April 28, 2020

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

New Updates

PPE order of use
We continue to have sufficient quantities of all aspects of PPE, thanks to the ongoing work of Supply Chain. We are now obtaining PPE from a number of different suppliers, which can lead to unfamiliar versions of masks, respirators and/or gowns being distributed to our clinical units. Supply Chain has worked closely with Infection Prevention & Occupational Medicine to ensure that we are using the most effective equipment available. An updated “Order of Use” document is attached to provide detail about which components are being distributed to the clinical units and guidance about appropriate substitution of various types of PPE.

Adult respiratory care practice guidelines
The Respiratory Care Action team, Infection Prevention, and Pharmacy have developed the Inpatient Adult Respiratory Care Practice Guidelines that are attached today. These have been developed to give health care providers guidance for safe practices when administering respiratory treatments and devices. There are two guidelines: one for COVID-19 Positive or Patients under investigation (PUI) and one for COVID-19 Negative/Not Suspected patients. The guidelines also contain a chart of Aerosol Generating Procedures with recommended room and PPE usage.

Update on drug shortages
The Health System’s Corporate Pharmacy Services keeps a close watch on drugs in short supply and provide regular updates. Lorazepam infusion is on critical shortage and pharmacy is unable to obtain additional supply. Alternative treatment guidelines are in development. Lorazepam for intermittent IV administration is readily available. An update on all current shortages is attached.

YNHHS COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall: April 28 at 8:15 pm
Please join us tonight, April 28 at 8:15 – 8:45 pm, online or via phone for a YNHHS COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall. Please send your questions in advance via email to
YNHHpublicrelations@ynhh.org. Write YNHHS Town Hall in the email subject field. You can also post questions through live Zoom.

Panelists:
- Marna Borgstrom, Chief Executive Officer, Yale New Haven Health
- Thomas Balcezak, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, Yale New Haven Health
- Kevin Myatt, Senior Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer, Yale New Haven Health

Join the Town Hall online via Zoom: https://ynhh.zoom.us/j/91126119068?pwd=UEEyUXRwbEIXSnJyS0VlWWpUcmozdz09

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### 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 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

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### 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**

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### 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.
COVID-19 patients have been discharged back to their lives after being treated by our healthcare heroes.
Previous updates are archived and can be accessed here.