

## System Incident Management Update

April 17, 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.*

**Clinical Care/Operations Update**

## **COVID 19 screening questions and temperature guidelines**

COVID-19 Screening Questions and Temperature Guidelines (attached) are being shared with departments and units. Patients and visitors (who meet visitor exceptions) are currently being screened at entrances. The guidelines support department/unit staff in the screening process should a visitor bypass a screening station.

## **Get well cards**

Beginning today, April 17th, cards made for our patients by children and submitted to our "Cards from the Community" program are available for view on in-room TVs at GH, BH and YNHH (LMH soon to follow). At BH, they can be seen by tuning into **Channel 63**. At GH and YNHH, they can be seen by selecting the "**Get Well Cards**" button on the TV Main Menu.

Cards made by the children for our staff are available for view here:

<http://intranet.ynhh.org/Pages/Children-aim-to-inspire-heroes-with-art.aspx>

## **Update on drug pharmacy shortages**

At this time, we are experiencing a critical shortage of Morphine for continuous infusions. Adult patients who require morphine continuous infusion or PCA should utilize hydromorphone continuous infusion or PCA. Please try to convert patients to intermittent and/or enteral therapies as appropriate. An update on all current shortages is attached.

## **Infection prevention contact email**

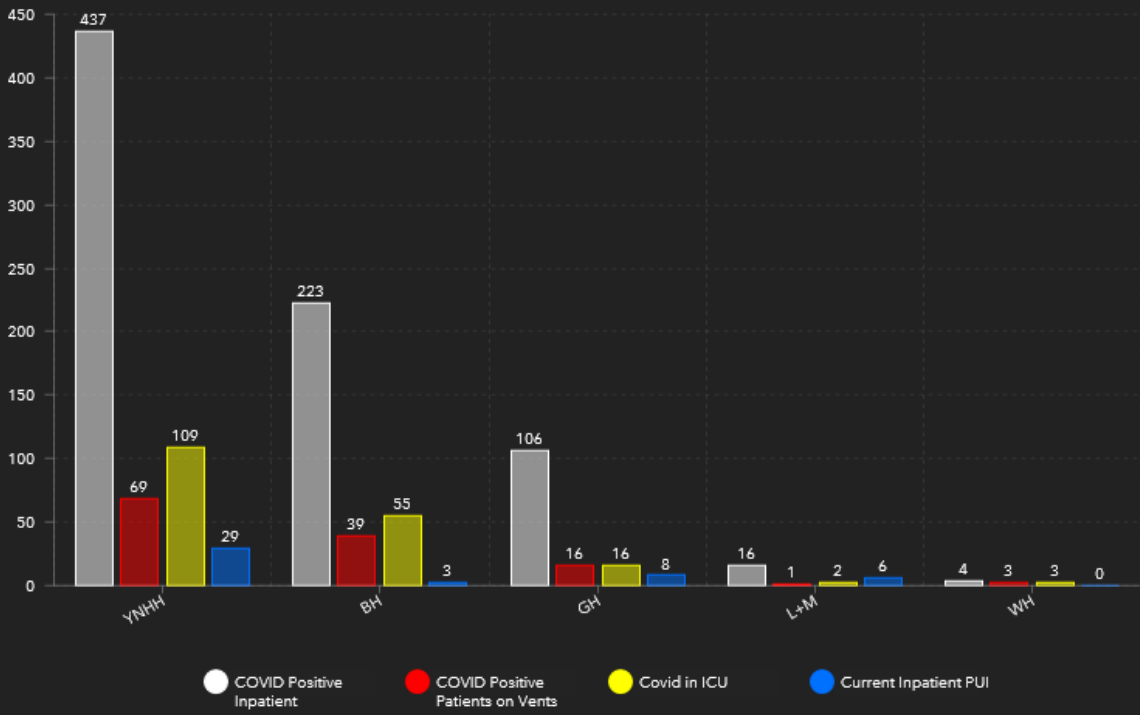
Please utilize the below email address for your inquiries about COVID-19 - they will be triaged with a goal of replying within 48 hours, please indicate in the subject if urgent. Please do not use this email for patient consults that are urgent in nature.

[COVID\\_InfectionPrevention@ynhh.org](mailto:COVID_InfectionPrevention@ynhh.org)

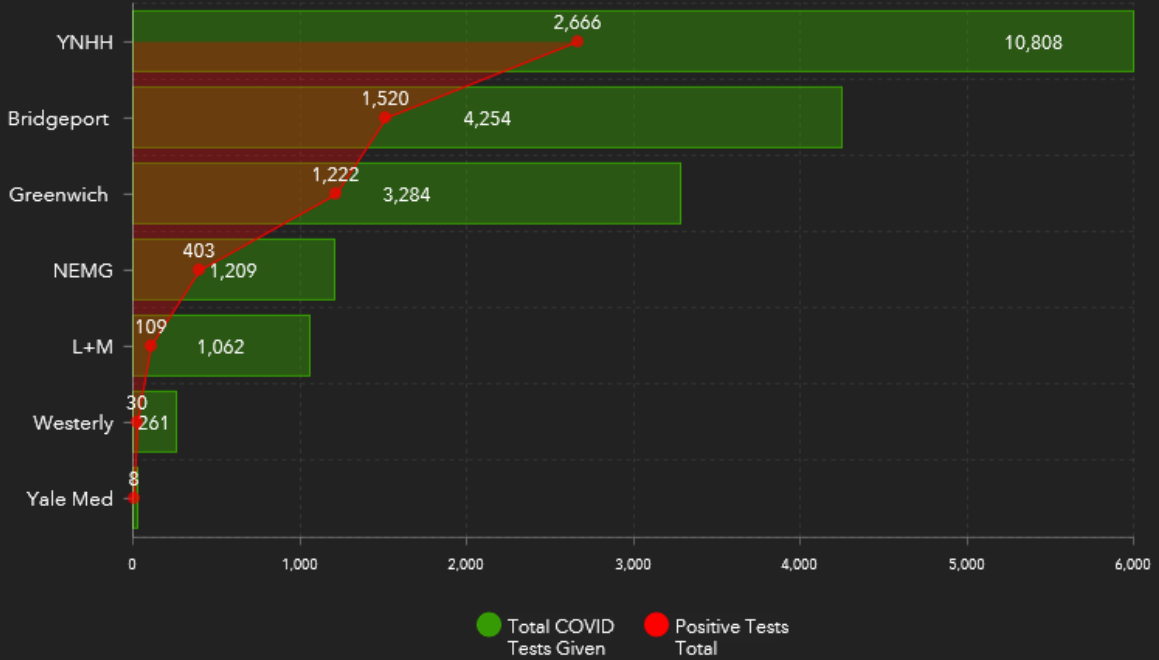
## **COVID-19 Related Operational Snapshot**

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.

Inpatient COVID, COVID on Vent, ICU, and PUI's  
(As of 7:00 am 04/17/20)



YNHHS COVID TESTING



Yesterday

50

Since March 14

843

COVID-19 patients have been **discharged** back to their lives after being treated by our **healthcare heroes**.

#inthistogether

