America’s Voice for Community Health Care

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) was founded in 1971 to promote efficient, high quality, comprehensive health care that is accessible, culturally and linguistically competent, community directed, and patient centered for all.
The following information was presented as part of NACHC's Elevate learning forum. This forum includes a cohort of 200+ health centers and 42 PCAs/HCCNs engaged in value transformation.

If you would like to learn more or if would like to register to be a part of the cohort and join us for future learning opportunities like this, visit us @ [http://www.nachc.org/clinical-matters/quality-center/initiatives/](http://www.nachc.org/clinical-matters/quality-center/initiatives/)
COVID-19

CDC Recommendations for Healthcare Settings:

• Minimize Chance for Exposures
• Adherence to Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions, Including the Use of Eye Protection
• Manage Visitor Access and Movement Within the Facility
• Implement Engineering Controls
• Monitor and Manage Ill and Exposed Healthcare Personnel
• Train and Educate Healthcare Personnel
• Implement Environmental Infection Control
• Establish Reporting within Healthcare Facilities and to Public Health Authorities

Systems Approach...Cancer Screening, Diabetes, HTN, **COVID-19**...or Other

1. Leadership Support
2. Risk Stratification
3. Models of Care
4. Optimized Care Teams
Psychological safety is needed when there is a high level of uncertainty and interdependency— as exists in the daily work of health care

- Coined by Harvard Business School professor Amy Edmondson.
- Individuals feel their opinions or innovative ideas are appreciated and welcome.
- Individuals perceive that the team is safe for risk taking (rather than a place where they feel incompetent, ignorant, negative or disruptive).
- Culture of trust
POPULATION HEALTH MANAGEMENT

PATIENT SEGMENTATION
Sort by Condition (VTF Action Guide, Step 2)

• Before Arrival
  • Ask if patient having respiratory symptoms (cough, runny nose, fever).
  • Ask if patient has travelled to any CDC identified high risk travel areas.
  • Ask if patient has been exposed to someone who may be infected with the virus (past 14 days).

If yes to any of the above, instruct on procedure for arrival (separate registration or entrance? Wear mask, scarf or handkerchief to shield coughing until arrival; mask provided upon arrival); referral to emergency care, if needed.
POPULATION HEALTH MANAGEMENT

PATIENT SEGMENTATION

• Upon Arrival/During Visit
  • At points of entry and in facility, provide 60-90% alcohol-based hand sanitizer, tissues, no touch receptacles for disposal and face masks. Post signs/instruction to keep sneeze/coughs covered, hand hygiene, proper disposal of tissues.
  • Implement triage procedures at check-in/registration for all patients: ask about respiratory symptoms and travel to areas experiencing transmission or contact with possible COVID-19 patients.
  • Rapid triage and isolation of patients with respiratory symptoms.
  • Create separate waiting area for patients with respiratory infection at least 6 feet from rest of the patient population. If appropriate and medically stable, consider option for patients to wait in personal vehicle our outside the facility to be contacted via mobile phone when it is their turn.
  • Notify health center and public health authorities of possible COVID-19 infection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Monitoring Approach</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Plan if fever or respiratory symptoms* develop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Brief interactions or prolonged close contact with infected patients wearing a mask while staff also wearing mask/respirator. Certain procedures (e.g., generating respiratory secretions) elevate risk level.</td>
<td>Self+</td>
<td>Take temperature 2x/day.</td>
<td>Notify pre-determined contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Prolonged close contact with infected patients wearing mask while staff nose/mouth exposed</td>
<td>Active+</td>
<td>Communication/check-in by state/local public health authority or delegate for presence of fever or respiratory symptoms</td>
<td>Self-isolate. Plan for medical evaluation. Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>Prolonged close contact with patients not wearing a mask while staff nose/mouth exposed. Present in room for procedures that generate respiratory secretions.</td>
<td>Active+</td>
<td>Communication/check-in by state/local public health authority or delegate for presence of fever or respiratory symptoms</td>
<td>Self-isolate. Plan for medical evaluation. Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*respiratory symptoms include cough, shortness of breath, sore throat

+Self-monitoring with delegated supervision – health care provider self-monitors with oversight by their health care organization in coordination with the health department.

“Close contact” for healthcare exposures: (a) being within 6 ft of a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time; or (b) unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions/excretions.
Models of Care

- CDC - Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed COVID-19 or Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings
- CDC - Evaluating and Reporting Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 infection
- CDC - Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed COVID-19
- CDC - Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19
- CDC - List of Acceptable Commercial Primers & Probes
- CDC Tests for COVID-19
- COVID-19 Persons Under Investigation and Case Report Form
Models of Care: Patient Flow

- Where possible, designate separate areas of the facility for PUIs*.
- Isolate PUIs in single patient rooms with the door closed (see CDC’s Summary of Changes to Guidance for updated details on negative pressure rooms).
- Determine if patient needs to be transferred to a hospital or can be released to home (after proper consultation with public authorities and consideration of medical condition and the suitability of the residential setting for home care).

*Patients under investigation for COVID-19
Models of Care: Staffing

- Designate dedicated personnel to the care of persons suspected/know to be infected with COVID-19.
- All staff providing care to PUIs should use personal protective equipment (PPE), including respiratory protection.
- Keep a log of all personnel who care for/enter care rooms of PUIs.
- Maintain staff use of PPE after patient vacates until room has had time for sufficient air clearance of airborne contaminants.
- Use appropriate hand sanitizer before/after patient contact, contact with potentially infectious material, putting on/off PPE, including gloves. Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is recommended.

*PUI = Patients under investigation for COVID-19
Models of Care: Equipment & PPE*

- Use dedicated or disposal equipment (e.g., blood pressure cuffs). If using dedicated equipment, properly disinfect between patients.
- Appropriately disinfect patient care rooms between patient use.
- Provide staff with appropriate PPE (gloves, gowns, respiratory protection & eye protection) and instruction on putting on/removing PPE to prevent contamination (see also the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) Respiratory Protection standard).
- Consider engineering controls: partitions to guide patients through triage areas, curtains between patients in shared areas, and appropriate air-handling systems.

*PPE = Personal protective equipment
A reinvention of the care team model – with more responsibility given to supportive members of the care team – has proven to optimize the experience and outcomes of primary care for patients, providers and staff.

Key Messages

In order to do well in these new payment models and avoid operational disruption, we must change how we conduct business to include greater focus on the team’s care for the patient and not just the provider’s care”.

--Faith Polkey, Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, Inc.

“We need to better leverage our teams to get the results that value based care will be setting as goals”.

--Laurence Yung, East Jordan Family Health Center
➢ Redefine ‘team’ (clinicians and non-clinicians providing care to a panel of patients)

➢ Reallocate tasks and responsibilities

➢ From lone provider-with-helpers model to reallocation of responsibility to a team

➢ Design care teams where all members contribute meaningfully and to full capacity

Distribute Tasks and Document Workflow

**Action items:** Assign appropriate staff positions to each task of defined services. Adapt the “Team-Based Planning Worksheet” developed by the Safety Net Medical Home. Maximize the capacity and licensure of team members to expand responsibilities beyond the primary provider. Consider applying care team tools available through the American Medical Association’s STEPSforward initiative.

After having agreed to the core set of clinical and care standards and services your health center will deliver, and having assigned the tasks to accomplish this work to staff throughout your organization, create workflow maps that standardize work processes. Consider the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality workflow mapping tips.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSIBILITY / TASK</th>
<th>ROLE - Current</th>
<th>ROLE - Future</th>
<th>WHEN IN VISIT CYCLE</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Check-in patient</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify and update insurance information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify and update demographic information (address, phone, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify and update FCP selection</td>
<td>RN</td>
<td>LPN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print summary lists (meds, dx, allergy); give to patient to review</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>LPN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify and update missing preventive / chronic care services</td>
<td>Provider</td>
<td>Front Office</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track and follow up on lab &amp; imaging results</td>
<td>LPN</td>
<td>LPN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify patient of normal results</td>
<td>Front Office</td>
<td>Front Office</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify patient of abnormal results</td>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>RN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track and follow up on completion of referral visits, tests &amp; procedures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive/report reports or other communications from facilities notifying practice of service provided to patients</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain notes from facilities – inpatient or rehab, emergency department, urgent care centers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review appointment history and follow up as needed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perform and document lab tests performed in-office</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect-and-process specimens to send to external laboratory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct clinic services (ECG, pulse oximetry, hearing &amp; vision testing)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Team-Based Planning Worksheet

Accomplish individual tasks Emphasize team responsibility
## Supporting the Care Team – Building Psychological Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formalization</th>
<th>Job descriptions</th>
<th>Provide job and task specific education and training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Direct staff to <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing">CDC handwashing</a> instructional materials and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Provide <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/handwashing.html">CDC guidance and education for hand hygiene in healthcare settings</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Train appropriate medical personnel in respiratory device use (also requires medical clearance and fit testing). <a href="https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/respiratory_protection/index.html">OSHA respiratory protection training videos</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protocols &amp; Procedures</td>
<td>CDC's Infection Control in Healthcare Personnel: Infrastructure and Routine Practices Recommendations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>Measure &amp; Report Performance</td>
<td>Develop a dashboard and mechanism to track (e.g., screening numbers, infections, health care worker exposure, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care Team Huddles</td>
<td>Daily huddles, escalation huddles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Action Step:

Consider how application of the Value Transformation Framework, and a systems approach to transformation, can support your COVID-19 response
YOUR JOURNEY... YOUR WAY

Stay connected through core monthly forums

Choose which change areas and elective call series to engage in

Select transformation action steps to take

- You control the pace
- You choose your course
- You steer the train
Together, our voices elevate all.

The Quality Center Team
Cheryl Modica, Luke Ertle & Camila Silva
qualitycenter@nachc.org

www.nachc.org