

Week of 4.13.20

## Situational Overview

Number of Advocate Aurora Health COVID-19 patients discharged: **1099**

Cases	Illinois			Wisconsin		
	State	AAH	Inpatient	State	AAH	Inpatient
<b>Active (4/13)</b>	20,852	1,683	558	3,341	512	118
<b>Fatal (4/13)</b>	720	138		144	30	

\*Note the numbers are fluid. For the most updated information on active/fatal cases, visit the IL Dept of Public Health and WI Dept of Health Services

## Key Advocate Aurora Health Action Items

- We are proud to be celebrating that we have discharged more than 1,000 COVID patients, who are now well on their way to recovery. Our COVID patient discharge number continues to increase as our teams work tirelessly to provide life-saving care and support during this pandemic. We will share the story of our 1000<sup>th</sup> patient discharged in next week's update.
- Our efforts to ensure we have adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), amid the nationwide shortages, continues every day. We stood up production with seven local manufacturers for cloth masks, face shields, hand sanitizer and intubation boxes. We also have been working with an FDA approved manufacturer, under CDC guidance, to sterilize our N95 masks after each shift for extended use. Additionally, to conserve PPE, we deployed more than 300 tablets to outfit our non-ICU COVID units with telemonitoring capabilities for safe patient interactions.
- Recognizing the sacrifice and selflessness of our team members caring for COVID patients, we are implementing a COVID-19 special pay practice for team members who serve in dedicated COVID units, emergency departments, or units that have a COVID patient population of 50 percent or greater. We are also offering a temporary reimbursement program for team members to support their additional expenses in relation to the care of an eligible family member and providing lodging accommodations with partnerships secured through local area hotels.
- We recognize that racial/ethnic communities and marginalized groups experience worse health outcomes and COVID-19 is amplifying and exacerbating these disparities. Guided by justice and equality, Advocate Aurora is committed to finding ways to alleviate the disproportionate burden or impact of illness on individuals and refer them to services offered by our network of community partners. Safe and compassionate care for all is our top priority. Our own Dr. Tony Hampton took to social media to explain the racial disparity and share preventative steps and tips on how to keep healthy while at home. [Watch his video here.](#)
- As part of our proactive surge planning efforts to prepare for an increase in patient volume, we have robust plans in place at all our facilities. These plans address facilities, equipment, supplies and staffing to ensure we are prepared to meet the needs of our patients and communities now and in the future. Our data and analytics experts created tools to monitor the use of critical care space, important equipment, and estimate the patient demand across our system.

## Resources for the Community

- Our online [COVID-19 Symptom Checker](#) is the best way for patients to find the care they need. By answering a few simple questions, they'll quickly learn what they need to do next – from seeing a provider with a video visit – 24/7 – to contacting their doctor. The symptom checker is now also available in Spanish. Thus far, we have had more than 65,000 people utilize this tool to determine if they needed to seek care.
- The COVID-19 hotline at 1-866-4-HEALTH is staffed by clinicians who can answer questions about symptoms and determine the next steps in care.
- We continue to provide the community with the most accurate and up-to-date information on our [online COVID-19 resource center](#).
- Our Virtual Health platform, [LiveWell app](#), continues to offer virtual appointments with physicians 24-hours a day. Those who have or suspect they may have COVID-19 symptoms can do a virtual visit.

## Thank You for Your Support

- We are seeking convalescent plasma donations from patients who have recovered from COVID-19 to help patients with severe COVID-19 symptoms. Recovered patients have antibodies within their plasma that can attack the virus and potentially help our sickest patients. Historically, plasma has been used when new diseases or infections develop quickly, when no other options are available. We are partnering with [Versiti Blood Center of Wisconsin](#) and the [American Red Cross](#) in Illinois to refer our COVID-19 recovered patients for plasma collection through these organizations.
- We have been touched by the outpouring of support from our community and the offers to help. We are accepting supplies of certain items including N95 and procedural masks, handmade cloth masks, personal-sized, un-opened hand sanitizer, new or unused goggles, safety glasses or safety shields and disinfectant wipes. Items can be dropped off at the shipping and receiving dock of our hospital. Questions can be directed to: [COVIDAAHSupplyDonations@aurora.org](mailto:COVIDAAHSupplyDonations@aurora.org). If you are a local or national manufacturer looking to support your health care providers, contact [Brian.Barnum@advocatehealth.com](mailto:Brian.Barnum@advocatehealth.com).
- Since the launch of the [Relief Fund for Critical Care](#) more than \$1.2 million has been given and more is coming in every day. Thank you to our communities for supporting our health care heroes. All the proceeds from this fund will be used exclusively to ensure additional resources needed to treat our patients and protect our team members are at the ready.
- If you would like to join us in saying thank you to the dedicated Advocate Aurora doctors, nurses and team members who are working tirelessly to support our patients, you can [watch and share their special message](#) that we are all in this together. Watch the video here or add a Facebook profile image by visiting [www.facebook.com/profilepicframes](https://www.facebook.com/profilepicframes), search "Advocate Aurora Health" and click "Use as Profile Picture" to save.