



ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Communicable Disease Division

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HEALTH UPDATE 11: PPE Requests, Referral Locations, Demographic Reporting, Promoting Infant Immunizations, CDC Testing Priorities

APRIL 29, 2020

Dear Partners in Health,

Please find the following enclosed in this update:

1. PPE request form link for practices performing testing or hoping to begin testing for COVID-19
2. Referral locations for COVID-19 testing
3. Reporting Race and Ethnicity Data on Person Under Investigation (PUI) Forms
4. Messaging for Childhood Immunizations
5. New CDC Priorities for COVID-19 Testing (including expanded CDC COVID-19 symptom list)

COVID-19 Outpatient Testing Needs Assessment & PPE Requests

Please complete this survey if your practice is performing outpatient commercial COVID-19 testing and are requesting PPE, or if your practice is experiencing barriers to beginning testing. AHD will work to prioritize PPE distribution to City of Alexandria outpatient practices providing or planning to provide testing for the community:

<https://redcap.vdh.virginia.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=TK4D974MP3>

*Please indicate within this survey whether you would like to be enrolled in AHD's weekly PPE inventory monitoring and requests program.

Local COVID-19 Testing Referral Sites

We are currently maintaining a list of COVID-19 evaluation and testing resources on our website:
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/health/info/covid19/ResourcesForUninsured.pdf>

Note: Prescriptions for COVID-19 testing may also be sent to INOVA via fax (571-472-0150) or e-mail (yocelyn.fuentes@inova.org) to facilitate curbside appointment scheduling for your patients at one of INOVA's four testing locations: <https://www.inova.org/locations/inova-urgent-care/respiratory-clinics>

If you are aware of additional referral sites that need to be added, or currently listed sites that need modification, please contact us at **703.746.3544**. Thank you!

Including Demographic Data When Reporting COVID-19

From the State Health Commissioner:

Several reports have described a disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on minority populations in areas of the United States. Race and ethnicity information has not been reported for almost one third of Virginia's COVID-19 cases. To better understand the situation in Virginia, and to improve our public health interventions, we need more complete data.


COVID-19 is a reportable condition, regardless of whether testing is pursued or not. Please include race and ethnicity data when ordering COVID-19 testing from a reference laboratory and when reporting COVID-19 illness to the VDH Online Morbidity Report Portal: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/commonwealth-of-virginiastate-board-of-health/>

Pediatric Immunizations in the City of Alexandria

This week (April 25-May 2) is National Infant Immunizations Week, and as we devote much of our attention and efforts to fighting COVID-19, it's important that we continue those other basic public health initiatives and measures that keep people and communities well. The AAP Virginia Chapter survey of pediatric practices around the state and data from the Virginia Immunization Information System state registry found vaccinations rates are down. Specifically, infant vaccine rates for DTaP, Hib, polio, pneumococcal disease, measles and hepatitis B are at 70% of normal, and the HPV vaccination rate for teens is down to 30% of normal. Since March 15, vaccines reported to VIIS have decreased 45.7% since the same time last year (March 15-April 23).

Although there is a stay-at-home order in place, one of the exceptions is for necessary medical care. VDH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Academy of Pediatrics all recommend that routine vaccinations continue and not be postponed or delayed.

We encourage parents, especially those with children under 2, to call their child's provider to see if any vaccinations are due. **Please continue to reach out to families to promote this message.** There are ways to stay safe during this COVID-19 public health emergency while also doing what needs to be done to protect our children.



**The Virginia
Department of Health
Recommends
Maintaining
Childhood
Vaccinations During
COVID-19 Pandemic.**

**Prioritize
Vaccination for
children 0-24
months of age!**

Keep Your Patients Safe

- Separate hours for well and sick patients.
- Separate locations for well and sick patients.
- Administer vaccines in alternate locations outside the clinic.

To Learn More Visit
www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/pediatric-hcp.html>

VDH VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH
To protect the health and promote the
well-being of all people in Virginia.

New CDC Priorities for COVID-19 Testing

* Note expanded COVID-19-compatible symptoms list

PRIORITIES FOR COVID-19 TESTING

(Nucleic Acid or Antigen)

High Priority

- Hospitalized patients
- Healthcare facility workers, workers in congregate living settings, and first responders **with** symptoms
- Residents in long-term care facilities or other congregate living settings, including prisons and shelters, **with** symptoms
- Persons identified through public health cluster and selected contact investigations

Priority

- Persons **with** symptoms of potential COVID-19 infection, including: fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, new loss of taste or smell, vomiting or diarrhea and/or sore throat
- Persons **without** symptoms who are prioritized by health departments or clinicians, for any reason, including but not limited to: public health monitoring, sentinel surveillance, or screening of other asymptomatic individuals according to state and local plans.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>

Thank you for your partnership in the City of Alexandria's response to COVID-19, and thank you for the care you give to our communities.

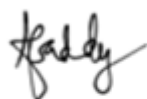
For more information on COVID-19:

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/Health>

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>

Sincerely,



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Alexandria Health Department



Kim Luk, MD, MPH
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