

System Incident Management Update

April 5, 2020

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

New Updates In RED

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Updates

Clarification for mask usage

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.

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

Recommendations for large-volume pumps outside ICU rooms

The Health System ICU committee has created guidelines for when ICU teams may relocate large volume infusion pumps to outside ICU rooms to reduce the need to don PPE and make rapid changes to IV infusions. Additional details are included in the attached document.

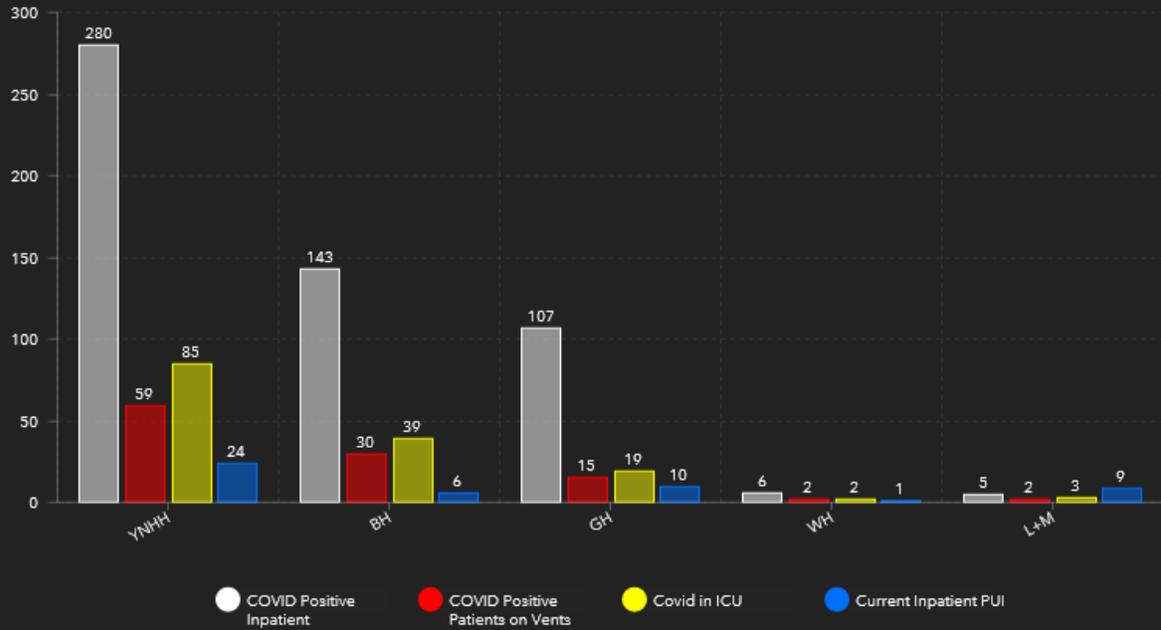
Update on COVID-19 testing

The Health System continues to increase the availability of in-house COVID-19 testing. Yale Virology has developed increased capacity to perform the same-day test, and is today able to process all healthcare workers' COVID-19 testing across the System. We have also secured limited supplies of a 2-hour test at all our hospitals. We expect to continue to be able to perform in-house tests for all inpatients that meet criteria put together by our Lab Medicine experts with input from critical stakeholders. The availability of in-house testing for healthcare workers continues to be dynamic and dependent on the availability of reagents. We continue to work to improve the turnaround time for ambulatory testing. Ambulatory specimens at Greenwich Hospital are being sent to the University of Washington, and ambulatory specimens collected at all other delivery networks are now being sent to the Mayo Clinic, which has guaranteed a 2-day turnaround time.

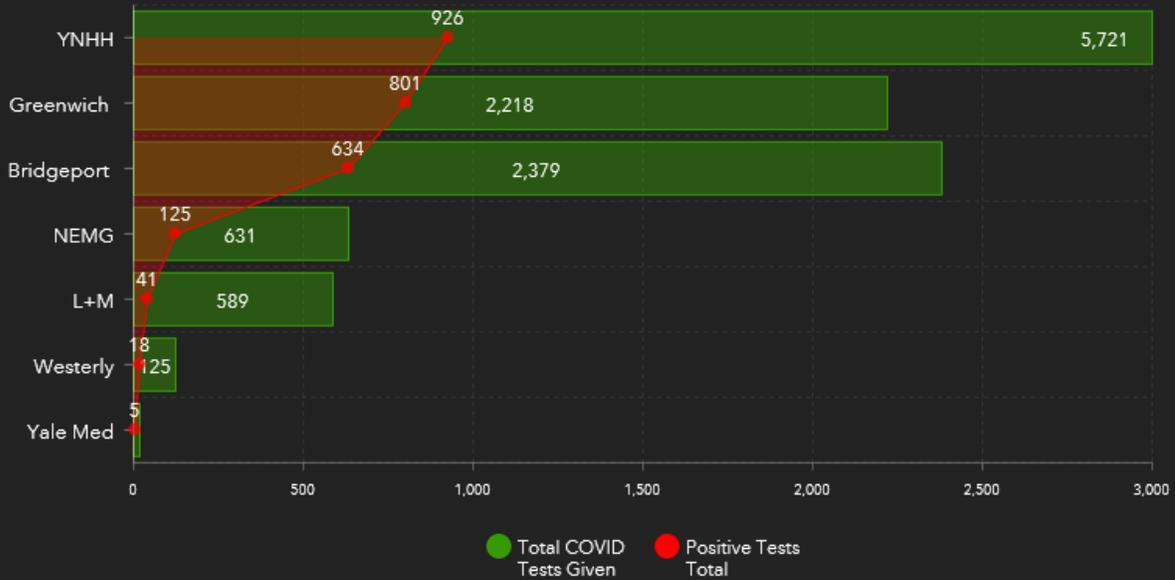
COVID-19 Related Operational Snapshot

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 9:00 am 04/05/20)



YNHHS COVID TESTING



4/452020 9:00am

Logistics Update

No Changes