

### **Covid-19 Update**

Maryland Department of Health Maryland Primary Care Program Program Management Office

18 November 2020

## A Good Plan violently executed today is better than a perfect plan executed tomorrow

General George Patton

This is our enemy - heartless, soulless and only intending to hurt us

These are the weapons you have to combat this enemy





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It is <u>now</u> up to you to use them to the best of your ability

### 1918 Flu Pandemic

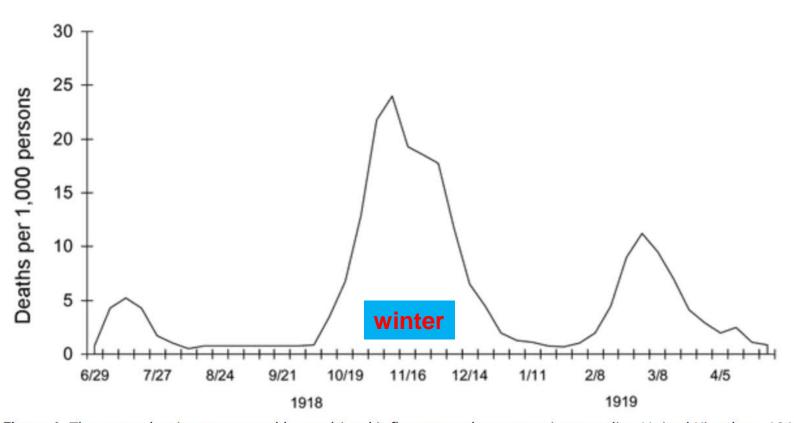


Figure 1. Three pandemic waves: weekly combined influenza and pneumonia mortality, United Kingdom, 1918–1919 (21).



## **Agenda**

- Maryland Morbidity and Mortality Data
- National Status and Projections
- Guest Speaker Letitia Dzirasa, MD, Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City
- Additional Information
  - Continue Testing office based patient administered testing
  - Prepare to Vaccinate
  - ➤ Medical Countermeasures- monoclonal antibodies
  - Prepare Safe workflows and stock sufficient PPE
- Extended Q & A
- Resources Appendix



### **Morbidity and Mortality Update**

		United States	Maryland Maryland
	New Daily Cases (7-day rolling average)	155,442	1,745
	<b>Cumulative Cases</b>	11.2 million+	169,805
	New Daily Deaths (7-day rolling average)	1,155	13
	<b>Cumulative Deaths</b>	246,879	4,186

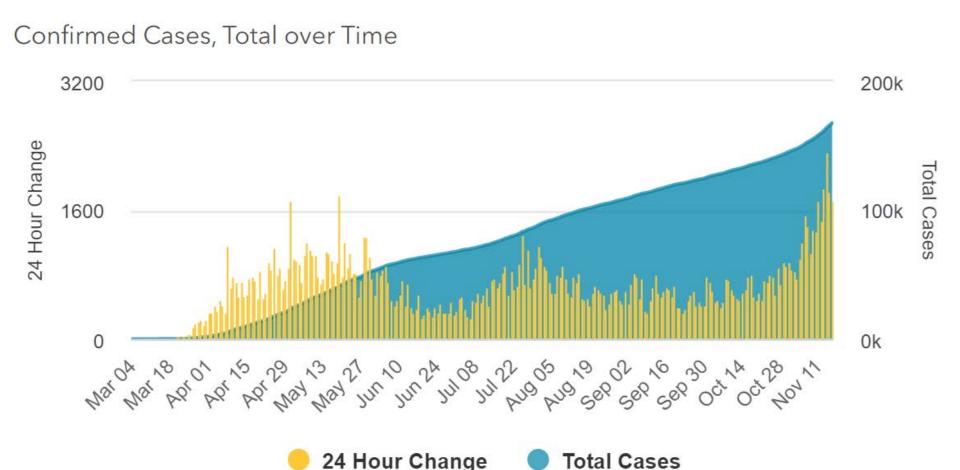
The Maryland 7-day rolling case average increased from 1,192 to 1,745 between November 9 and November 16, a 46.3% increase in a week's time



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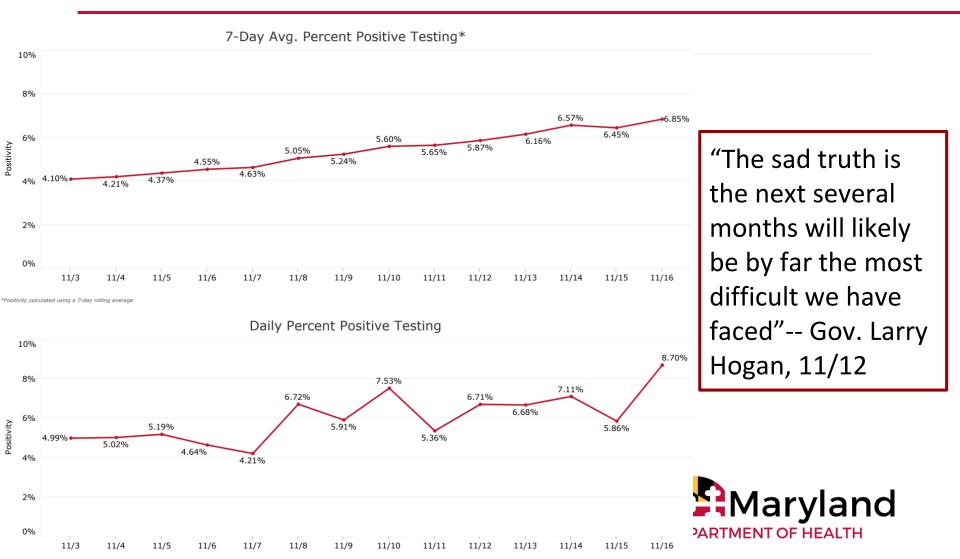


## Highest Daily New Case Increase in Maryland 11/14 (2,321 new cases)



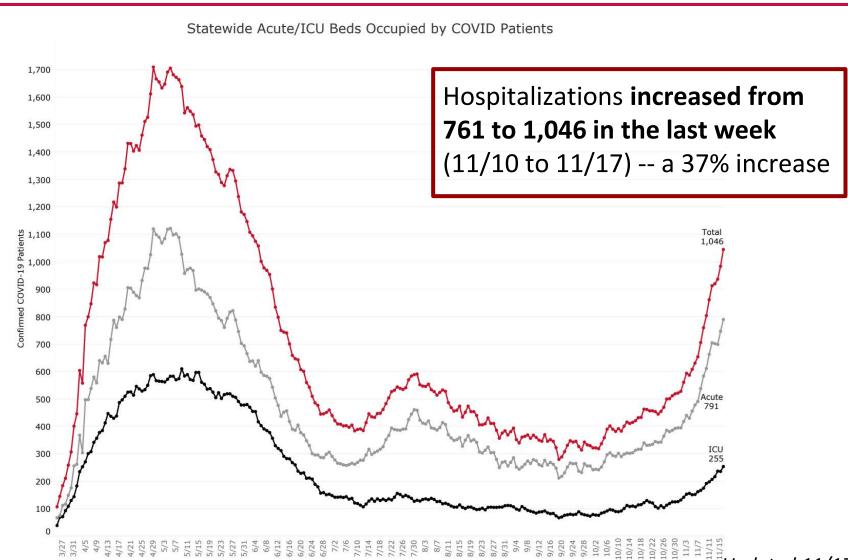
Source: MDH

### **Percent Positive Test Rate is Steadily Increasing**



Source: MDH Updated 11/17

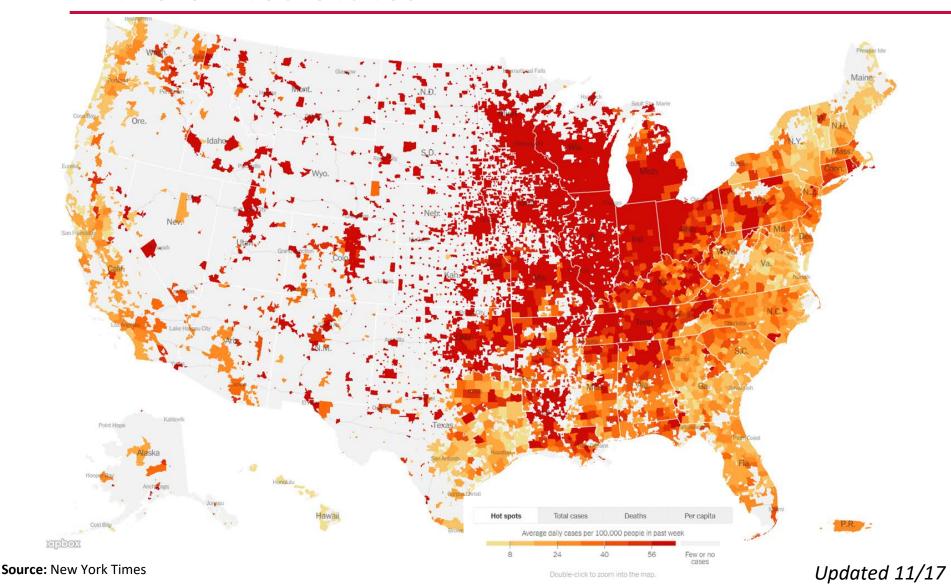
### Hospital and ICU Beds in Use



Source: MDH

Updated 11/17

## Significant Increases in # of New Covid-19 Cases in the United States



## **Primary Care: Call to Action**

Now is the time to act. The fight against this virus belongs to all healthcare professionals.

- Care for your most vulnerable patients
- Ensure your patients are being safe (masks, social distancing) and they know they can call
- **Test** as much as possible
- Immunize when called to do so
- Priority referrals to therapeutics like monoclonal antibodies

## **Covid Testing Adoption Teams**

- Three teams supporting office-based Covid testing in November and December with technical assistance and best practices. Support includes guidance on:
  - Workflows
  - New safe PPE requirements
  - Patient self administered testing
  - Shallow nasal testing
  - Saliva testing
  - > Testing patients at home

- Identifying highly vulnerable patients
- Coding and reimbursement support
- Testing supplies
- > Testing reports
- Point of Care testing options

**❖** The Testing Adoption Team will be in the field in the next couple of weeks. Reach out to your MDPCP Practice Coach if you are interested in working with Testing Adoption Teams.



### 11/17 Governor's Order & MDH order 2020-11-17-01

- Hospital visitation prohibited (with exceptions)
- Guidance to hospitals to avoid elective procedures
- Hospital surge plans and patient transfer
  - Hospitals nearing capacity may transfer patients to hospitals with capacity
  - ➤ Both Covid-19 positive and Covid-19 negative patients
  - ➤ Daily transfer reporting to Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS)
- Bars and restaurants required to close by 10pm
- Statewide mask order remains in effect, required in indoor public areas

## FDA EUA for First At-Home Rapid Test Kit

- Lucira COVID-19 All-In-One Test Kit
- Single-use
- Also authorized for use in point-of-care settings
- ❖ For individuals age 14 and older who are suspected of COVID-19 by their health care provider
- Expected to reach national market spring 2021





### Letitia Dzirasa, MD

Commissioner of Health, Baltimore City



### Introducing - Covid-19 Surge: Flash Briefing and Q&A

As cases and hospitalizations rise, the MDPCP wants to find other ways to engage and support your practice during Covid-19. Flash briefings will focus on brief crucial updates and Q&A.

### Covid-19 Surge: Flash Briefing and Q&A

- Every Monday, 5:30pm-6pm (during surge)
- ❖ Top 5-10 need-to-know updates
- Focus on Q&A

Wednesday webinars will continue with weekly updates

### Five things you can do as Health Care Providers

- 1. **Identify all your high risk patients** —use the Covid Vulnerability Index (CVI) in CRISP, your EHR, and your intuition and do outreach and communication
- Advise patients to continue to use social distancing and wear masks
- 2. Provide vulnerable patients with expanded care through telemedicine and special accommodations if they need face-to-face care
- 3. Offer testing for all patients, every visit
- 4. **Stay current, stay safe**—stay current by keeping up-to-date with CDC guidelines and case rates in your area. For up-to-date information, visit CDC, MDH, and MDPCP sites. Stay safe by taking all necessary infection control precautions when seeing patients
- 5. **Prepare for a vaccine** address vaccine hesitancy with patients, enroll in ImmuNet and set up reporting now, and work with your patients to get a flu shot

### **Announcements**

- Learn from our <u>Frequently Asked Questions page</u>
- Covid-19 Surge: Flash Briefing and Q&A
  - Monday, 11/23/20 (5:30-6 PM)
  - Monday, 11/30/20 (5:30-6 PM)
- Future Webinars
  - ➤ Today Letitia Dzirasa, MD, Commissioner, Baltimore City Department of Health
  - ➤ No webinar 11/25/20 Thanksgiving
  - ➤ 12/2/20 Mark Riddle, MD



## Thank you!





## **Covid Testing**



### **Tools in War Against Covid-19**

Even after vaccination, we will likely still need our other tools for some time before herd immunity is reached

- Mitigation
  - Masks, social distancing, hygiene
- Testing, contact tracing, and isolation
- Hospital treatment modalities
  - > ICU support
  - Medications

- Therapeutics
  - Prevention, symptom reduction, "cure"
- Immunizations
- Others



## **Testing Marylanders in Primary Care**

- ❖ Testing in offices serves patients and normalizes the process
- ❖ Testing or referring patients for testing is key to keep the State safe
- Specimen collection continues to evolve from nasopharyngeal sampling to the current simplified nasal sampling
- Testing will continue to evolve with Point of Care tests and saliva tests
- ❖MDPCP Guidance on testing in primary care (from July 2020)
  Marylane

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# Current and Evolving Landscape for Covid Testing in Maryland

- ❖ Average ~26,000 tests per day more is better
- State supported sites (VEIPs) closed
- ❖ A few state sites in tents opening for the winter months
- Convention Center testing moving indoors
- Current approximate contributions:

Hospitals	23%
SNF/ALF	15%
Urgent care	14%
Ambulatory practices	12%
Other	14%
Other State sites	14%
	,,



### **Covid Vaccination**



## **Maryland Covid-19 Vaccination Plan**

- Maryland has developed a Covid-19 vaccination plan to vaccinate all Marylanders interested in receiving vaccine
- Plan was released on Tuesday, October 20, 2020
- This is a working plan and subject to change as new information is received and the Covid-19 pandemic continues to evolve
- Copy of the plan can be found here:

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/10.19.2020 Maryland Covid-19 Vaccination Plan CDCwm.pdf



## **Phased Approach**

Dhasa 2

Dhasa 1

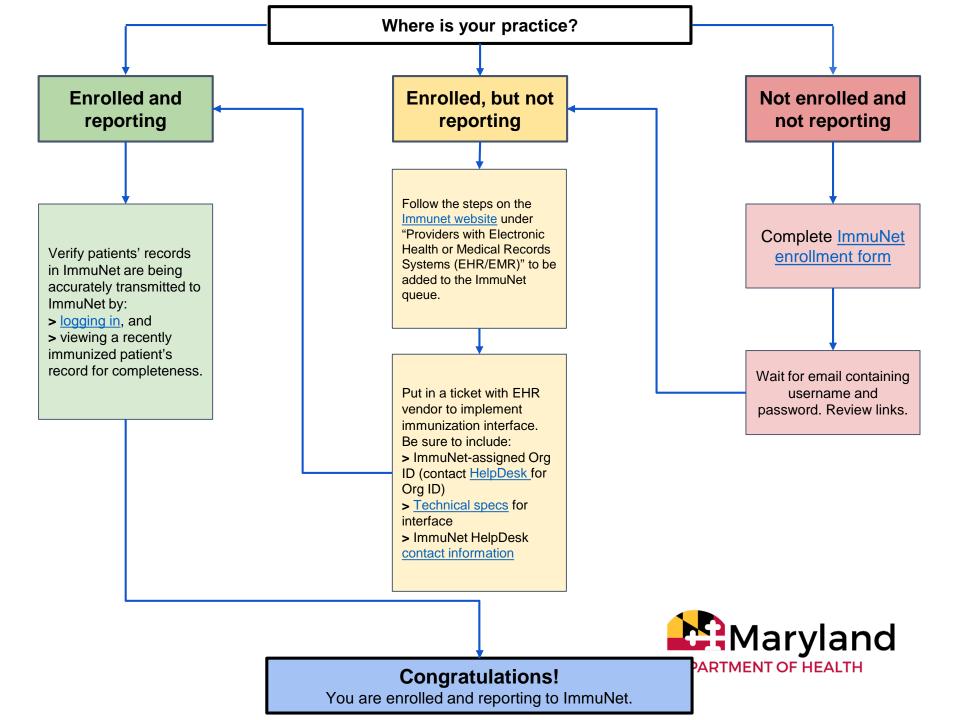
	Phase 1	Phase 2	
Vaccine availability	Limited	Widespread	
Approach	Targeted	Universal	
Vaccine available to:	<ul> <li>Frontline healthcare workers</li> <li>Other essential workers</li> <li>Those at highest risk of developing complications from Covid-19 (ACIP high risk conditions)</li> </ul>	General public	
Vaccine distribution by:	<ul> <li>Local health departments</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Vaccination clinics (through LHDs)</li> <li>Essential employer work sites</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Local health departments</li> <li>Hospitals</li> <li>Pharmacies</li> <li>Primary care practices</li> <li>Urgent care centers</li> <li>School vaccination clinics</li> </ul>	

### **Provider Recruitment and Enrollment**

Maryland healthcare providers interested in receiving Covid-19 vaccine will have to take two steps:

- 1. Onboard with ImmuNet to report vaccination data
  - EHR connected to ImmuNet to report all vaccine doses administered
  - MDPCP practice coaches are communicating with practices regarding their current onboarding status and next steps to register and enroll
- **2. Register with ImmuNet as a vaccine provider** in order to receive and administer vaccine.

Information to come November 2020



## **Primary Care Involvement**

- Continue to encourage and vaccinate your patients with the flu shot
- Ensure that you are onboarded (connected) with ImmuNet to report vaccinations administered
- Once available, register to become a Covid vaccine provider
- Use the CVI tool to begin to identify your patients that are at a higher risk for Covid



## Vaccines showing promise based on early data



- Preliminary analysis shows 90% effectiveness
- Two doses, 21 days apart
- ❖ -70° C storage
- Based on analysis of 94 infections in a 44,000-person study



- Preliminary analysis shows 94% effectiveness
- Two doses, 28 days apart
- ❖ -20° C storage
- Based on analysis of 95 infections in a 30,000-person study
- Will ask FDA for EUA when they have enough safety data
- Long-term safety and efficacy data not yet collected

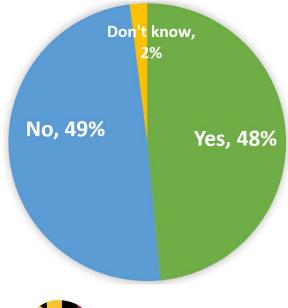
## Vaccine Hesitancy

### (You play a critical role in shaping these attitudes)

- Pre-existing group of anti-vaccine people
- Current political push for a vaccine before the election
- Warp Speed connotation of cutting corners
- Inconsistent messaging
- Novel types of vaccines
- Requires consistent accurate and timely messaging from trusted sources (Healthcare Providers)

### Goucher College Poll If an FDA-approved vaccine to prevent coronavirus was available

right now at no cost, would you agree to be vaccinated?





## **Covid-19 Antibody Treatment Update**

- The FDA has granted emergency use authorization for bamlanivimab for the treatment of mild and moderate Covid-19 patients who are at high risk for progressing to severe Covid-19 and/or hospitalization
  - CMS has announced Medicare beneficiaries will receive coverage for bamlanivimab with no costsharing during the public health emergency (effective 11/10/2020)





## **Covid-19 Antibody Treatment Update**

#### \*

#### Patient Criteria

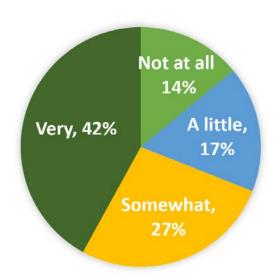
- ➤ Have BMI >= 36
- Have chronic kidney disease
- Have diabetes
- Are currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- Are >= 65 years old
- Are >=55 years old and have
  - ✓ Cardiovascular disease, or
  - ✓ Hypertension, or
  - ✓ Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/other chronic respiratory disease
- ➤ Are 12 17 years old AND have
  - ✓ BMI >=85<sup>th</sup> percentile for their age and gender based on CDC growth charts, or
  - ✓ Sickle cell disease, or
  - ✓ Congenital or acquired heart disease, or
  - √ Neurodevelopmental disorders, or
  - ✓ A medical-related technological dependence, or
  - ✓ Asthma



# Marylanders Views on Covid (You play a critical role in shaping these attitudes)

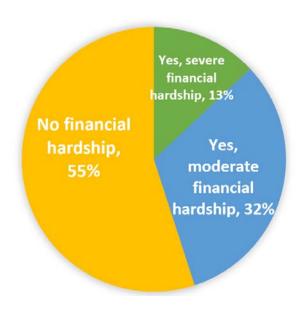
### October 2020 Goucher College Poll of 1,002 Marylanders

How concerned are you—[very, somewhat, a little, or not at all]— about yourself personally or a close family member getting the coronavirus?



Has the coronavirus outbreak **caused any financial hardship** for you or your household?

If "yes," follow-up with: Is that a severe hardship that affects your ability to maintain your current standard of living, or is it a moderate hardship that affects you somewhat but does not jeopardize your current standard of living?



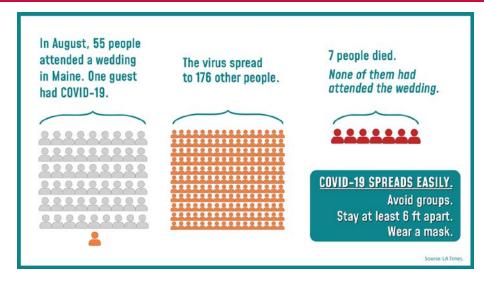
# Prepare Safe Workflows and Stock Sufficient PPE

- Ensure your practice has 30 days of PPE immediately available
- Consult usual suppliers and order PPE well in advance of anticipated need
  - > There may be PPE shortages in the future
- Continue using PPE according to CDC guidelines
- Ensure safe workflows for all patients, particularly vulnerable patients



## Covid-19 Guidance for the Holidays

- Celebrate with the people in your own immediate household
- 2) Don't attend events or social gatherings if you're feeling ill or if you have had close contact with someone with Covid-19 in the last 14 days
- 3) Understand the Covid-19 precautions for the event or social gathering you are attending
- 4) Wear a face covering



Large (and small) social gatherings spread Covid-19



## **Covid-19 Guidance for the Holidays**

- 5) Limit the number of people you come into contact with by avoiding large gatherings or multiple events with different groups of people
- 6) Check for local travel advisories and guidelines related to testing and quarantining
- 7) If hosting, clean frequently touched surfaces
- 8) Wash your hands
- 9) Eat/celebrate outside if possible
  - More information is available <u>here</u>



## **Governor Hogan's 11/12 Covid Announcement**

- Announced \$70 million of investments to combat Covid
  - > \$20 million for funding for PPE to build state's strategic stockpile
  - > \$15 million for unemployment insurance measures
  - > \$10 million for renter relief
  - > \$10 million to accelerate mass vaccination planning
  - > \$10 million for additional support for area food banks
  - > \$2 million for supplemental resources for foster care
  - > \$2 million for SNAP and energy assistance administration
  - > \$1 million for a wastewater testing initiative

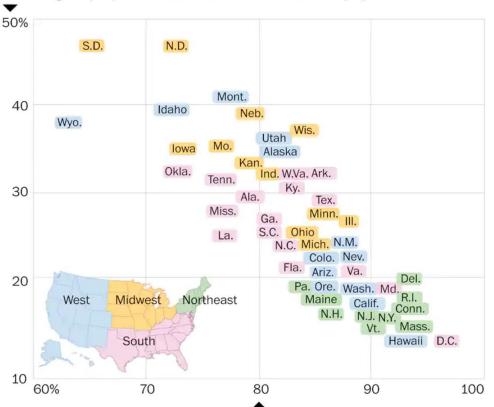


## **Masks and Distancing Remain Critical**

#### Masking up

Fewer covid-19 symptoms reported in states with higher rates of mask use.

#### Percentage of people who know someone with covid-19 symptoms



Percentage of people wearing masks in public all or most of the time

Data as of Oct. 19

Source: Delphi CovidCast, Carnegie Mellon University

### **❖** IHME model:

- Universal mask use saves 129,574 lives before Feb 2021
- > 85% mask use *saves*95,814 lives before
  Feb 2021



## **MD COVID Alert App**

- New opt-in cell phone app that notifies users if they have been exposed to somebody who is Covid-19 positive
- Mimics CDC close contact definition (6-feet or less for >15 minutes) with bluetooth
- Individuals who receive exposure notifications:
  - Receive advice to get tested
  - Receive information about possible exposure date
  - COVID-19 positive users may receive a call from a contact tracer
- More information is available <u>here</u>





## **CME Accreditation and Designation**

- This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, and The Maryland Department of Health. MedChi is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.
- ❖ MedChi designates this live webinar educational activity for a maximum of 1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. Contact Frank Berry at <a href="mailto:fberry@medchi.org">fberry@medchi.org</a>



### **CME Disclosures and Evaluation**

- Presenters and Planners: Howard Haft, MD, has reported no relevant financial relationships to disclose.
- MedChi CME Reviewers: The reviewers from the MedChi Committee On Scientific Activities (COSA) for this activity have reported no relevant financial relationships to disclose.
- Please complete an evaluation at: <u>Covid-19</u>
  <u>Update Evaluation</u>



## **Appendix**

## **Resources and Links**



## Covid-19 Vaccines/Immunization Information

Maryland Covid-19 Vaccination Plan

### ImmuNet Information

- ImmuNet enrollment form
- ImmuNet helpdesk contact information
- Guidance for practices how about reporting to ImmuNet
- Technical specifications for the EHR interface with ImmuNet
- ImmuNet log-in information portal
- Summary of vaccines under development



## **Covid-19 Testing Information**

- Maryland Department of Health testing announcements and accessibility information and resources
- CDC Covid-19 testing overview
- MDPCP Roadmap to Recovery Covid-19 testing guidelines
- Maryland Department of Health guidance regarding point of Care rapid antigen Covid testing
- \*myLAB Box Covid-19 testing program for Maryland clinicians
- FDA letter to clinical laboratory staff and health care providers about the potential for false positive results with rapid antigen tests for Covid-19



## **Scheduling In-Office Appointments**

### Patient calls in for an appointment

- > Reception screens patient on the phone using the <u>pre-visit screening template</u>
- > Schedule in-office visits for different groups: At-risk and vulnerable patients on certain days, healthier patients on other days
- Schedule telehealth and non-office-based care for other patients including follow-ups and patients uncomfortable with office visits

### Check In

- Practice remote check in and limited front-desk contact
- Consider using a triage zone outside of office or main area;
- > Or use a barrier at the front desk
- Design your office to accommodate patients who come in specifically for Covid testing and triage, separate from patients who arrive for non-Covid related and elective procedures
  - ✓ Ensure patients and staff do not cross between Covid and non-Covid areas
  - ✓ Set aside a specific area for patients who come in for testing to wait and be triaged

## **Scheduling In-Office Appointments**

- Checking out
  - Practice remote check out, limit front desk exposure;
  - > Or use a barrier at the front desk
- If patient is paying co-pays, etc., set up credit card reader outside of the barrier
- Other workflow resources
  - Care management workflows
  - BMJ telemedicine workflow graphics
  - CDC flowchart to identify and assess 2019 novel Coronavirus
  - CDC telephone evaluation flow chart for flu
  - CDC guidance for potential Covid-19 exposure associated with international or domestic travel



## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Sources and Requests

- Practices should initially request PPE through their usual vendors
- Practices should make their PPE requests through their local health departments
- ❖ Maryland PPE Manufacturers List next slide
- **❖ National and international PPE supplier list**
- **PPE request forms and local contacts**



## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Sources and Requests

- Increasing Maryland's supply of PPE one of the 4 building blocks on the Road to Recovery
- Maryland has launched the <u>Maryland Manufacturing</u> <u>Network Supplier Portal</u>, an online platform that helps connect Maryland suppliers with buyers in need of critical resources
- For additional business resources during Covid-19, visit <u>businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus</u>
- Providers may also request PPE from the non-profit 'Get Us PPE'



## Provider/Patient Mental Health Resources

### Providers

- "Helping the Helpers and Those They Serve," a webinar series from the Maryland Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration and MedChi (on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of every month starting 11/12/2020)
- > Heroes Health Initiative

### Patients

- Ask Suicide-Screening Questions toolkit
- > CDC <u>list of resources</u> for coping with stress



## **Health Equity Resources**

- Maryland Department of Health Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities (MHHD)
- Maryland Department of Health Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance Program <u>overview</u>
- MHHD fiscal year 2020 minority outreach and technical assistance <a href="mailto:program">program</a> information
- Description of the term "health disparity"
- Implicit bias test
- "Hundreds of Days of Action as a Start to Address Hundreds of Years of Inequality" New England Journal of Medicine <a href="article">article</a> by Maulik Joshi, DrPH
- "Discussion Draft of the Preliminary Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine" – <u>discussion draft</u> for public comment by Committee on Equitable Allocation of Vaccine for the Novel Coronavirus, The National Academies of Science, Engineering, Medicine

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### **Telehealth Resources**

- Maryland Health Care Commission Telehealth
- Maryland Health Care Commission Telehealth Readiness Assessment Tool
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for Professionals
- American Telehealth Association
- Maryland Telehealth Alliance
- National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers



# Help Your Patients Get Health Coverage

Maryland Health Connection, the state's health insurance marketplace, has a Coronavirus Emergency Special Enrollment Period until December 15 for uninsured Marylanders. All plans on Maryland Health Connection cover testing and treatment of Covid-19.

#### **♦**How to enroll

- > Enroll online at MarylandHealthConnection.gov
- ➤ Call 1-855-642-8572. Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service. Help is available in 200 languages.
- > Download the free "Enroll MHC" mobile app to enroll on a phone/tablet.
- ➤ Navigators throughout the state can answer questions and enroll consumers by phone.



# CDC Guidelines for Covid Patient Management

- Healthy people can be monitored, self-isolated at home
- People at higher risk should contact healthcare providers early, even if illness is mild
- Older adults and people with severe underlying chronic medical conditions are at higher risk, need closer contact
- Emergency Department and Hospitals only when needed not for screening or low risk/minimal disease
- Guidelines are important and powerful tools, but remember providers' clinical experience and judgment are key to care



## **Support for Patients at Home**

- Food
  - > Meals on Wheels
- Caregivers
  - ➤ Visiting nurses and caregivers
- Emotional support
  - ➤ Support from family
  - ➤ Phone calls and videochat to fight loneliness
  - > MD Department of Aging Senior Call Check Program



## **Staying Current - Sources**

- **♦** CDC
- **♦ MDH Covid-19 information page**
- **❖** MDPCP Covid-19 webpage
- Local Health Departments
- **CONNECT**
- Clinician Letters
- Multiple Resource Links in Appendix



## MedChi/CareFirst/Backline Grant

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield (CareFirst) and the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) launched a grant program that will equip additional Maryland physicians with the technology they need to provide needed virtual care during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond

### Eligibility Requirements

- The medical practice and medical license are in Maryland
- The medical practice is a private, independent group of five or fewer physicians
- The practice enrolls in Backline after March 1, 2020 as the result of the Covid-19 crisis
- MedChi has confirmed the practice's enrollment with DrFirst
- Enrollment in Backline occurs before December 31, 2020

#### **Application Steps**

Can be completed in less than 5 minutes

- Complete the application linked <u>here</u>
- Email completed application to <u>amullin@medchi.org</u>
- For questions, email or call Andrea Mullin at <a href="mailto:amullin@medchi.org">amullin@medchi.org</a> or 800-492-1056 x3340



### **Food Resources**

Nutrition: Inform patients that children can receive three free meals/day at sites listed on:

➤ Maryland Summer Meals Howard County

➤ Montgomery County Anne Arundel County

▶ Prince Georges County
St. Mary's County

➤ Charles County Harford County

Frederick County Calvert County

- Free meals available from 42 rec centers in Baltimore
  - ➤ Call 311 for locations and to schedule pickup time



## **Resources for Specific Groups**

- Community- and Faith-Based Organizations (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html</a>)
- Mass Gatherings and Large Community Events (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/mass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/mass-gatherings-ready-for-covid-19.html</a>)
- Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions for Specific Groups (https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/index.html)



### Resources and References

- Maryland Department of Health Coronavirus Website (<a href="https://coronavirus.maryland.gov">https://coronavirus.maryland.gov</a>)
- CDC Coronavirus Website (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html</a>)
- CDC National data on Covid-19 infection and mortality (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/cases-in-us.html</a>)
- CDC Interim Guidance for Homes and Communities (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html</a>)
- CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html</a>)
- CDC Interim Guidance for Childcare and Schools (<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html</a>)
- CDC Travel Website (<a href="https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/">https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/</a>)

