



# KEEPING YOU INFORMED

**To:** Cape Cod Healthcare Employees and Physicians

**From:** Michael K. Lauf, President and CEO, CCHC

**Date:** July 17, 2020

## COVID-19 & Vision 20/22 Update

Good afternoon,

I hope this finds you, your families and friends safe and well.

It has been an unprecedented year at Cape Cod Healthcare (CCHC), and I thought a mid-summer update was in order. While we continue to see great spread of coronavirus across our country, we continue to see depressed numbers here in Massachusetts, especially when compared to other states. I wanted to share with you the latest information regarding the spread of the disease, the numbers of infected people we are experiencing on the Cape and other related topics such as travel and social gatherings.

As the size of our population has tripled during the summer months, we have not seen an increase in the number of infections on Cape Cod. We currently test approximately 220 people per day which is an increase from an average of 175 people per day in June. Our average daily positive infection rate continues to be 1.4%, and this has held firm for the past four weeks. In short, Cape Cod Healthcare is testing more, but seeing the same degree of positivity.

<u>All Sites - Last 4 Days</u>	<b>Total to Date</b>	<b>7/13/2020</b>	<b>7/15/2020</b>	<b>7/16/2020</b>	<b>7/17/2020</b>
<b>Tested</b>	20504	372	209	245	3

<b>Positive</b>	1109	1	5	3	
<b>Negative</b>	19395	371	204	242	3
<b>Percent Tested Positive</b>	5.4%	0.3%	2.4%	1.2%	
<b>Percent Tested Negative</b>	94.6%	99.7%	97.6%	98.8%	100.0%

We currently have active testing sites at Cape Cod Community College in Hyannis and on the campus of Falmouth Hospital. We will also test symptomatic patients in our emergency centers prior to all admissions and surgical procedures. We currently have one COVID-19 positive admitted patient in our health system. These numbers are very consistent with our experience since the middle of May. Patients with COVID-19 are admitted to negative pressure floors/rooms and are cared for exceptionally well by many of you. We continue to maintain the most up-to-date treatments and protocols, whether it be in our intensive care settings or on the medical/surgical floors.

As our volumes continue to increase in our emergency departments, I want to emphasize that we have the appropriate and necessary measures and protocols in place to maintain the highest quality and safety standards. We have experienced staff, a strong supply of personal protective equipment (PPE), we are testing onsite for COVID-19 to ensure timely turnaround for test results and we continue to put our patients at the center of everything we do.

Regarding personal responsibility, all CCHC staff are masked, we are doing temperature checks at the hospital entrances, limiting visitors to help prevent potential exposures and continuing to stress test our policies daily. We follow the COVID-19 guidance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as it relates to testing, travel and gatherings of any kind. We have maintained 50% of our employees working from home, limited occupancy at our facilities and established cleaning processes and guidelines to help mitigate and control the spread of COVID-19.

Cape Cod Healthcare is proceeding with our implementation of the Epic electronic health record (EHR) system, which will help improve our delivery of care, increase access to health information and make CCHC more efficient in the process. Our go-live is still anticipated for November 1, 2020 and we continue to work toward a positive launch. We have put our Tower project on hold as COVID-19 continues to decimate our healthcare industry from a financial perspective. We at CCHC have not been immune to this crisis. The financial toll we will take this year will be severe, but with your support we will weather this storm and learn valuable lessons to help improve our delivery of care while becoming more cost effective in the process. Many difficult decisions lie ahead, but our commitment to your health and that of our community will never waiver.

Cape Cod Healthcare is here for you.

Wishing safety and wellness to you and your families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike".

Michael K. Lauf