COVID-19 TOWN HALL

March 25, 2020
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Executive Director-
Arizona Pharmacy
Association
Coronavirus COVID-19 Global Cases by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

- Total Confirmed: 436,159
- Total Deaths: 19,648
- Total Recovered: 111,847

Confirmed Cases by Country/Region/Sovereignty:
- China: 81,661
- Italy: 69,176
- US: 55,238
- Spain: 47,610
- Germany: 34,009
- Iran: 27,017
- France: 22,637
- Switzerland: 10,456
- Korea, South: 9,137
- United Kingdom: 8,167
- Netherlands: 5,585
- Austria: 5,499
- Belgium: 4,937
- Portugal: 2,995

Covid-19 Map and Data: https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map-faq.html
Of the 326 cases 199 are in Maricopa
- 35 (18%) hospitalized
- 13 (7%) ICU
5 Deaths in Arizona
- 3 (2%) in Maricopa
March 23rd: The House successfully passed the "skinny budget" deal approved by the Senate last week, as well as the emergency unemployment bill. The House and Senate have both adjourned until April 13th, or until such a time that the president and speaker determine.

Governor Ducey announcing the state will be reopening closed hospitals, utilizing anesthesia equipment for the respirators, and issuing an executive order for labs to report how many tests are being given.

Additionally, while Governor Ducey is not ordering closure of nonessential businesses or shelter-in-place for Arizonans at this time, he will be issuing an executive order on essential services based on CDC guidelines this afternoon. Once posted, the executive orders will be available HERE.
TESTING SITES

- Several healthcare facilities have set up drive through testing
- Banner has several sites open to the general public
  - Banner published a hotline number, 1-844-549-1851, for people to call if they have want to get tested for COVID-19, the illness caused by the new coronavirus, and to "determine if testing is appropriate."
COVID-19 Update for Healthcare every Tuesday at 11AM

PPE & Supply Requests:

- There is extremely limited PPE available for order. It is very important that you realize that submission of a resource request does not guarantee your order will be filled. Orders will be prioritized based on critical healthcare and current supplies.

- **Before submitting a PPE request you must prove that you have taken the following steps:**
  - Follow CDC’s guidance on optimizing PPE Supplies.
  - Reach out to multiple vendors. If vendors cannot supply your order, keep the documentation.
  - Reach out to other partners in the area. Many jurisdictions are already sharing with each other.
  - Reach out to partners outside of the area. Partners in other states might have extra supplies to help bridge gaps in back orders.
  - Review the PPE sharing resource tracker and directly reach out to a partner on the list. [http://bit.ly/38gUMqV](http://bit.ly/38gUMqV)
  - If you have completed these steps, you can submit a healthcare order form through the link below.
  - Partner Resource Request Process (PDF)
  - Healthcare Order Form (Microsoft Publisher)
  - PPE Request Survey: [https://consultinglhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sMshMs3iYfoOfb](https://consultinglhd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2sMshMs3iYfoOfb)

PPE Prioritization:

- Acute Care
- Long Term Care
- Public Health Essential Workers
- EMS/Law Enforcement and Tribal Nations
- Urgent Cares and FQHCs
- Medical Examiner
- Correctional Health
The Board of Pharmacy will extend the tech trainees with licenses through May 31, 2020, for those tech trainees that expire on March 31, 2020 or April 30, 2020.

For those who have applied and/or have scheduled to test:

- Pearson VUE has suspended test delivery at its company-owned US and Canada-based testing centers until at least April 16 or whenever conditions are safe to reopen.

For recertification candidates:

- We have extended recertification deadlines for 60 days for CPhTs and Certified Compounded Sterile Preparation Technicians (CSPTs) who have March 31, April 30, and May 31 expiration dates to allow them extra time for completing CE and submitting applications.
Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) guidance for health care practitioners, pharmacists, and patients with regard to early refills on prescriptions for controlled substances. CLICK HERE

CII: Pursuant to 21 CFR 1306.12(b) “an individual practitioner may issue multiple prescriptions authorizing the patient to receive a total of up to a 90-day supply of a schedule II controlled substance, subject to specific conditions are met. These conditions include, among other things, that the practitioner must sign and date the multiple prescriptions as of the date issued, (21 CFR 1306.05(a)); and, write on each separate prescription the earliest date on which the prescription can be filled (21 CFR 1306.12(b)(ii)). A pharmacy filling such prescription has no authority to change this date, or dispense the controlled substance to the patient prior to that date. This does not prohibit the practitioner from issuing one prescription for a 90-day supply if allowed by state law and regulation that otherwise comport with 21 CFR 1306.04(a).

CIII-CV: Which can be refilled under the CSA, some states have issued orders allowing pharmacies to dispense early refills of prescriptions. Subject to the provisions of 21 CFR 1306.06, requiring a pharmacy only to dispense controlled substances in the usual course of professional pharmacy practice, and if the prescription meets the requirements of 21 CFR 1306.04(a), this practice may be permitted if the early dispensing is allowed by state law and regulation.
CVS Caremark will be temporarily allowing pharmacies to document the word “COVID” on its signature log with delivery date and delivery time for retail pharmacy patients that choose not to directly sign. If the pharmacy is delivering the Covered Item directly to the patient’s home, document by writing “COVID Delivery” when capturing direct signature is not possible.

ESI: Temporary concession to signature log requirement. Effective March 18 through April 30, 2020, if a member’s signature is not available due to COVID-19, the pharmacy will be required to make a notation on the hard copy prescription or an electronic annotation tied to the prescription fill stating the reason for unavailability of signature. This concession does not apply to prescriptions required by law to have a signature. For delivered prescriptions, documentation must contain member name, prescription number and date of service or delivery.

ESI suspended all field and desk audits as of 3-23-20

CMS: We are making clear that HHS does not require and will not audit for patient signatures as proof of delivery for any medications, including for controlled substances. Part D sponsors should work with pharmacy benefit managers and other entities to continue to utilize tools at their disposal to make sure beneficiaries are receiving controlled substances appropriately.
KAM GANDHI
Executive Director
AZ Board of Pharmacy
BOARD OF PHARMACY UPDATE

- FAQ’S
- Board of Pharmacy Task Force Update
STEVEN DUDLEY

Executive Director-
Arizona Poison and
Drug Information
Center
The Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center is available to answer questions about COVID-19 from Arizona providers (for testing, patient guidance) and the general public (for testing, isolation, quarantine): 1-844-542-8201

- Overview of the calls the hotline is receiving
USP Response to Shortages of Garb and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Sterile Compounding During COVID-19 Pandemic

Compounding Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer During COVID-19 Pandemic

USP Appeals 795 & 797
Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the FDA has received a number of queries concerning compounding of alcohol-based hand sanitizers. The agency issued guidance:

- **Policy for Temporary Compounding of Certain Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products During the Public Health Emergency**
- ***UPDATED since last call***
THANK YOU!

We want to thank all of you for being on the front lines of this pandemic.