LEADING IN THE CRISIS: Flattening the COVID-19 Curve

Strategies for Testing in a Public Health Crisis
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.
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To gradually move away from a reliance on physical distancing as our primary tool for controlling future spread, we need:

• Better data to identify areas of spread and the rate of exposure and immunity in the population

• Improvements in state and local health care system capabilities, public-health infrastructure for early outbreak identification, case containment, and adequate medical supplies; and

• Therapeutic, prophylactic, and preventive treatments and better-informed medical interventions that give us the tools to protect the most vulnerable people and help rescue those who may become very sick.

Current state of Testing Nationally

- Limited supplies has led to restrictive testing priorities and protocols
- Testing is more reactive and sporadic, than proactive and strategic
- Testing is disconnected from primary health care delivery
- Missing data is limiting our understanding of already apparent disparities and understanding more about the course of the disease

https://ethics.harvard.edu/files/center-for-ethics/files/roadmaptopandemicresilience_updated_4.20.20.pdf
Health Center testing efforts

- Great variation in testing – from Health Centers that refer for testing to Health Centers that are designated by Health Departments as the main public resource.
- Health Centers with expertise are taking leadership in special populations such as Homeless
- Variation in testing supplies and
- Lack of standardization in data collection and documentation.
- Variety of tests being used with varying turnaround time and reporting electronic/fax.
- Health Center patients are among the hardest hit
Benefits of Health Center based Surveillance

- Comprehensive geographic penetration
- Focus on Safety Net populations at risk
- Contextual data:
  - Demographics (high percentage of mainstream testing data lacks race/ethnicity eg)
  - Longitudinal health data
  - Social determinants data
- Data infrastructure
- Ability to promote strategic testing approaches and protocols at scale
What is ahead?

- More direct to consumer/self administered testing options
- Exponential scale up of testing
- Increasing focus on need to understand relationships among symptoms, viral shedding, antibody status, infectivity, and long term clinical course.
Considerations

- Increasing public need for guidance
- Evolving testing recommendations and approaches.
- Fragmentation in test sources, result return, and disperse data at community level
- Complexity of managing individuals with positive results in our populations
- Maintaining connection between acute COVID testing and management and ongoing primary care
Network Role

- Help Health Centers aggregate and visualize data to facilitate the various roles they play.
- Define data elements and standards, and promote relevant data collection/documentation approaches.
- Partner with public health institutions, researchers and policy makers to provide and analyze data to better understand the nature and impact of COVID infection, particularly as it impacts our communities.
- Offer approaches, infrastructure and tools to allow the Health Centers to achieve efficiencies and coordinate efforts to act as a System.
Needs in order to aggregate federated data

- Data use agreements
- Data set standards/definitions
- Aggregation and visualization tools
- Uniform approach to capturing testing for individuals not enrolled formally at the Health Center
- Appropriate data infrastructure and expertise
- Social network for collaboration and shared vision
What is needed for Managing Patients

- Clinical decision support to promote adherence to testing protocols
- Workflows/decision trees to promote uniform management
- Patient engagement tools - leveraging automation as possible
- Population management tools
- Workforce – training and augmentation
Data elements

COVID Surveillance

- Hash/fake ID
- Age
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Zip
- Fed Poverty Level

- Test Date
- Test Result
- Visit Date
- COVID SX at time of test YES/NO
Technology to support Contact Tracing
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Leading in the Crisis

May 7, 2020
Strategies for Testing in a Public Health Crisis
We are a catalyst for high performance and operational excellence.

We envision a future that recognizes health centers as value leaders.

Health Centers Respond

In times of crisis, we don’t rise to the occasion, we rise to the level of our leadership and training.

- 17 HCs statewide; 94% testing
- Testing and sick clinics for individuals experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Walk-up testing sites
- Deployable testing clinics
- AL’s first and largest drive-up testing clinic
- Drive-up testing model shared through instructional video and support; adopted by other HCs
- Leveraging Clinical Leaders Improving Measures Boldly (CLIMB) Team to spread workflow/best practices
- HCCN developing advanced dashboards to evaluate testing/results, co-existing conditions
BUSINESS AS MISSION
AMONG THE UNDERSERVED

Total Unique Patients By Year

Unique Patient Payor Mix

- Uninsured
- Medicaid/CHIP
- Medicare
- Private

50%
32%
8%
10%
COVID-19 Testing Results

Total Patients Screened: 3,121
Total Positive: 98
Total Negative: 2,996
Total Inconclusive: 4
Total Rejected: 20
Total Pending: 3

Positive Rate Including Early Mass and Asymptomatic Testing: 3.14%

TESTING FOR EVERYONE
PAIN SHARED SOLUTION FOUND
ONLY AS HEALTHY AS OUR RELATIONSHIPS
HELP OTHERS HELP OTHERS HELP OTHERS
https://www.covid19-testing.churchofthehighlands.com
TEST THE COMMUNITY TREAT THE SICK
SAFE WALK-UP TESTING WITH AND AMONG
SIMPLE PEOPLE WILLING TO FIND ANY WHAT FOR AN AMAZING WHY
We Are

APHCA

CONTACT US

www.alphca.com  334.271.7068  8244 Old Federal Road, Montgomery AL 36117
COVID-19 Testing Resource

May 6th Testing Webinar:

https://www.hcnetwork.org/

Go to Resource Library
Upcoming NACHC COVID-19 Webinar

TOPIC: REOPENING

May 21st, 1:00-2:00 PM Eastern
Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information and Resources for Community Health Centers

NACHC’s novel coronavirus (also known as COVID-19) resource page is a hub for information Community Health Centers can use to strengthen readiness efforts and educate their communities.

NACHC has curated FAQs relevant to health centers. Responses may include links to additional resources or the best-gathered information from subject matter experts. Read them here.

COVID-19 Health Center Advocacy Toolkit

Other Resources Related to COVID-19
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Bureau of Primary Health Care
- Health Center Resource Clearinghouse
Celebrate National Nurses Week

Compassion, Expertise, and Trust in the Health Center Community.

#YOTN2020
THANK YOU TO ALL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

#ThankYouCHCs