



COVID-19 Provider Updates

May 18, 2020

COVID-19 Quick Hits

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

1. On May 11, Baltimore City Health Department released a [clinician letter](#) providing greater clarity around the current pathways to provide patients COVID-19 testing.
2. Sign-up to [ImmuNet](#), a secure web-based Maryland Department of Health registry for notification when vaccine is available
3. On [May 15](#), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) released a [clinician letter](#) to alert providers on **Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)** and its potential link to COVID-19. The CDC Health Advisory on MIS-C can be found [here](#). All cases of MIS-C must be reported to the Baltimore City Health Department as outlined in the MDH clinician letter.
4. Case investigation, contact tracing, and messaging around those activities are critical to prevent further COVID-19 transmission. Please go to the Spotlight below **"What to Tell Your Patients about Contact Tracing"** for more info on contact tracing in Baltimore City.
5. As a reminder, the Maryland Department of Aging implemented a new statewide [Caregiver Service Corps \(CSC\)](#) to enable older adults to remain safely in their homes and have the support systems to do so
 - a. If your practice identifies a senior with pressing needs with everyday tasks call **800-337-8958** to reach the CSC Call Center directly.
6. Check out the [Maryland Manufacturing Network Supplier Portal](#), an online platform that helps connect Maryland suppliers with buyers in need of critical resources. For a **quick list of PPE suppliers** click [here](#). For more info on PPE requests through BCHD check out the "PPE Requests" section below.
7. COVID-19 has led to unprecedented food insecurity. For more info on **Baltimore City Emergency Food Insecurity Response** click [here](#).
 - a. For the most up to date resources on Food, please visit [CHARMcare.org](#) and search topic [FOOD](#).
 - b. To help your home bound patients who are age 60 and older receive [Home Delivered Grocery Boxes](#) call **410-396-2273**. For residents 59 and younger call **2-1-1**. Baltimore City residents may receive up to 30 lbs of shelf-stable food for 1 week while supplies last and will receive boxes within 3-4 days of ordering

Maryland Department of Health (MDH)

Local Information

1. MDH has again updated their answers to **most frequently asked testing questions** [here](#). (5/7) 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](#) (5/7.) There are seven total 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 Drive
Baltimore MD 21213

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

D. Bel Air VEIP (Harford County)
1631 Robin Circle
Forest Hill, MD 21050

E. Waldorf VEIP (Charles County)
28 Henry Ford Circle
Waldorf, MD 20601

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

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

H. Owings Mills VEIP
11510 Cronridge Dr
Owings Mills, MD 21117

I. Prince Frederick VEIP
1035 N Prince Frederick Blvd
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Guidances

1. **Framework for Healthcare Systems** Providing Non-COVID-19 Care (5/12) [Link](#)

2. Information for **Pediatric Healthcare Providers**: Maintaining Childhood Immunization, Burden of COVID-19, Clinical Presentation, Incubation Period, Complications, and Treatment and Prevention Among Children(5/12) [Link](#)
3. Interim Guidance for **Homeless Service Providers** (5/12) [Link](#)
4. Groups at **Risk for Severe Illness** (5/12) [Link](#)
 - a. Actions to take for specific groups: Asthma (moderate to severe), Chronic Kidney Disease, Chronic lung disease, Hemoglobin Disorders, immunocompromised, Liver disease, People 65 and older, People in Nursing Homes or LTCs, Serious heart conditions, Severe Obesity

Resources

1. FAQs for Healthcare Professionals (5/12) [Link](#)
2. COVIDView: A Weekly Surveillance Summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity (5/8) [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. Mehta et al. **Associations of Use of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors and Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers with Testing Positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**. JAMA. May 5 2020. [Link](#)
2. Geleris et al. **Observational Study of Hydroxychloroquine in Hospitalized Patients with COVID-19**. NEJM. May 7 2020. [Link](#)
3. Cao et al. **A trial of Lopinavir-Ritonavir in Adults Hospitalized with Severe COVID-19**. NEJM. May 7 2020. [Link](#)
4. 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](#)
5. Shekerdemian et al. **Characteristics and outcomes of children with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) infection admitted to US and Canadian pediatric intensive care units**. JAMA Pediatrics. May 11 2020. [Link](#)
6. Mao et al. **Manifestations and prognosis of gastrointestinal and liver involvement in patients with COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis**. Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology. May 12 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: Resources for Maryland STI & Family Planning During COVID-19

**as prepared by the MDH Center for STI Prevention

COVID-9 and Sex Fact Sheets

1. New York City Health Department Guidance for People with HIV (3/19) [link](#)
2. Oregon Health Authority STD Prevention and "Sex in the Time of COVID-19" [link](#)
3. Additional fact sheets and sexual health resources from the MDH Center for STI Prevention (CSTIP) (5/8) [link](#)

COVID-19 and STI & Family Planning Resources

1. CDC Guidance for STD Programs during COVID (4/6) [link](#)
2. National Coalition of STD Directors Resources for STD Programs at the Federal, State, & Industry level (5/12) [link](#)
3. Kaiser Family Foundation: Online Platforms for Contraceptive and STI Services during COVID-19 (4/23) [link](#)
4. Tell Us Your Contacts - Website to Notify Anonymously People Who You've Been in Close Contact with if You Tested Positive for COVID-19 [Link](#)

COVID-19 and Sex Social Media Messaging

1. National Coalition for Sexual Health Social Media Campaign: COVID-19 and Sexual Health [Link](#)

Training/Webinars

Available at any time: Making Contact A Training for COVID-19 Contact Tracers [Link](#)

COVID-19 Related Billing & Approved Telehealth Platforms: Guidance and Resources from MDH

1. Slides from April 2020 Billing Manual Training [Link](#)
2. MDH Billing Manual [Link](#)

3. Monthly Updates to MDH Local Health Department Billing Manual 2020
 - a. April 2020 COVID-19 Information [Link](#)
 - b. March 2020 COVID-19 Information [Link](#)

Frequently Requested Resources

- A. **Testing Sites** For a list of Maryland testing / click [here](#)
- B. **Physician Support** [Link](#) For free & confidential peer-to-peer provider calls **dial 1(888)409-0141** open 7 days a week from 8am - 12am EST
- C. **PPE Request Process**
 1. Complete the MDH Emergency Medical Materials Request Form ([link](#))
 2. Send the request form to 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

Volunteer staffing opportunities -Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps (MRMRC). Visit <https://mdresponds.health.maryland.gov>

Employment opportunities for healthcare professionals and support staff can be found in the following link: <https://www.smartrecruiters.com/lab/marylandmednow/>