

System Incident Management Update

April 2, 2020

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

New Updates In RED

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Updates

Clarification for visitor and staff mask usage

Visitor and staff should be using Level 1 facemasks. The level of masks relates to the fluid permeability. From an infection control perspective, all levels are equivalent. Level 3, which are more splash resistant, should be used in the ORs. If masks are deformed, torn, or visibly soiled, they should be discarded and a new one should be obtained.

Updated YNHHS PPE Policy and FAQ

As a part of our ongoing work to protect healthcare workers, our Infection Prevention, Occupational Health, and Supply Chain leaders have developed a revised PPE policy aimed at clarifying and simplifying guidance on the use of personal protective equipment. A list of Frequently Asked Questions are also included to address the many valid and appropriate concerns raised by our healthcare workers.

PPE Reuse Collection

As part of the Health System's PPE Reuse policy, there are up to three distinct collection containers on units. One is for the collection of N95s, a second for face shields and goggles, and another dedicated to all levels (1,2 &3) of surgical masks, including looped and tie back. It is important they are properly separated. Please continue to ensure that used N95 respirators, goggles, and face shields that are not torn, broken, or visibly soiled are not discarded in the garbage and are placed in designated collection bins for reprocessing.

Guidance regarding substitution of small-sized N95s with universal N95s given shortages

The Health System's supplies of small-sized N95 respirators have become extremely limited. We have begun to sterilize and reprocess used small-sized N95s. Healthcare workers are advised to switch to the universal-size 1870 N95 respirator for the care of COVID-19 patients. A repeat fit test is not required as long as care does not include

participation in an aerosol-generating procedure such as intubation, bronchoscopy, upper endoscopy, or sputum induction. Such procedures should be carried out by individuals wearing a respirator for which they have been fit tested.

YNHHS Procedure for re-processing of personal protective equipment (PPE)

Please continue to ensure that used N95 respirators, goggles, and face shields that are not torn, broken, or visibly soiled are not discarded in the garbage and are placed in designated collection bins for reprocessing.

Use of makeup while using PPE

Our supply chain and central sterile supply departments developed an innovative process to safely and effectively reprocess critical types of PPE, including N95 respirators, face shields and protective goggles. The process can only be performed on items that have not been visibly soiled. 25 percent of collected used PPE currently has to be discarded because of makeup stains. Front-line healthcare workers who use these critical PPE items should not wear makeup to work. Cooperation is critical to our ability to have a sustainable source of essential PPE items, which are in short supply across the country.

Clinical Care/Operations Update

MDI Shortages

Currently, YNHHS has low supply of albuterol and ipratropium MDIs and are monitoring supply and use of all MDIs. We are receiving intermittent shipments but can change at any time. In order to preserve MDI supplies please see the below recommendations for conservation and Epic decision support that has been implemented.

NSAID use with COVID-19

Without strong evidence linking NSAIDs to adverse clinical outcomes in patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, it is recommended to follow guidance from WHO and EMA and not discontinue NSAIDs in these patients based primarily on a COVID-19 diagnosis. NSAID prescribing should always consider the inherent adverse effects of NSAIDs (such as risk for renal dysfunction). There is no specific contraindication to using NSAIDs in COVID-19 patients.

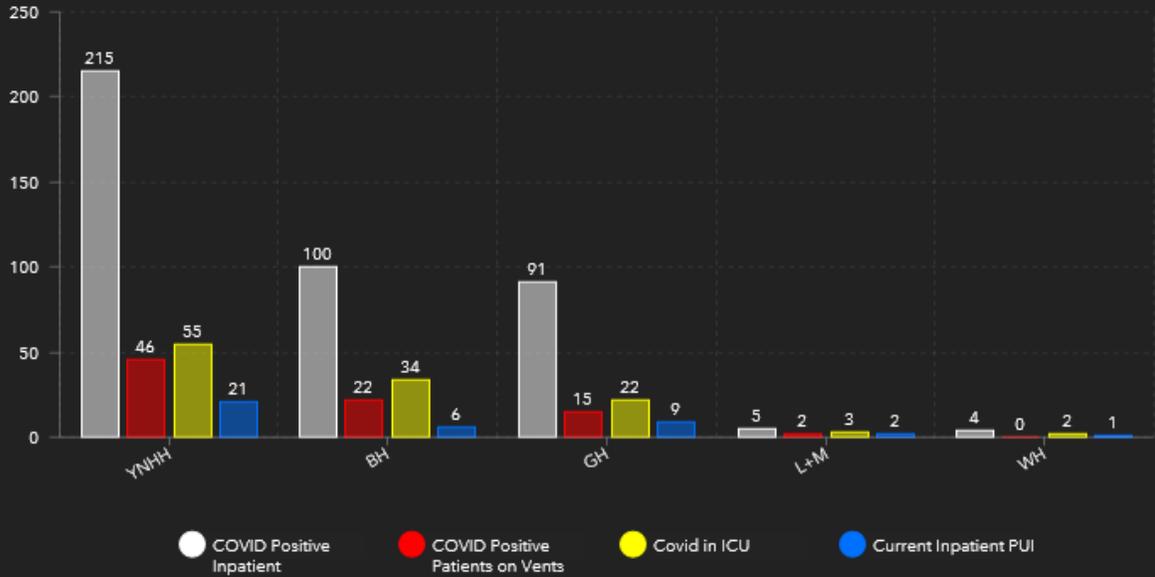
Medication administration consolidation

To reduce use of PPE, medication administration times can be consolidated/re-scheduled in Epic upon pharmacist review of: (1) appropriateness of schedule, (2) drug-drug and drug-food interactions and (3) meal timing. For patients with confirmed COVID-19, consider consolidating medications to recommended COVID-19 administration times. The details will be circulated to All Staff and Medical Staff.

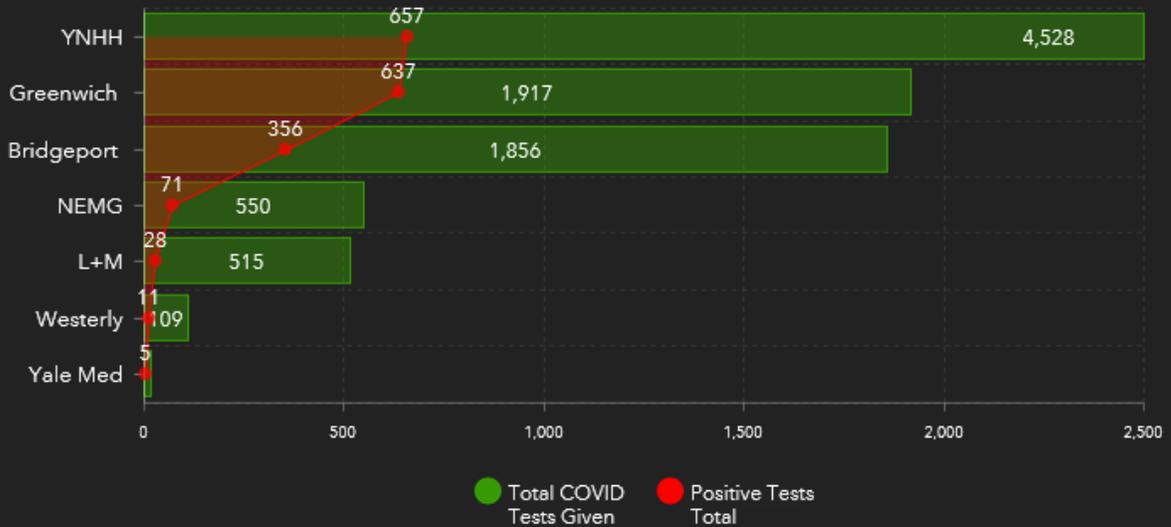
COVID-19 Related Operational Snapshot

Below you will find an overview of the total number of inpatients who are positive or under investigation with COVID-19 and updated testing results from across the Health System. These numbers are from our JDAT team.

Inpatient COVID, COVID on Vent, ICU, and PUI's
(As of 8:00 am 04/02/20)



YNHHS COVID TESTING



4/2/2020 9:00am

Logistics Update

No Changes