



PHG COVID-19 Update: *March 30*

Dear Valued Providers

We want to be a resource to our Premier Health Group Independent 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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Guidance for Use of Masks for Direct Patient Caregivers, Patient-Facing Employees and Other Employees

Our work environment is changing rapidly. Premier Health continues to follow recommendations from the World Health Organization, as well as guidance from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. As Premier Health Group providers, we would like to share guidelines that Premier Health has implemented in response to guidance for use of masks for direct patient caregivers, patient-facing employees and other employees.

- [Read the memo from Mary Boosalis](#), President & CEO, Premier Health.
- Read the [FAQs](#) for use of masks

We hope the information provided may help in creation of policies needed for your practice in response to these topics.

New Clinics for Patients Recovering from COVID-19

Premier Health is planning for an anticipated surge in hospital and emergency department release of COVID-19 positive and presumptive positive patients into the community.

Two locations have been identified as solely focused Community Follow-up Clinics for these discharged patients. Our Premier Health Urgent Care sites in Vandalia and Miamisburg are planned to open on Monday, April 6 as repurposed clinics. Additional south, central and north locations may be added if needed.

The clinics will be staffed by Premier Physician Network physicians and providers. Hours of operation are planned for Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



These sites will accept patients from Premier Physician Network, as well as independent practitioners and unattached patients, as they are intended to be a community resource.

Key benefits of these focused clinics include the following:

- Minimizing the exposure to other patients and providers/staff across our primary care clinics
- Preserving PPE by funneling COVID-19 positive and presumptive positive discharges with greater PPE needs into specific locations
- Providing focused patient education to this population
- Directing patients to a site that houses x-ray in case of needed chest x-ray follow-up

More details regarding the workflow will be provided later in the week.

Exposure to COVID-19?

Have you or your team been exposed to Covid-19; now what? The [guide](#) details possible exposures for health care personnel risk level, management if asymptomatic and management if symptomatic. The guide helps assess risk and utilizing CDC guidelines for return to work.

Elective procedures

Premier Health is anticipating surgery schedule may resume on May 4. This of course is still fluid, and we will continue to monitor the developing situation.

Caring for Yourself and Your Home

As caregivers you often do not take time to care for yourself as you are often caring for others. After all many of you choose this profession because you enjoy taking care of other's needs before you own, but during this challenging time it is important to care for yourself and family and we want to help keep you and your family as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This [guide provides](#) tips for:

- Taking care of you: heart, soul, mind & body
- Safe care practices: between work and home
- Staying home when you're feeling ill

PHG Hotline Number

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.**

Assistance During Surge

We are asking for your help now so we can get a feel for the size of the potential provider labor pool. Some physicians, due to the nature of their training, would be able to work in a clinical space during the COVID-19 pandemic in which they are not currently working. These temporary privileges would have to be at the facility that you currently have privileges. We have a brief [survey](#) to capture the required information. We understand that many offices plan to remain open. **We are still asking that you complete the survey in case the situation changes.**