

System Incident Management Update

April 16, 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

Preoperative testing for IP/ED and OP/same day admission surgical patients

YNHHS Surgical Services is providing a **status update on preoperative testing processes for inpatient/ED and outpatient/same day admission surgical patients undergoing general anesthesia and/or an aerosol-generating procedure**. The testing guidelines were developed in conjunction with the testing stewardship committee. Each DN has worked to develop an outpatient and inpatient testing process for surgical patients. Procedural areas are still reviewing guidelines and processes. Guidelines and COVID-19 screening test ordering tips and tricks are attached.

Updated process for medical accommodations during COVID-19

There is a new process for occupational health's evaluation process around accommodations for employees with comorbidities. The included documents outline this new process, effective **April 15, 2020**, and include the "Certificate of Medical Exemption for COVID-19" form.

Patient/family iPads

In order to support our patients, families and teams during this challenging time, we have secured iPads to be provided to all inpatient units with the "Zoom" application uploaded. Deployment schedule as follows:

- Wednesday, April 15th = Greenwich Hospital
- Wednesday, April 15th = Bridgeport Hospital/Milford
- Thursday, April 16th = SRC
- Friday, April 17th = YSC
- Monday, April 20th = L+M/WH

Instructions for use and cleaning of the devices are attached.

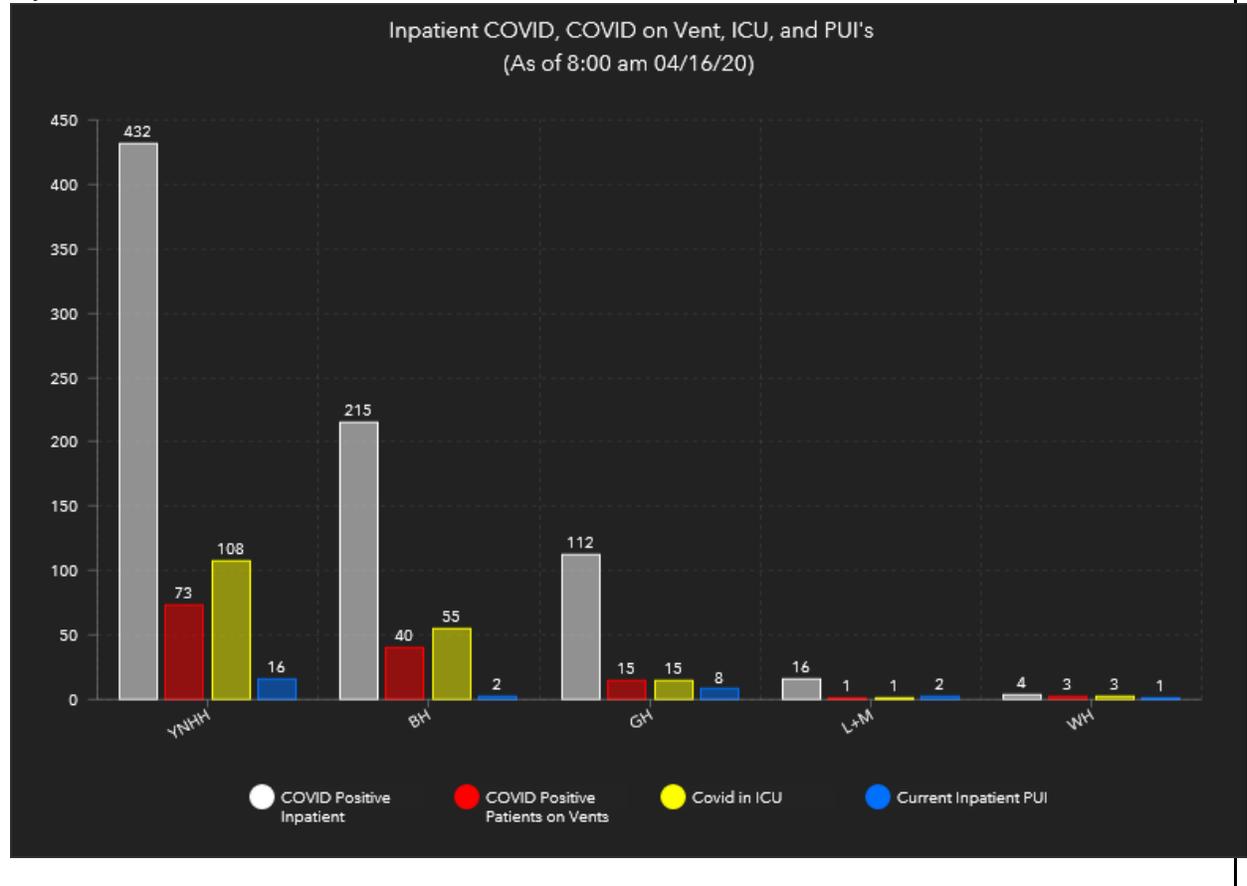
Infection prevention contact email

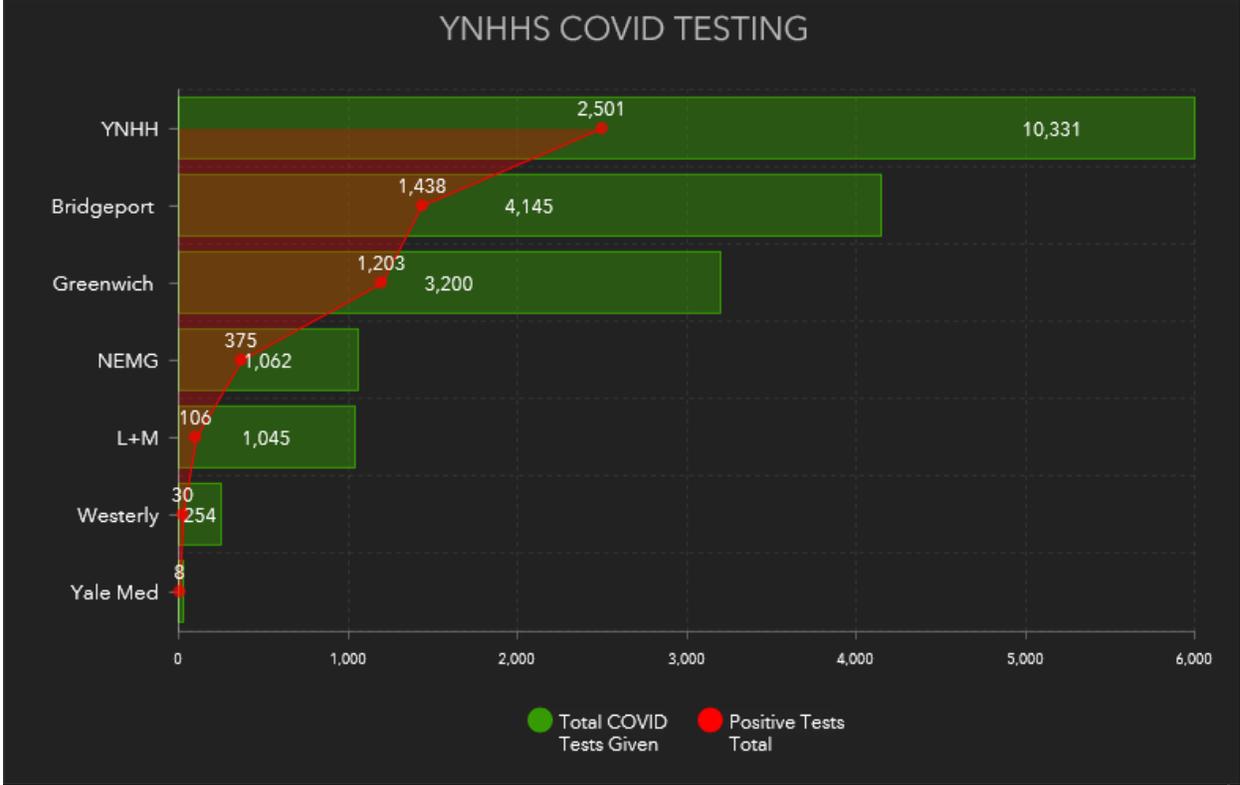
Please utilize the below email address for your inquiries about COVID-19 and they will be triaged with a goal of replying within 48 hours. If you require an urgent response, please indicate that in the subject line. Do not use this email for patient consults that are urgent in nature, follow your normal 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.





4/16/2020 9:00am

Discharges

Across the Health System, 52 COVID-19 Positive patients were discharged yesterday.