



PHG COVID-19 Update: March 19

Dear Valued Providers

We want to be a resource to our Premier Health Group providers. That is why we will be sending out a daily COVID-19 email to provide updates.

In addition, we have created a resources page on the [PHG website](#). Please bookmark this page as it will be updated regularly with clinical updates and helpful resources.

Please feel free to contact us directly at **(937) 499-7441** with any questions you might have or if you would like to speak with our Medical Director, Scott Swabb, DO.

Yours sincerely,

Renee George
President
Premier Health Group

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Symptomatic Patients to Be Prioritized at COVID-19 Collection Site

The CompuNet specimen collection site at UD remains open. Premier Health, in collaboration with CompuNet Clinical Laboratories and Premier Health Urgent Care, has updated its process of collecting COVID-19 specimens and prioritize those who have a fever or other symptoms consistent with the virus.

The CompuNet collection site has limited resources and we are asking everyone to conserve. Please use the CDC screening guidelines listed below. To assist you in assessing which patients are appropriate for screening, Premier Health has opened a command center hotline number for the independent / PHG providers in the community. **Please call 937-208-5628 and press option 4 to talk with the command center team about confirming your patient should be sent to the collection site.** The command center line can help walk providers through the CDC Criteria regarding your final decision if you are sending the patient on for PCR viral testing at the collection site. Criteria (per CDC) to help you screen patients who should have PCR Viral screening include the following:

- Symptomatic (fever, cough, fatigue)
- Age > 65
- Immunosuppressed
- In close contact with known COVID-19 positive per lab confirmation within 14 days
- Healthcare worker in close contact with known COVID-19 positive per lab confirmation within 14 days
- Traveled from affected geographic area (per CDC)
- Chronic conditions which may increase potential for poor outcomes

Note that the CompuNet site is also screening patients and those who do not meet may be turned away. [View the Premier Health system memo](#).



COVID-19 Testing Results

Any positive COVID-19 tests results will be treated as a critical value and CompuNet will reach out to you directly.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Testing

There is an updated CompuNet memo ([update #2](#)) where we have added a couple items that have come up over the past few days. Specifically, if you are an independent provider without EPIC or interfaced with CompuNet, you can now FAX to CompuNet for service.

Talking Points for Patients with COVID-19 Symptoms or Concerns

Please use the [talking points](#) that have been created to help office staff navigate conversations with patients regarding COVID-19 symptoms or concerns.

Reschedule Routine Patient Appointments

For patient safety please continue to reschedule routine patient appointments. Consider implementing a process for your staff to identify cancelled appointments through a 'reason code' that have been postponed due to safety measures during COVID-19. This information may be needed for your business insurance purposes in the coming months.

Each Hospital has Placed Limitations on Entrances

Now that visitor restrictions have been imposed, Premier Health has taken steps to limit the number of entrances that patients, visitors and staff can access. [View the entrances patients and visitor can access.](#)

Treatment of Cancer Patients

The recommendations below are sent on behalf of Dr. Bane and the physician leadership of the Premier Health Oncology Institute.

As cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) emerge and spread in Southwest Ohio, it's important to protect our patients by limiting potential risk for exposure. We are conferring with MD Anderson for standard guidance on treatment of cancer patients during this pandemic.

We are following ASCO guidelines for chemo treatments and those guidelines are at the following [link](#) for your reference. We are also monitoring the MD Anderson literature and Connect site to ensure we stay in sync with international best practice as it emerges. [View the recommendations that have been made as it relates to patient appointments.](#)

Have additional questions? Join Roberto Colon, MD as he answers FAQs about COVID-19.

Friday, March 20, 2020 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

[Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

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