



Resources & Equipment

Two advances on the testing front for Idaho

The FDA has approved the Abbott RealTime SARS-CoV-2 test. The State of Idaho is scheduled to get 15 Abbott testing machines to help test healthcare workers, first responders and nursing home residents. Each machine will come with about 100-150 test cartridges. For those who already own machines, Abbott is ramping up production of more cartridges to distribute. There are an estimated 18,000 Abbott machines in hospitals and clinics across the country, and this 15-minute test will be a great addition to Idaho's testing capacity.

The UW Medicine Virology Laboratory in Seattle contacted IHA to let hospitals know they currently have capacity to perform additional COVID-19 tests from nasopharyngeal (NP) swabs with a less than one day turnaround time for results (from the time of receipt). Contact the Virology Lab ([email](#) or 800.713.5198) to inquire about setting up a customer account. For ordering instructions, click [here](#).

Self-directed training and webinars available

Training for Healthcare Professionals compiles numerous trainings for healthcare professionals working in the COVID-19 environment including:

- Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations;
- Clinical Management of Critically Adults;
- Caring for Children and Pregnant Women;
- Information for Long Term Care Facilities; and
- Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course - a self-paced course with free continuing education credits.

Quality & Patient Safety

Updated CDC infection control recommendations

Yesterday, the CDC issued updated interim infection prevention and control recommendations for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 in healthcare settings. This updated guidance reflects the current situation which includes reports of cases of community transmission, infections identified in healthcare personnel, and PPE shortages. A few key updates include:

- Based on local and regional situational analysis of PPE supplies, facemasks are an acceptable alternative when the supply chain of respirators cannot meet the demand.
- During this time, available respirators should be prioritized for procedures that are likely to generate respiratory aerosols. When the supply chain is restored, facilities should return to use of respirators for patients with known or suspected COVID-19.
- Eye protection, gown, and gloves continue to be recommended.
- If there are shortages of gowns, they should be prioritized for aerosol-generating procedures, care activities where splashes and sprays are anticipated, and high-contact patient care activities that create opportunities for transfer of pathogens to the hands and clothing of HCP.
- Updated considerations for designating entire units within the facility, with dedicated HCP, to care for known or suspected COVID-19 patients and options for extended use of respirators, facemasks, and eye protection on such units.
- Updated recommendations regarding need for an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR).
- Patients with known or suspected COVID-19 should be cared for in a single-person room with the door closed. AIIRs should be reserved for patients undergoing aerosol-generating procedures.
- Increased emphasis on early identification and implementation of source control (i.e., putting a face mask on patients presenting with symptoms of respiratory infection).

Virtual Meetings, Education & Updates

Free webinar ~ Governance in the Time of Coronavirus

Hospital trustees are encouraged to see the latest from healthcare governance expert Jamie Orlikoff – a frequent speaker at the Western Regional Trustee Symposium. In this free webinar, Orlikoff explains what boards should do to help their leadership teams, hospitals and themselves prepare. He also outlines unique issues and actions that boards should think about now to ensure they stay ahead of unprecedented situations and challenges.

[Governance in the Time of Coronavirus: What Governing Boards Should Do Now to Deal with the Pandemic](#) available to view or download via the Texas Healthcare Trustee's website.

A bonus article also from Orlikoff, [Tips for Board Effectiveness During the Pandemic](#), is also available to share with your hospital trustees.

Correction ~ FEMA Reimbursement webinars

On Friday, we provided registration information for two FEMA reimbursement webinars by the Mississippi Hospital Association and Witt O'Brien's. Both the Wednesday, April 8 and Thursday, April 9 webinars are the same, not a series. The information will still be very valuable to those considering applying for funding through FEMA. To register, click the date below.

Accessing the \$2 Trillion Recovery Fund for COVID-19
[Wednesday, April 8, 9am-10am MT / 8am-10am PT](#)
[Thursday, April 9, 12pm-1pm MT / 11am-12pm PT](#)

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