

### **Situation**

YNHHS is currently experiencing significant supply chain disruptions, limiting its ability to test specimens for COVID-19 on the Hologic Panther platform. There is an international shortage of essential reagents and supplies, which has resulted in a restricted allocation for YNHHS through December 2020. These shortages reduce capacity by approximately 33% and prevent YNHHS labs from meeting our projected COVID testing capacity.

### **Background**

YNHHS lab capacity was approximately 2,900 COVID-19 tests daily. The lab has diversified its testing platforms to mitigate the risk of supply chain disruption. However, additional instruments and methods have not yet been delivered and technical challenges have been faced in implementing the different types of assays.

### **Assessment**

YNHHS' Tier 1 testing population, inclusive of pre-procedure, inpatient, emergency department, underserved and symptomatic community patients require approximately 1,500 tests/day. The laboratory is able to continue to meet this need. Unfortunately, our ability to test Tier 2 and Tier 3 populations (e.g. SNFs, CT state employees, and asymptomatic patients) is substantially reduced.

### **Recommendation**

YNHHS remains committed to prioritizing our internal testing resources to our Tier 1 populations. We will continue to collect Tier 2 and Tier 3 populations, but will begin strategically allocating these specimens among external laboratories as available, which may prolong turn-around time.

As we learn more about additional potential supply chain disruption, our ability to collect Tier 2 and Tier 3 populations will be at-risk.

In our commitment to meet the testing needs of our patients, communities and the State, we will frequently re-evaluate laboratory capacity to expand populations tested internally based on clinical need and CDC guidelines. In parallel, the laboratory will continue to expand capacity by operationalizing new testing platforms and methods.