Departmental Response to COVID-19 5/7/2020

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.

5/7/2020 Updates

GENERAL UPDATES

1. **Utah Moves to Orange Level of Alert.** Beginning May 1, the state of Utah moved into “Orange,” a moderate COVID risk phase. The University-wide go-Orange target date is May 11. U of U Health is developing system-level criteria for moving from Red to Orange in both clinical and campus settings.
   a. DFPM Leadership will receive recommendations from the Space Committee this week and will release guidelines for Orange Phase on Monday or Tuesday, May 11 or 12.

2. **Resiliency Center Offerings.** The Resiliency Center now offers a monthly positive psychology webinar series.

RESEARCH UPDATES

1. **Move to Orange Level.** To facilitate planning for the University of Utah’s move to Orange alert level on the target date of Monday, May 11, the Office of the Vice President for Research released specific COVID-19 protocols for Orange and other hazard levels, including guidance on allowable research and FAQs.
   a. The new guidelines do not increase clinical research flexibility. Unless a project is essential to the participant’s health or well-being, the participant needs to have tested negative for COVID-19 and have been isolated since the test result. Home visits are still limited due to travel restrictions.

CLINICAL UPDATES

1. **Video Visits.** Many of the clinical committee’s goals have been placed on hold due to COVID-19. However, the clinics are making great progress with other things like video visits. They are working on expanding the scope of video visits to
include things like physicals. Virtual visits are going well and clinics are allowing
providers to use any variety of platforms for virtual visits, depending on what
works best for their patients.

2. **Red to Orange Alert Level.** 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.

**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. 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. **New Community Engagement Website.** The Community Engagement Committee
is working on their new website which will include features like workforce
development and technical assistance

2. **COVID-19 Testing.** OEH has received requests from several large companies to
increase COVID testing for their employees.