

System Transformation Update

December 23, 2020

Distribution: All Yale New Haven Health System Employees and Medical Staff

Message from the Chief Clinical Officer

Dear Colleagues,

We seem to have reached a plateau in the spread of the virus in our region. The percentage of positive tests has decreased slightly, and our numbers of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 are generally flat. It will be critical that we continue to adhere to social distancing and public health guidance over the holidays to prevent another surge.

Key updates:

- Individuals who experience concerning side effects after receiving a COVID-19 vaccination should call our YNHHS Call Center and choose the menu option for Occupational Health. The team is ready to help support individuals with concerns about post-vaccination reactions.
- Our Infection Prevention teams have revised our COVID-19 post-exposure guidelines.
 Key changes are a shortening of quarantine to day 7 after highest risk exposure with a negative test on or after day 6, and ending quarantine with ability to return to work after day 10 post-exposure without testing. Updated guidelines can be found here.
- We have had a very positive reaction to the large number of invitations to schedule vaccination that went out yesterday. We continue to have open appointments through the middle of next week. Additional appointments will open up for the latter part of next week as we get additional allocation.
- We expect to send out the last large group of patient-facing invitations to schedule vaccination early next week.

This is a very important week for us as we have received large amounts of the vaccines and are well on our way to using up that supply in the next 7 days. Please continue to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to receive these lifesaving vaccines as we start seeing the end of this pandemic.

Please take the time over the holidays to recharge and rest as much as possible, and connect with family and friends in a safe and socially distant manner. Thank you as always for your professionalism, empathy, and commitment to serving our patients and communities. My best wishes are with you and your families as we look forward to the New Year.

Warmly,

Thomas Balcezak, MD MPH Chief Clinical Officer Yale New Haven Health

Clinical Operations Updates

A new site at Wallingford opened 12/14, increasing access to testing in the Central CT region by more than 200 appointments per day

An additional lane at Strong School in New Haven went live on 12/21, currently accommodating an additional 112 appointments per day, with plans to increase to a total of approximately 460 appointments per day

Supply chain disruption continues to cause heightened concern; however, there are now minimal tests being sent out to external reference labs

Holiday hours for this week at all drive-through testing sites will be as follows:

- o Thursday, December 24th → 7:30am 5pm
- o Friday, December 25th → 8:30am 12pm

Logistical Updates

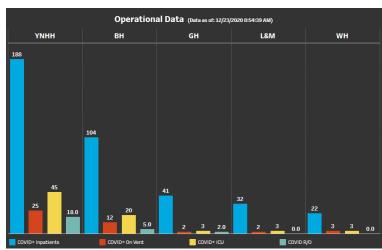
Technology/Innovation

Ambulatory Video Visits have moved to MyChart with Zoom successfully. Details on upcoming training or other materials can be found on the telehealth training website https://telehealth.ynhh.org. For questions, comments or concerns about telehealth please feel free to contact the Telehealth team at: telehealth@ynhh.org

Operational Snapshot

JDAT COVID-19 Dashboard





	YNHH	BH	GH	LMH	LMW
Inpatient PUI	18 (16)	5 (7)	2 (2)	0 (2)	0 (0)
COVID Positive	188 (211)	104 (113)	41 (35)	32 (37)	22 (17)
COVID in ICU	45 (57)	20 (22)	3 (1)	3 (4)	3 (4)

12/23/2020 (12/16/2020)



Past Week

Since March 14

397

6,534

COVID-19 patients have been **discharged** back to their lives after being treated by our **healthcare heroes**.

Resources:

System Call Center # 203-688-1700

System Radiology Hotline # 475-246-9660

Attachments to this message can also be found on the COVID-19 Clinical Resources page here.

Previous All Staff updates are archived and can be accessed here.