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Results.

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PLUGS®
 Patient Centered Laboratory
 Utilization Guidance Services

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Agenda – 3/19/2020

- **An Update on COVID-19 - Michael Astion, MD, PhD**
- **PLUGS Patient Tools**
- **PLUGS Summit 2020 Announcements**

Covid-19 Testing Experience to Date

- We started testing at the Univ of Washington on March 1. Since the first days of Covid-19 testing we have gradually ramped up each day and we are at about 700 tests completed for patients and 250 for employees.
- We have 3 courier runs a day (just our regular UW courier runs that have been established for years and run on time >95% of the time.). We have added a few special delivery express runs when needed.
- Orders are over an interface and results go right into our EMR. The interface has been flawless.
- We have a terrific dashboard to measure Covid-19 TATS, results, etc.
- The medical director of lab or their designee, partnered with the credentialed lab administrator on call continue to report out at 9:15 and 1400 at the Emergency Operations Center dial in. We do not allow anybody else to report for us.

Covid-19 Testing Experience (continued)..

- We are aiming for 24 hour TAT from the time we receive the specimen in our processing area to the time the result is in the EMR. Our target is 90% within 24 hours. We are not hitting that for a variety of reasons, but we are moving toward that goal.
- Employees are tested at a drive through location. That started a week ago. UW has this same service up for employees and for selected patients.
- ED and Urgent care providers are trending toward ordering the Covid-19 testing with each rapid respiratory virus. But supply chain for all the testing supplies like UTM and swabs are limiting widespread testing.
- We are going to stand up Covid-19 testing (LDT) at our site to add capacity and speed. This starts next week and the main challenge is supply chain. The UW and SCH LDTs will remain our main providers of testing until one of our SCH platforms (Cepheid or Biofire) can provide the test. Even then, I have worries about supply shortages, quality, etc from those platform manufacturers.

Covid-19 Testing Experience to Date

- Our positivity rate for patients is about 1%. All are ambulatory patients, except for 1. We have 1 inpatient positive out of >400 inpatient tests.
- The adult hospitals in our regions have much higher positivity rates.
- The current estimate on healthcare worker positivity for those who are ill is about 2-3%. At SCH, employees are screened at the staff entrance each day.
- The pediatric patient results confirms the Chinese and Korean data that this is not usually a severe infection among kids.
- This confirmation of international data means that SCH is shifting toward 1) helping the adult system by taking their pediatric patients and supporting the UW lab which mainly services adults, 2) continuing to test admissions for respiratory distress, aimed at protecting patients and healthcare workers, 3) ambulatory testing --as supplies allow-- to help slow the pandemic, and 4) focusing on all the other patients.

PLUGS[®] Patient Tools



Complex Lab Tests: How to Get Them Covered

We developed a tool for patients & families that provides information about payment systems for complex lab tests & guidance/checklists on navigating an appeal.

Feedback from patients & families:

"I wish I would have had access to this guide during my years of struggle to get a diagnosis, it would have made my life a lot easier."

"The checklists are extremely helpful and synthesize large amounts of complex information."

Available Now: <http://www.schplugs.org/plugs-patient-toolkit/>



PLUGS® Summit 2020

June 24th – 26th, 2020

Seattle, WA

POSTPONED

PLUGS® Summit 2020

JUNE 24th-26th SEATTLE, WA

Clinical Laboratory Stewardship: Tips, tricks, and tools to benefit patients, labs and payers.



Sponsored by the University of Washington School of Medicine,
PLUGS® & Seattle Children's Hospital Department of Labs

We will notify you as soon as a new date has been confirmed.

Next PLUGS Member Meeting

May 21, 2020, 11am (PT)



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