ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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HEALTH UPDATE 16 – June 19, 2020

Dear Partners in Health,

Please find enclosed in this update:

1. Notification about the first case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19 in the City of Alexandria

2. HRSA COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement to Providers for COVID-19 Evaluation and Testing of the Uninsured (CARES Act)

3. AHD PPE request form for City of Alexandria practices testing for COVID-19

First Case of MIS-C Reported in Alexandria

Alexandria Health Department (AHD) has reported the first case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children (MIS-C) in Alexandria. The case is a child who was hospitalized in early June and is now recovering at home. Individuals and families are being advised to protect children and everyone in the household from COVID-19 by maintaining vigilance about hand washing, physical distancing, and face coverings, especially as more businesses and facilities begin to reopen as part of Phase 2. Please remain alert for signs and symptoms consistent with MIS-C among your patients.

Prominent clinical features include persistent fever and a variety of symptoms, including hypotension, multiorgan (e.g., cardiac, gastrointestinal, renal, hematologic, dermatologic and neurologic) involvement and elevated markers of inflammation. Respiratory symptoms were not present in all patients. Some patients had clinical features consistent with Kawasaki disease. In New York, many of these patients have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR or serology. It is unknown whether this syndrome is limited to children.

Case Definition for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

- An individual aged <21 years presenting with fever[i], laboratory evidence of inflammation[ii], and evidence of clinically severe illness requiring hospitalization, with multisystem (>2) organ involvement (cardiac, renal, respiratory, hematologic, gastrointestinal, dermatologic or neurological); AND
- No alternative plausible diagnoses; AND
- Positive for current or recent SARS-CoV-2 infection by RT-PCR, serology, or antigen test; or COVID-19 exposure within the 4 weeks prior to the onset of symptoms

Please **immediately report** any patient who meets these criteria to Alexandria Health Department by calling 571-259-8549, or by online reporting via the VDH Online Disease Reporting Portal (https://redcap.vdh.virginia.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=NYKYR7W47M)

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[i]Fever >38.0°C for ≥24 hours, or report of subjective fever lasting ≥24 hours
[ii]Including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: an elevated C-reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), fibrinogen, procalcitonin, d-dimer, ferritin, lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH), or interleukin 6 (IL-6), elevated neutrophils, reduced lymphocytes and low albumin

HRSA Claims Reimbursement to Providers for COVID-19 Evaluation and Testing of the Uninsured

Health care providers conducting COVID-19 evaluation and testing to uninsured individuals with a COVID-19 diagnosis can request claims reimbursement through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Provider Relief Fund. Providers will be generally reimbursed at Medicare rates, subject to available funding. Reimbursement will be made for qualifying testing for COVID-19 and services (including specimen collection, diagnostic testing, and testing-related visits) with a primary COVID-19 diagnosis as determined by HRSA (subject to adjustment as necessary). Find frequently asked questions about the program at https://www.hrsa.gov/coviduninsuredclaim/frequently-asked-questions.

How to Participate
You must enroll as a provider participant in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) portal (https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com), check patient eligibility, submit patient information, submit claims, and then receive payment via direct deposit. For reimbursement, providers must agree not to balance the bill to the patient.

Related billing codes are accessible at: https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/billing-codes.html

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COVID-19 Outpatient Testing Needs Assessment & PPE Requests

Please complete this survey if your practice is performing 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://is.gd/alexcovidtestingppe

Please also utilize the following resources to complement your supplies, as health department supplies vary week to week:
https://eva.virginia.gov/eva-emergency-notices.html
https://dgs.virginia.gov/procurement/resources/eva-emergency-vendor-list/

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

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