

Week of 5.4.20

Situational Overview

Number of Advocate Aurora Health COVID-19 patients discharged: **2,269**

Cases	Illinois			Wisconsin		
	State	AAH	Inpatient	State	AAH	Inpatient
Active (5/4)	61,499	3,360	592	7,964	1,068	86
Fatal (5/4)	2,618	392		339	67	

*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've been able to significantly expand COVID-19 testing with a 24-hour turnaround and perform more than 1500 tests per day. While we are not yet able to offer community testing across our system due to limited testing supplies, we will continue discussions with state entities and partners and are pursuing all avenues for testing expansion.
- This week we launched our own COVID-19 serologic antibody test which identifies if individuals have had a previous infection with the virus. At this time, testing is for identifying those who may be eligible to participate in convalescent plasma donation and/or to evaluate for possible past infection for research purposes. Patients must have an order from an Advocate Aurora physician. There isn't enough scientific evidence to confirm if those with positive antibody tests are protected from COVID-19 and, if so, for how long. But test results will help estimate the total number of people who have been infected in the U.S., learn how the body's immune system responds to the virus and how the virus spreads.
- As the number of COVID-19 patients has stabilized across our system and decreases at some of our hospitals, we are taking measured steps to expand diagnostic imaging effective this week, and resume some elective surgeries and procedures beginning the week of May 11th. The timing for lifting restrictions will vary across our sites as we continue to assess the prevalence of COVID-19, hospitalization rates, supplies and equipment levels to ensure we are meeting the needs of our patients and communities.
- Our African American and Latino populations remain the most vulnerable to COVID-19. To help address this disproportionate impact, we have launched an extensive awareness and engagement effort. We are developing culturally appropriate materials and partnering with community groups to expand outreach, distributing Symptom Relief Kits to recovering COVID-19 positive patients and coordinating with Federally Qualified Health Centers for greater access and education in impacted communities. We are working with faith and community partners via listening sessions and developing a virtual version of Circle of Care – an integrated approach that improves disease management and prevention through community engagement.
- Advocate Aurora has joined its first randomized clinical trial designed to combat COVID-19. The phase II study will evaluate whether the drug Selnexor can suppress patients' inflammatory response to COVID-19, reduce their viral load and speed their recoveries. [Learn more about this study.](#)
- Given our hospital visitor restrictions, we are supporting virtual visitors for all patients under our care to meet their social and emotional support needs. As caregivers, it is so important for us to connect families through technology with the patient at the bedside.

Resources for the Community

- As a trusted health care partner, Advocate Aurora is committed to keeping our patients and consumers informed about our response to COVID-19. We continually update the [COVID-19 Resource Center](#) and our social media channels with relevant and helpful information, tools and resources.
- 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 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.
- 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

- This week is National Nurses Week, and we celebrate all our 22,000 Advocate Aurora nurses for their continued commitment to nursing excellence during these unprecedented times. We're in this together – and our nurses are playing a leading role in keeping us together with the work they're doing every day to care for our communities and each other. [Click here](#) to access materials to recognize our health care heroes with social media images and printable signs, as well as a way to send your own note of gratitude or consider [making a gift](#) in honor of our heroes. #inthistogether
- We have been touched by the overwhelming support from our community and the offers to help. In the most challenging times, our patients, partners and communities devoted their efforts to ensure our frontline team members were prepared for the battle that lay ahead. Since March, we have received:
 - **229,021** N95 and surgical masks
 - **9,445** Protective eyewear and face shields
 - **2,000+** Units of hand sanitizer, wipes and boxes of gloves

The outpouring of donations has been most tremendous and for that we thank you. If you'd still like to donate, details can be [found here](#).

- Across Advocate Aurora, we are proud to honor our health care heroes and share their inspiring stories. Visit our [health enews website](#) to read about the impact our heroes are making on the community.
- We are touched by the outpouring of love and support our team members receive from our patients and communities. Visit our [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) channels to join the celebrations, stories and words of encouragement for our frontline staff.