**CommonSpirit Health®**

**Laboratory Testing Strategy for SARS-COV-2**

**July 9, 2020**

The CSH Laboratory Service Line leadership is actively engaging every vendor in the country with a FDA Emergency Use Authorization molecular test, and leveraging our size to purchase testing platforms and test kits /cartridges.

We currently perform approximately 2,800 tests per day in our acute facilities. We have several locations performing SARS-COV-2 testing for facilities in their respective Divisions. This will continue. However, the need is much higher. It is estimated we need to perform 16,000-18,000 tests a day.

We are standing up a CSH National COVID Testing Lab to provide SARS-COV-2 molecular testing with 24-36 hour TAT and at a low cost. This lab will have the capacity to perform 10,000-11,000 tests a day. The testing facility will be available to the entire CommonSpirit Health network of hospitals and ambulatory facilities. The go-live date is September 1, 2020.

In addition to supplying the National Lab, we are purchasing more than 90 new molecular testing platforms that have been or will be placed around the system. There are also 7 hospital testing locations throughout the system performing testing for their respective divisions. While all vendors are allocating their tests weekly, it is anticipated this will increase our acute facility testing capacity by approximately 5,000 tests per day.

**The plan is, in total, to perform 18,000 tests per day by fall.**

Acute facility testing will continue to be reserved for inpatients, symptomatic employees, ED patients and same-day surgeries. Other testing needs, including employee testing, will be sent to the CSH National Testing Lab or to a Division Lab.

The Lab Service Line recognizes this is a difficult time and we are unable to meet your testing needs at this time. We are fully confident we are heading in the right direction and your needs will be met in the upcoming weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Smith, CSH VP Laboratory Service Line at 530-356-0967 or [Karen.smith@dignityhealth.org](mailto:Karen.smith@dignityhealth.org).