

**COVID-19 Weekly Healthcare Provider Update Compilation:
As of April 15, 2020, 8:00 AM**

The information in this compilation is current only as of the above date and time.

Purpose: The purpose of this weekly publication is to provide healthcare providers in New York State with a consolidated update of guidance released by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) related to the COVID-19 pandemic response. This will show only current guidance for any given topic and will be updated to reflect new guidance.

As a reminder, all advisories and informational messages (including webinar invitations) are distributed through the Integrated Health Alerting Network System (IHANS), an application housed on the [Health Commerce System \(HCS\)](#). If you are not receiving IHANS notifications, please work with your site's HCS coordinator. Additional COVID-19 resources may be found on the NYSDOH webpage under [Information for Healthcare Providers](#).

Recordings of COVID-19 [Weekly Healthcare Provider Updates](#) are also available on NYSDOH webpage.

Guidance/Health Advisory Topic	Link(s)	Date
Testing/Specimen Collection	Specimen Collection and Handling to Allow NP and Saliva Specimen	4/1/20
	Wadsworth Specimen Collection, Handling and Transport	4/1/20
	Additional Capacity Guidance (Collection, triage, treatment)	3/19/20
	Testing Protocol	3/19/20
	NEW GUIDANCE: Updated Infectious Disease Requisition Form	4/9/20
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Infection Control and Personal Protective Equipment	Requests for PPE should go through your regional OEM	3/23/20
	REMINDER: Providers should follow the process outlined by the Commissioner of Health for requesting resources through the county and NYS Office of Emergency Management . NYSDOH stresses the importance of making requests no later than 10 days before you expect those supplies to be exhausted.	
	PPE Shortage Guidance	4/2/20
	Optimizing PPE (CDC)	4/3/20
Quarantine/Isolation	Infection Control Guidance (CDC)	4/7/20
	Process for Discontinuation of Home Isolation	3/28/20
	NEW GUIDANCE: Precautionary Quarantine, Mandatory Quarantine, and Isolation	4/20
	Guidance for Local Health Departments highlighting definitions and situations for quarantine and isolation.	4/7/20
Exposure	Contact of a Contact Guidance	3/15/20
	NEW GUIDANCE Contact Tracing Guidance	4/8/20

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	Protocols for Essential Personnel to Return to Work Following COVID-19 Exposure or Infection	3/31/20
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	COVID-19 and the Use of Cloth Face Coverings	4/8/20
Telehealth	Medicaid Coverage and Reimbursement REMINDER: The NYS Telehealth Parity Law requires commercial insurers (under the jurisdiction of the Division of Financial Services) and the Medicaid program (administered by the Department of Health) to provide reimbursement for services delivered via telehealth, if those services would have been covered if delivered in person.	3/27/20
Obstetrics/Pediatrics	Pregnancy Resources NEW GUIDANCE: Academy of Breastfeeding Statement Sexual and Reproductive Health Services	3/21/20 3/10/20 4/7/20
Elective Surgery	Governor Cuomo, through Executive Order , has directed all Office Based Surgery, General Hospitals, and Ambulatory Surgery Centers to cancel all elective surgeries to maximize hospital bed capacity.	3/23/20
Staffing	Governor Cuomo, through Executive Order , has increased staffing resources by expanding the scope of practice for designated practitioners.	3/23/20
HIV Care Providers	Novel Coronavirus and People with HIV	3/20/20
Mental Health Resources	Managing Stress and Anxiety OMH COVID-19 Guidance Documents	3/16/20
Immunizations (New Topic Area)	CDC has released recommendations related to pediatric and adult immunizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.	4/3/20
Healthcare Professional Training & Education (New Topic Area)	The CDC launched a healthcare professional training site . NYS Medicaid Prescriber Education Program COVID-19 Drug Topics	4/7/20 3/30/20
Medicaid Providers (New Topic Area)	Guidance for Medicaid Providers	4/12/20