June 1, 2020

ILLINOIS HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Executive Officers, Member Hospitals and Health Systems
Chief Operating Officers
Chief Medical Officers
Chief Nursing Officers
Chief Quality Officers
Chief Financial Officers
Emergency Preparedness Contacts
Emergency Department Directors
Behavioral Constituency Section
Government Relations Personnel
In-House Counsel
Public Relations Directors

FROM: A.J. Wilhelmi, President & CEO
Tim Nuding, Senior Vice President, Member Services & Corporate Finance
Keneatha Johnson, Director, Quality, Safety, and Health Policy

SUBJECT: IHA COVID-19 Update – June 1, 2020

Please note that starting today, we will be providing IHA’s regular update memos three times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Other special issue memos will be disseminated as necessary. Following is a brief recap of today’s top developments.

Situational Awareness
The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced today 974 new COVID-19 cases (the lowest one-day total since April 5) and 23 deaths (the lowest one-day total since April 2). The total number of cases in the state is 121,234 in 101 counties, with a total of 5,412 deaths. IDPH says that in the past 24 hours, 20,014 test specimens have been processed, with a positivity rate of 4.9%. The preliminary seven-day statewide positivity from May 25-31 is 6%. Statewide COVID-19 hospitalizations in the past 24 hours decreased from 3,296 patients to 3,215. Of that figure, 902 patients are in the ICU, with 547 patients on ventilators.

Governor Issues New COVID-19 Executive Orders
As the state moved to Phase 3 of the “Restore Illinois” reopening plan on Friday (May 29), Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a new disaster proclamation and executive orders to be in effect
for 30 days. While lifting his stay-at-home order, the Governor extended several legal mechanisms and provisions, including several that impact the hospital community.

- **Disaster Proclamation** – authorizes a new disaster and directs governmental agencies to coordinate their efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Executive Order #38 (COVID-19 Order #36) (Restoring Illinois – Protecting Our Communities)** – essentially codifies the reopening guidance issued by IDPH and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

- **Executive Order #39 (COVID-19 Order #37) (Reissues Executive Orders)** – reissues many of the existing orders including the following:
  - Telehealth (Executive Order 2020-09) re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Health Care Worker Background Checks (Executive Order 2020-12) re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Fingerprint Submissions under Health Care Worker Background Check Act (Executive Order 2020-22) re-issued and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Actions by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for Licensed Professionals engaged in Disaster Response (Executive Order 2020-23) is re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Hospital Capacity (Executive Order 2020-26) is re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Illinois Department of Public Health Regulatory Activities (Executive Order 2020-35) is re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.
  - Immunity from Civil Liability for Health Care Facilities, Professionals, and Volunteers (Executive Order 2020-37) is re-issued in its entirety and extended through June 27, 2020.

**IDPH COVID-19 Webinars This Week**
IDPH will host a COVID-19 Situational Update webinar on Wednesday, June 2, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., to provide the latest information on the Coronavirus Disease outbreak and Illinois preparedness efforts. Register [here](#).

IDPH will hold a webinar on Thursday, June 4, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., on its current data partners at BioSpatial. This platform creates data-driven, actionable insight from timely, health-related data to improve patient care, enhance population health and safety, and decrease healthcare costs. The platform provides users a cloud-based secure platform to visualize nearly real-time data and analytics about EMS in Illinois. Register [here](#).

**ECHO COVID-19 Sessions in June**
The Extension for Community Health Organization (ECHO) will hold several special COVID-19 sessions in June. The sessions, with case presentations, include:

- **COVID-19 in Pediatrics** special ECHO sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 16 and 30 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. CDT. Registration is required. Register at [COVID-19 in Pediatrics](#). Space is limited.
COVID-19 in Adults sessions will continue on alternate weeks and are scheduled for Wednesday, June 10 and 24 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. CDT. Registration is required. Register at COVID-19 in Adults. Space is limited.

The sessions are open to all providers, and you do not need to be a past ECHO participant to attend. The ECHO-Chicago team continuously posts new information to the ECHO-Chicago webpage devoted to COVID-19.

CDC Clarifies COVID-19 Types of Spread
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) actively reviews its website to make sure the content is accessible and clear for all types of audiences. As a result of one such review, edits were made to the organization of the COVID-19 transmission page, including adding a headline in an attempt to clarify other types of spread beyond person to person. This change was intended to make it easier to read and was not a result of any new science. After media reports appeared that suggested a change in CDC's view on transmissibility, it became clear that these edits were confusing. CDC has again edited the webpage to provide clarity.

The primary and most important mode of transmission for COVID-19 is through close contact from person-to-person. Based on data from lab studies on COVID-19 and what is known about similar respiratory diseases, it may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this isn't thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

New CDC Report on COVID-19 Early Spread
The first U.S. cases of nontravel–related COVID-19 were confirmed on February 26 and 28, 2020, suggesting that community transmission was occurring by late February. However, a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests that limited community transmission likely began in late January or early February 2020, after a single importation from China, followed by multiple importations from Europe. The CDC says enhanced syndromic and virus surveillance will be needed to monitor COVID-19 trends for the duration of the pandemic.

Resources
- IDPH webpage on COVID-19
- Illinois COVID-19 website for the public - coronavirus.illinois.gov
- CDC Homepage for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Chicago Department of Public Health COVID-19 webpage
- IHA webpage on COVID-19

If you have questions or comments, please contact Tim Nuding, Senior Vice President, Member Services and Corporate Finance at 217-541-1164 or tnuding@team-iha.org