

System Incident Management Update

April 23, 2020

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

New Updates

COVID-19 serology testing and PCR testing principles.

Recovering from the acute part of dealing with the pandemic will require expanded testing to identify individuals actively infected by the SARS-CoV2 virus and those who have recovered from the infection. Serology testing is critical to identify the second group. Unfortunately, reports on the initial serology tests for antibodies indicate that those tests are not as accurate as needed at this time. The Testing Stewardship group, led by Drs. Marie Landry, Scott Sussman, and Peter Schulam, have created information regarding serology testing and have updated guidelines for the use of PCR testing to identify active infections.

YNHHS Pharmacist COVID 19 Monitoring and Standing Orders

YNHHS Pharmacy, in collaboration with inpatient and critical care teams, have developed a process to ensure that appropriate drug monitoring is performed for COVID-19 inpatients receiving high-risk medications. Pharmacists will place orders for specific drug monitoring labs or other variables (if not already performed) and will collaborate with primary teams if any abnormal or actionable values result. Please see the attached document for details.

Changes to Insulin Protocol for COVID Positive Patients

An alternate Insulin Infusion Protocol (IIP) is now available for use in COVID+ and PUI patients. Key differences to the COVID IIP from the current (non-COVID) IIP allows a slightly higher blood glucose range and less frequent blood glucose determinations. The updated protocol is attached.

Occupational Medicine FAQ for Employees regarding COVID-19

Occupational Medicine and Wellness Services have created a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for employees, covering topics such as symptoms, how to manage COVID-19 exposures, actions following a positive or negative test and documentation needed to return to work. The FAQ document is attached.

Pre-visit screening workflow for COVID-19

Pre-visit screening for COVID-19 assists in identifying and separating positive COVID patients from others in order to protect staff and patients. Additional screening questions have been added to the pre visit screening assessment. The tips and tricks are attached.

New TV Spot

The Health System will launch its next series of television spots this week and will feature caregivers from across the System. People with and without medical training are doing everything in their power to combat COVID-19. Individually, the stories are inspiring, but collectively, these stories reinforce the notion that only together we will prevail over the challenges that this virus poses. We call this combined effort “The Power of We.” The first spot of several will feature Rosalie – a Respiratory Therapist from Yale New Haven Hospital. The video can be accessed at <https://vimeo.com/409934797/0902140764>

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

YNHHS/YM PPE Policy

- The ambulatory and inpatient policy and related FAQ are available on the Clinical Resources site at: <https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19/for-employees.aspx>

PPE reuse and collection

- 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 the three distinct 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 reuse policy and other information can be found on the Clinical Resources page at: <https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19/for-employees.aspx>

Clinical Care/Operations

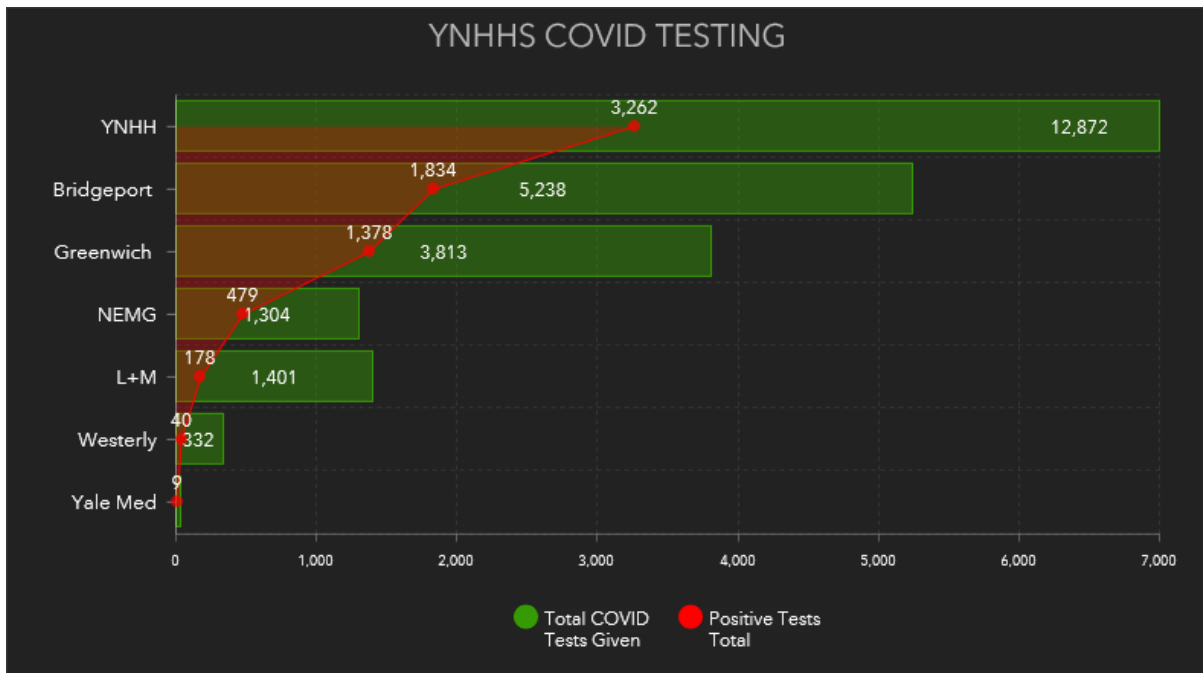
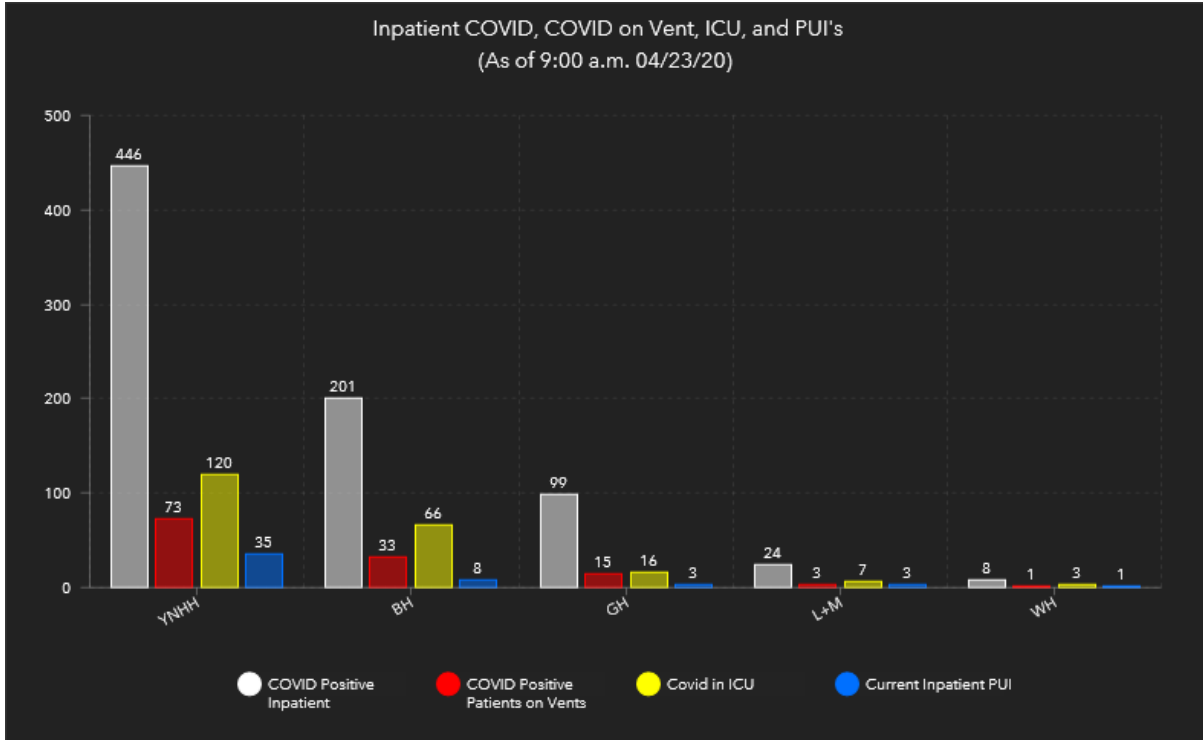
Infection prevention contact email

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

Operational Data

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.



4/23/2020 9:00am

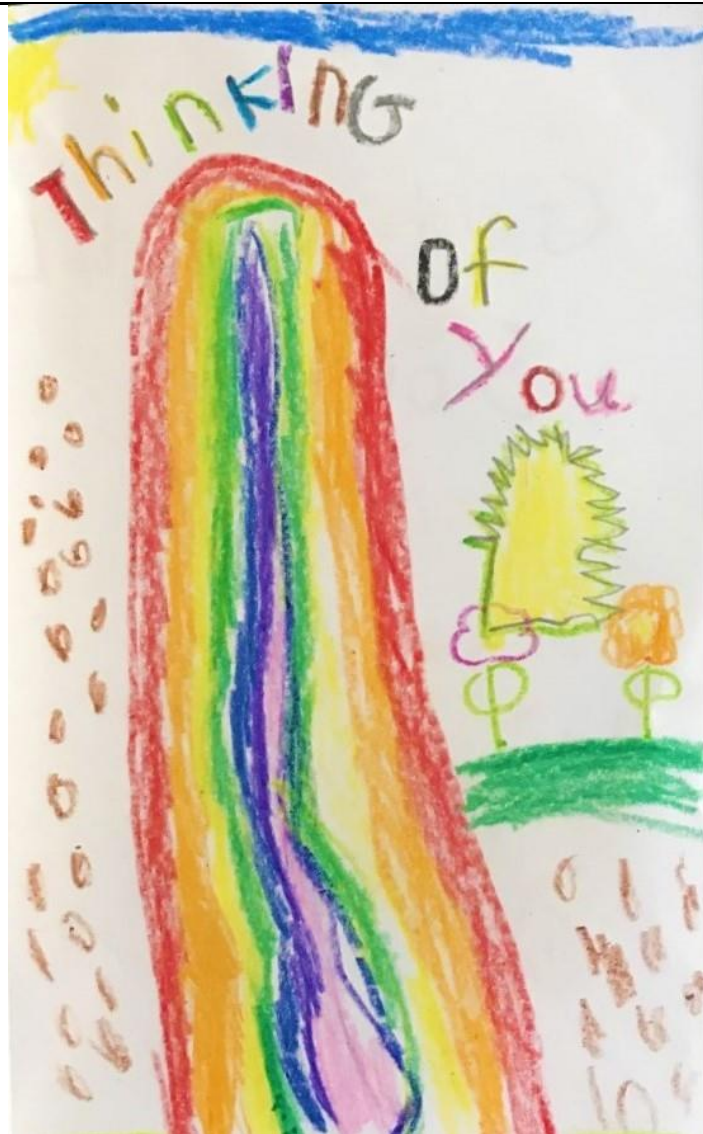
Yesterday

76

Since March 14

1,194

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



Resources:

Attachments to this message can also be found [here](#).

Previous updates are archived and can be accessed [here](#).