no one wants to do it. But it's important. In order to do contact tracing we rely on to provide us with their close contacts. **Help us protect the community and your family and friends.** This is our only intervention for now – we don't have a vaccine, we don't have a cure. We have contact tracing and isolation which are critical to stopping further spread of COVID-19. We need your help. We need phone numbers at the time the test is done and we need you to answer your phone and share with us the names of your close contacts.
6. When we reach out to the contacts, it's **confidential – we don't tell them who you are.**
7. We notify your contacts that they might have been exposed to COVID, what symptoms to watch for, and how to quarantine safely for 14 days.

## Spotlight: Reopening Requirements

1. On April 24th, Governor Hogan released [Roadmap to Recovery](#), the state's plan for reopening. The plan is based on recommendation documents from the National Governors Association, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and the American Enterprise Institute.
  - a. There are three phases of the recovery plan, organized according to risk. Maryland [entered phase one](#) on May 13th, but allowed for local governments to control the timing of opening.
  - b. The reopening plan requires four "building blocks" to be in place for reopening to proceed: expanded testing capacity, increased hospital surge capacity, ramping up supply of PPE, and robust contact tracing.
  - c. Mayor Young's [stay at home order](#) continuation specifies that Baltimore/Washington region does not yet meet these four "building block" requirements to enter phase one.

## Frequently Requested Resources

- A. **Testing Sites:** For a list of Maryland testing sites, click [here](#).
- B. **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](#).
- C. **PPE Request Process:**

1. Complete the MDH Emergency [Medical Materials Request Form](#).
  2. Send the request form to [MedResourceRequest@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:MedResourceRequest@baltimorecity.gov)
  3. BCHD staff will contact you directly to discuss the specifics of your request. Please allow up to 48 hours for review and processing.
  4. 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.
- D. **CHARMcare, Our Community Resource Database:** Have you checked out [CHARMcare](#)? This is our public resource database with information on available and up-to-date social, behavioral, and health services in Baltimore City. To support our partners, and to ensure that we have a comprehensive set of resources, we are working with Baltimore's Maryland Access Point (MAP) program and Central Maryland 211.
1. If you have any resources that you would like to see in CHARMcare, please e-mail [Charmcare@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Charmcare@baltimorecity.gov) and [Lindsay.Adams@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Adams@baltimorecity.gov)
- E. **Volunteer staffing opportunities:** Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps ([MRMRC](#))
- F. **Employment opportunities for healthcare professionals and support staff:** [MarylandMedNow](#)