

## System Incident Management Update

May 11, 2020

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

New Updates In RED

### Letter from the Chief Clinical Officer

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you all had a restful weekend, and were able to celebrate Mother's Day as a break from our daily challenges. We continue to move forward in managing the ongoing care of patients with COVID-19, and have made progress in developing a system-wide structure to create support for common issues while allowing the various delivery networks, service lines and partner organizations the flexibility to calibrate their plans to meet local needs. We hope to align guidelines and workflows for screening testing, PPE availability, and physical safety measures and communicate these throughout the System in the coming days and weeks.

Many thanks are in order to the ICU action team, composed of multidisciplinary leaders from across the Health System and Yale School of Medicine for their work to develop a clinically-appropriate and equitable process to allocate the limited supply of Remdesivir we received through the national allocation of this drug, which reduces the length of stay for patients with severe COVID-19.

My thanks for your ongoing dedication and professionalism as we start moving into a new phase of this pandemic.

Warmly,



Thomas Balcezak, MD  
Chief Clinical Officer  
Yale New Haven Health

## New Updates for May 11

### **Remdesivir update**

Remdesivir received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last week, and the federal government is guiding the national allocation of the drug across the country. Yale New Haven Health received a very small number of doses to distribute under the EUA. A diverse group of leaders from across the System in Infectious Diseases, Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine, Pharmacy, and the Office of the Chief Clinical Officer developed an allocation algorithm heavily based on the clinical trial that demonstrated Remdesivir's efficacy. The algorithm results in an equitable distribution based upon clinical needs across all Health System hospitals within the state of Connecticut. The supply of this drug will run out shortly and we do not know when we will receive additional supplies. Specific subsets of patients - those who meet enrollment criteria for the remaining active arm of the clinical trial, and pediatrics and obstetrics cases through the compassionate use pathway - may be able to receive Remdesivir outside of the EUA supply. An SBAR with additional details is attached.

### **Discharge Instructions**

Updated discharge instructions for COVID-19 patients are now available (attached here and in Epic, also available in Spanish). Instructions include the most up-to-date directions for symptom monitoring, home isolation, and techniques to avoid spread of disease after discharge.

### **Updated ICU COVID-19 practice guidelines**

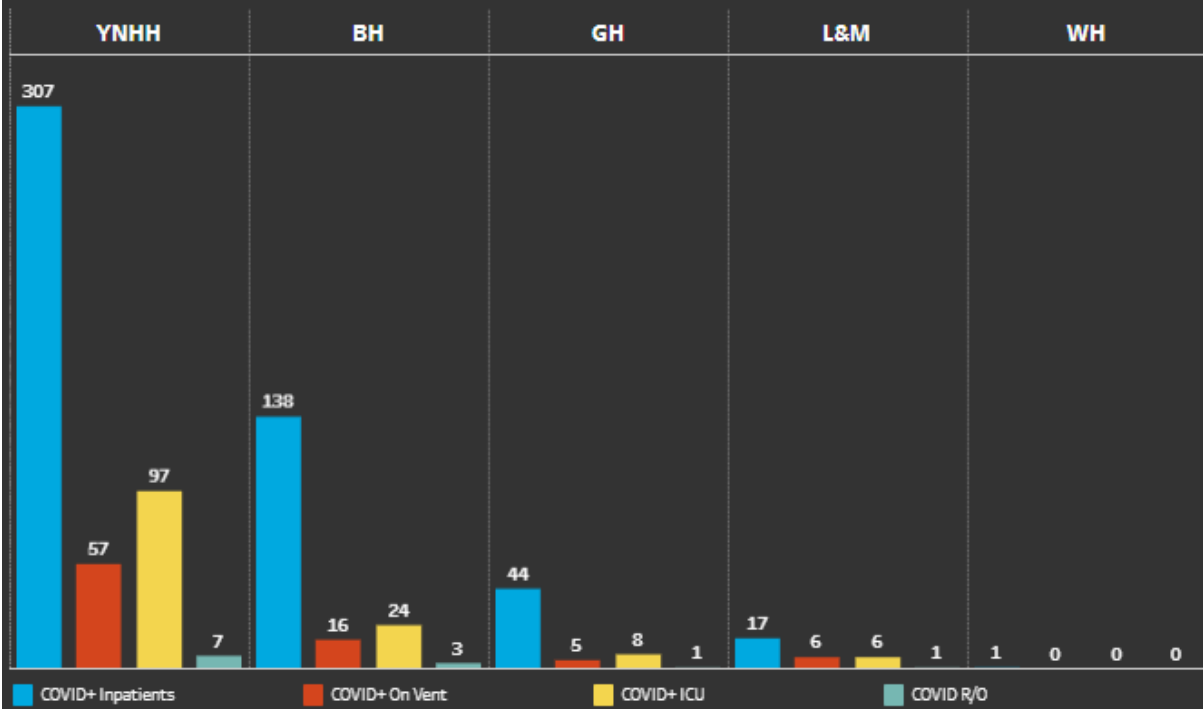
Please see the attached document for updates to the COVID-19 ICU practice guidelines. These updates include updated guidance to tracheostomy care and updates to the evaluation of patients and related precautions admitted via Y-Access.

### **Disinfection products**

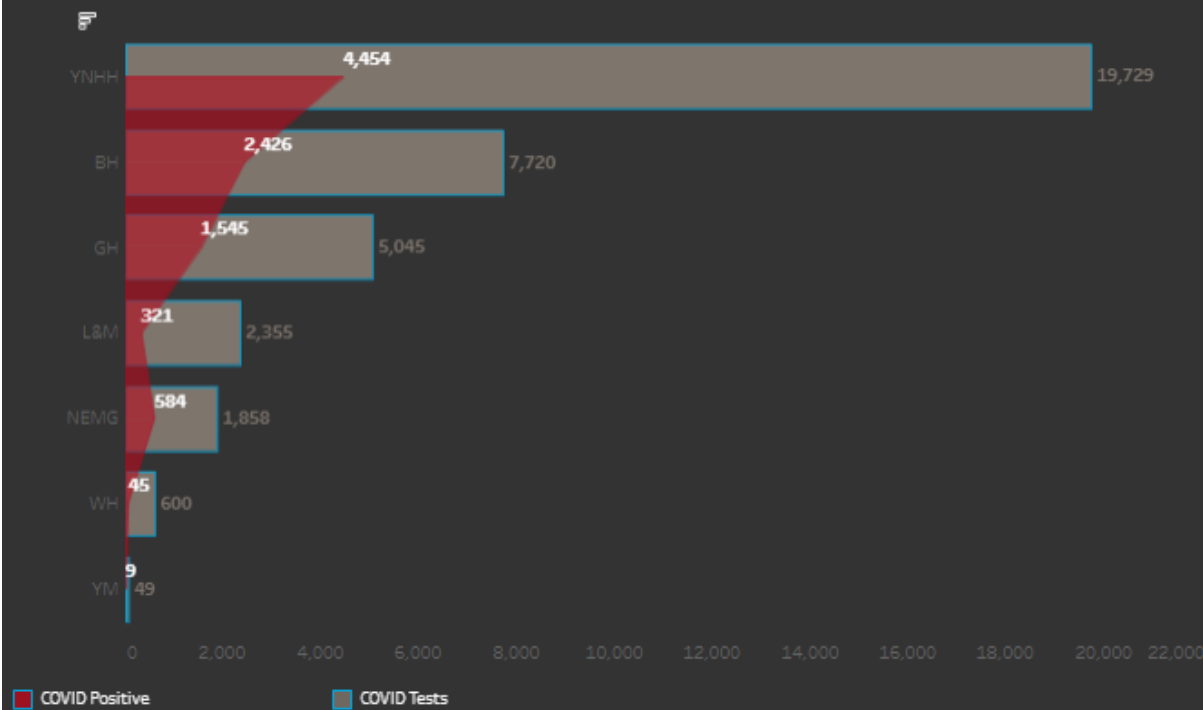
Due to increased demand for disinfection wipes during the COVID pandemic, substitute products have been identified by EVS, Infection Prevention and Supply Chain for use in the event that the current products are unavailable (see substitution chart). Existing disinfection wipes should be used per protocol: purple top (Oxivir/GH) for patient care area disinfection except C. diff and orange top (bleach) for C. diff only. Clinical staff is encouraged to minimize waste of disinfection wipes.

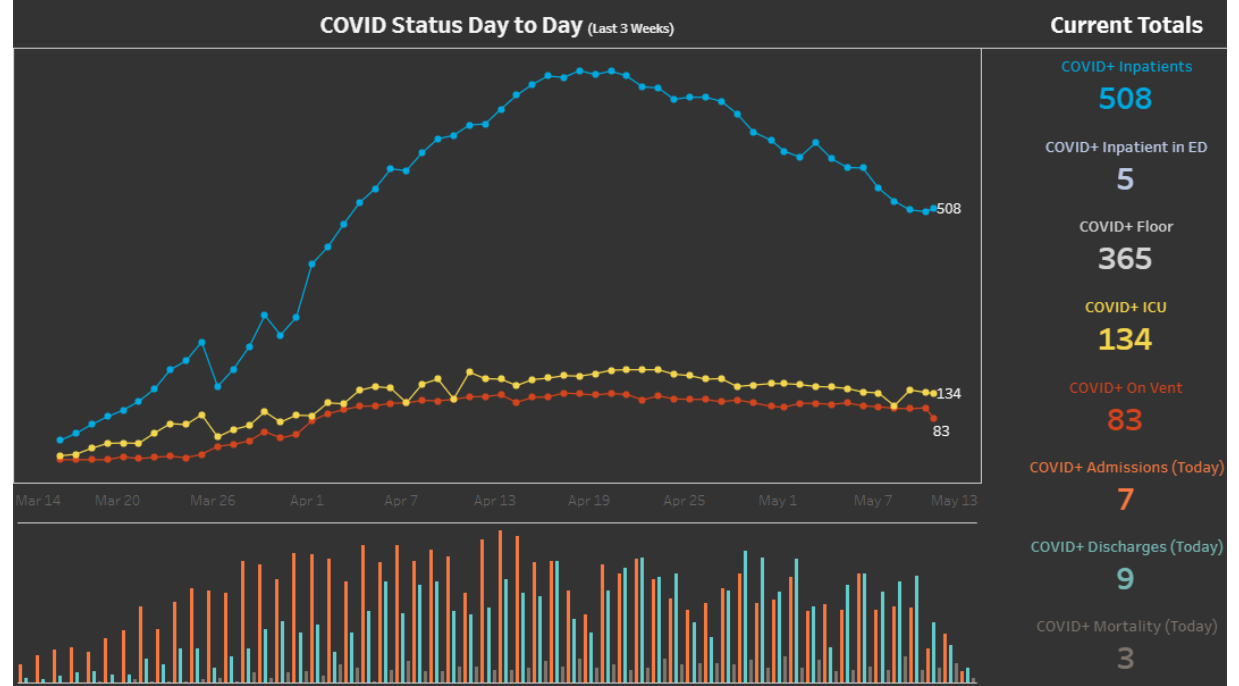
**Operational Snapshot (Source: JDAT)**

### Operational Data



### YNHHS COVID TESTING





	YNHH	BH	GH	LMH	LMW
Inpatient PUI	7 (12)	3 (2)	1 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)
COVID Positive	307 (333)	138 (139)	44 (57)	17 (24)	1 (1)
COVID in ICU	97 (97)	24 (24)	8 (9)	6 (8)	0 (0)

5/11/2020 9:00am

### Comments

The volume of patients with COVID-19 has remained reasonably stable. We experienced fewer discharged patients with COVID-19 over the weekend, resulting in a slightly increased number of overall hospitalized patients with COVID-19. PPE and testing remain in adequate supply. Reconfiguring for the recovery, with the organization of all relevant operational elements needed for safe operations, is in progress.

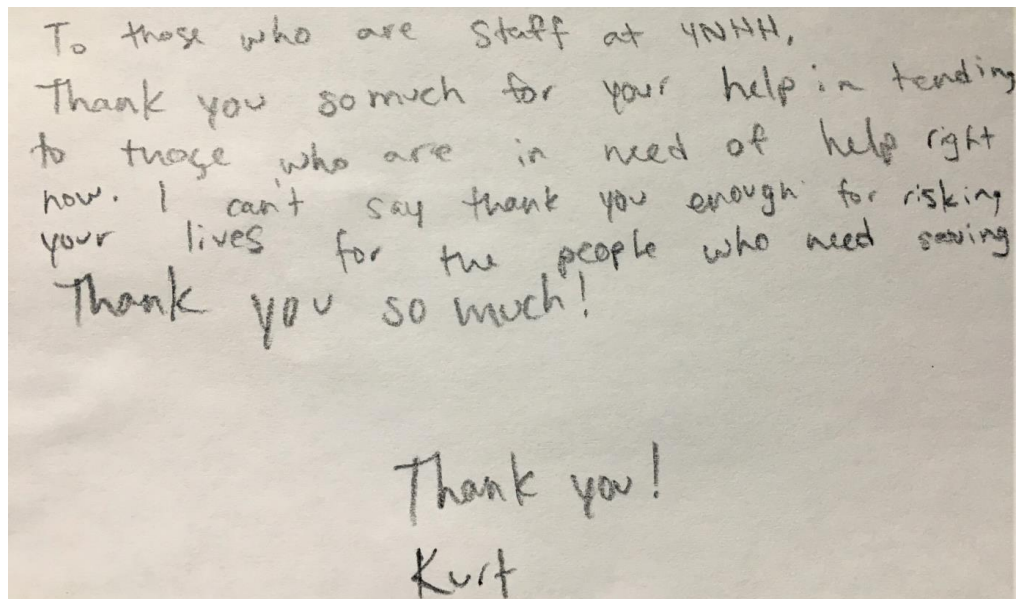
Yesterday

# 35

Since March 14

# 2,249

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



## 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>

## 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](mailto:COVID.InfectionPrevention@ynhh.org)

Resources:

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

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