**Departmental Response to COVID-19 4/23/2020**

Please read through the information below completely for important reminders and updates to the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine response to the outbreak of COVID-19. Got an update for COVID-19 that you want to share with the Leadership Huddle or in this email? Email it to dfpm@utah.edu.

**4/23/2020 Updates**

**GENERAL UPDATES**

1. **Financial Impact of COVID-19.** The department plan was submitted to the SVP and was approved, with some guidance to work with the Dean’s office to refine the grant funding and effort reporting.

2. **Timeline to Reopen Offices.** The department is waiting for guidelines from state, city, and university levels on how and when to bring faculty and staff back into the office. Once the state enters the “orange zone,” there will still be a strong recommendation to continue working remotely. The department will do everything in compliance with general guidance from the University. Members of the Space Committee will draft a plan for the Department’s individual return to the offices.

**RESEARCH UPDATES**

1. **Regular Meetings to Monitor Researchers.** The Research group is planning a semi-monthly meeting with department faculty investigators to discuss how people are adapting.

2. **COVID19 Research Proposals Submitted.** There have been six internal COVID-19 research proposals from DFPM faculty.

**CLINICAL UPDATES**

1. **Filling Schedules and Reengaging Patients.** The Clinical Committee is figuring out how to reengage patients. They are working to let patients know that things are safe. The priority is improving patient access and quality of care over increasing revenue stream.
a. Patients not coming in for serious problems is a patient safety issue, which illustrates the importance of good communication with patients to help them feel safe.

2. **Updates from the Clinics.**
   
a. **South Main.** Entire operation will be creating a coordinated effort in response to the changing color phases. Under the red guidelines, clinics could only see emergency patients in person. Under the orange guidelines, clinics can now see essential patients in person. This includes physicals over the age of six. Providers are still trying to minimize risk by limiting in-person visits, but they are more open to use their judgement now in determining which patients they will see as they try to fill schedules.

b. **OM.** Also coordinating clinical efforts with changing color phases. Working with various fire departments to resume evaluations starting in early May (as early as May 4 at South Jordan). At Parkway, the largest client is UVU, where not many workers are currently on site. The decision of when to open Parkway is still being made.

**EDUCATION UPDATES**

1. **Virtual Poster Summit.** The live online discussion will take place tomorrow, May 8, 2020, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Faculty are encouraged to join at the link here: [https://utah.instructure.com/courses/623779](https://utah.instructure.com/courses/623779). Each poster on the Canvas page will have a link that visitors can click to join a Cisco meeting and discuss the poster with the presenter. There will also be a “reception room” where faculty can exchange comments and questions.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATES**

1. **Donations to Navajo Nation.** DFPM sent a case of 50 hygiene kits to the Navajo Nation.