

System Incident Management Update

April 15, 2020

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

New Updates In RED

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Updates

YNHHS/YM PPE Policy

The most updated PPE policy includes Ambulatory guidance, as well as guidance for patients and visitors. This policy and related FAQ are available on the Clinical Resources site at: <https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19/for-employees.aspx>

Small Size N95 Respirators

Caregivers who perform high-risk aerosol generating procedures and are unable to use alternate size N95s or alternative PPE solutions should be prioritized to receive the limited supplies of small-sized N95s. Contact materials management for allocation. Non-fit tested, alternate size N95 respirators are appropriate for these individuals for other, non-aerosol generating aspects of care for COVID-19 patients.

Clarification for mask usage

Staff should be using Level 1 facemasks. The level of masks relates to fluid permeability. From an infection control perspective, all levels are equivalent. Level 3, which are more splash resistant, should be used in the ORs.

PPE reuse and 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. Please do not wear makeup such as foundation or lipstick as they soil the facemasks and respirators making them ineligible for reprocessing. *Makeup is the #1 cause of being unable to reprocess.*

PPE donation

The Health System's Corporate Supply Chain is critical to ensuring we can continue to equip our healthcare workers. While donations are not the Health System's main channel to maintain PPE supplies, they make a significant difference, and we are immensely grateful for them. Prior to distribution, all donations are inspected and verified to be safe for clinical use. For donations, send an email to donationsPPE@ynhh.org. They will contact the donor and make arrangements for donation.

Clinical Care/Operations Update

Tracheotomy placement and post-tracheostomy care considerations

The Surgical Services Executive Council has endorsed system-wide standard guidelines, which are attached, for tracheotomy placement and post-tracheostomy care considerations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outpatient management of pregnant patients with COVID-19

The Ambulatory Task Force team approved the attached algorithm created by the System Obstetrics leadership group, which addresses the outpatient management of pregnant patients with COVID-19.

Patient handout for COVID testing

A handout is available in both English and Spanish for distribution to patients whose clinician has requested COVID-19 testing. In addition, a handout to prevent the spread of COVID 19 will be available to distribute to patients at testing sites. The handouts are attached.

Morphine infusion shortage

There is currently a CRITICAL shortage of morphine for continuous infusion and patient-controlled analgesia (PCA). Recommendations to manage this shortage are attached and updated ordering screens in Epic were implemented today, **April 15, 2020**. Morphine for continuous infusion and PCA will continue to be available to pediatric patients. SBAR attached.

Albuterol nebulization in emergency medications for hypersensitivity reactions

Nebulized medication administration is a high-risk aerosol generating procedure, and is contraindicated in the ambulatory setting during the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, epinephrine is the first line therapy for respiratory distress from hypersensitivity or infusion related reactions during the pandemic. Effective tomorrow, April 16, 2020, a new alert will fire in Epic when nurses attempt to release the order for nebulized albuterol for signed & held Treatment, Infusion Therapy, and Apheresis plans. The alert will recommend first line use of epinephrine for management of hypersensitivity reactions.

Updated guidelines for inpatient use of MCOTs

Updates have been made to the practice guidelines for IP use of mobile cardiac outpatient telemetry (MCOTs). Updated guidelines are attached.

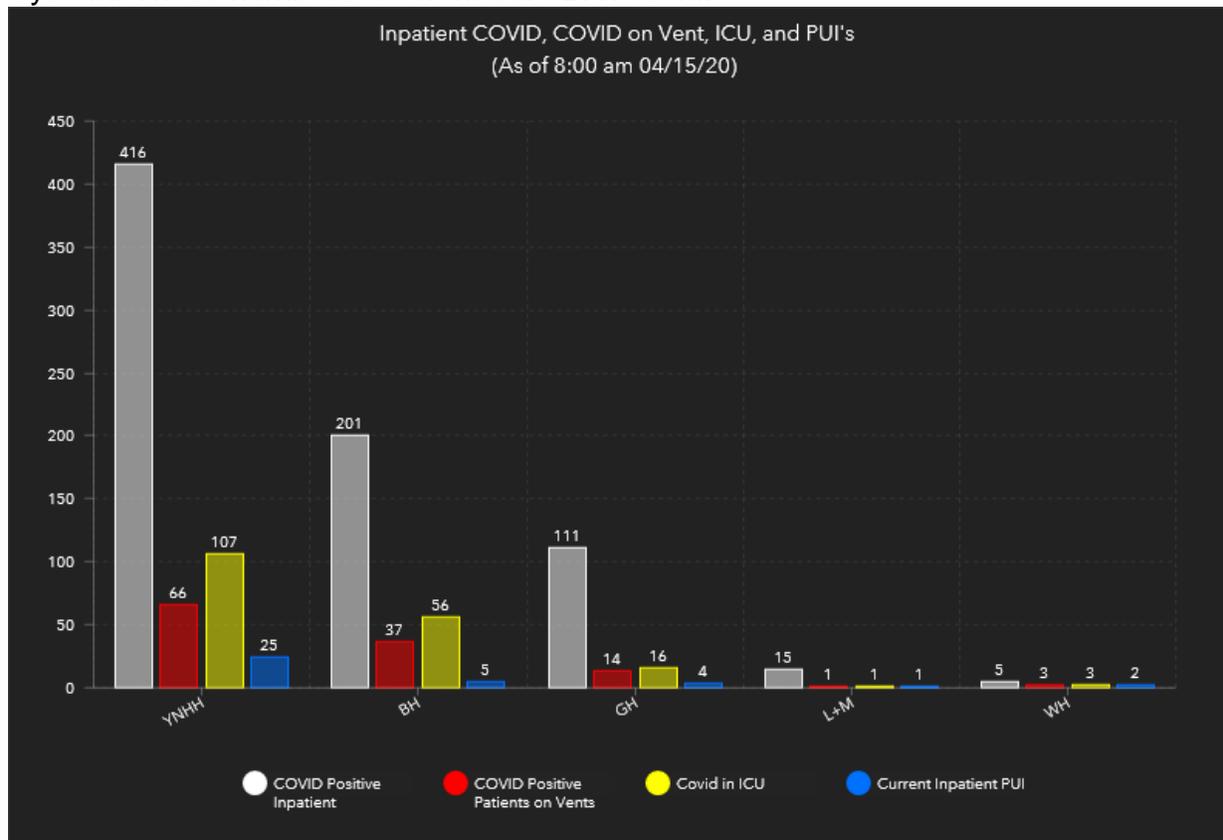
Infection prevention contact email

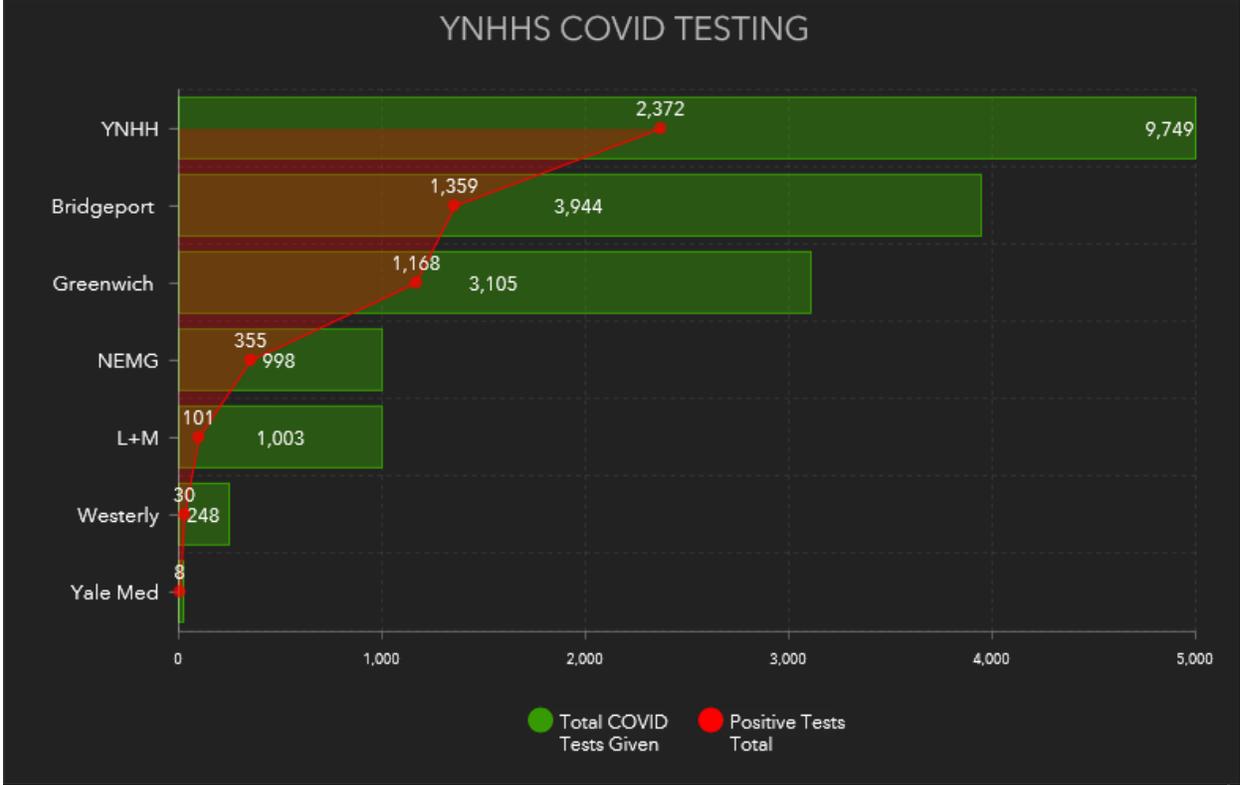
We are working to streamline the workflow as the volume of questions and requests continues to increase for our Infection Prevention colleagues. Starting immediately, please utilize the below email address for your inquiries about COVID-19 and they will be triaged with a goal of replying within 48 hours. If you require an urgent response, please indicate that in the subject line. Do not use this email for patient consults that are urgent in nature, follow your normal process for those communications.

COVID_InfectionPrevention@ynhh.org

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.





4/15/2020 9:00am

Discharges

Across the Health System, 56 COVID-19 Positive patients were discharged yesterday.