

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

April 28, 2020

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Today's COVID-19 stats from BJH

93 inpatients confirmed positive **31** admitted, awaiting test results

Departments prepare to schedule more patient visits



Safety for our patients and staff is the No. 1 priority as our clinical operations increase in-office appointments. As departments prepare to schedule more patient appointments, special considerations will be taken to ensure both patients and staff are safe.

Enhanced safety measures may include:

- Pre-screening patients the day prior to their visit
- Patients and staff wearing masks
- Social distancing practices
- Reduced number of people in waiting rooms
- Only one visitor (over age 16) accompanying the patient

- Enhanced disinfection of common areas and exam rooms
- Online check-in and payment to reduce time at front desk

We miss our patients and are ready to see them in-person or by [virtual visits](#). If you need to schedule an appointment, please call your provider's office directly.

Keeping health-care heroes hydrated



MATT MILLER / WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Thanks to National Beverage Corp, our health-care providers on the frontlines won't go thirsty. The company donated 100 cases of LaCroix sparkling water to the School of Medicine for delivery to our health-care teams working at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Here, from left to right, Dean David Perlmutter, MD, chair of medicine Victoria Fraser, MD, chief resident and instructor in medicine Aisling Doyle, MD, and residents Brendan Caprio, MD, and Mohit Harsh, MD, gear up for distribution.

Finding support through Zoom groups

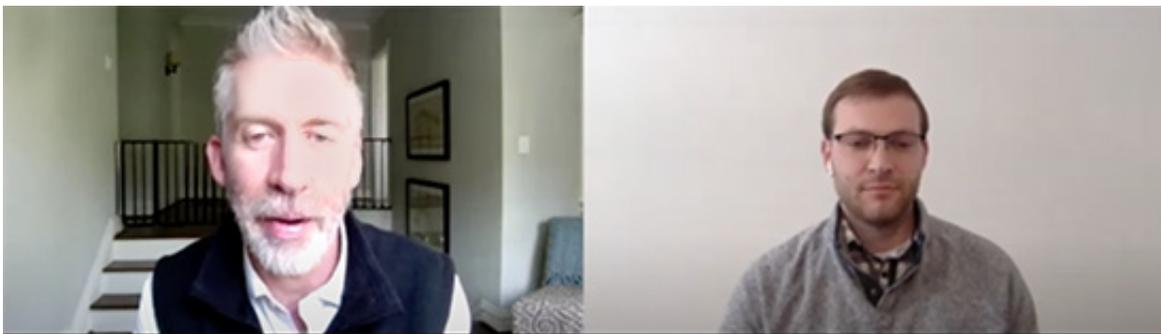


WashU psychiatry faculty are hosting weekly, confidential Zoom support groups to help employees cope during these challenging times. [Details are on the HR Mental Health Resources page.](#)

Current topics include:

- Mondays — Quarantine Support Group, 10-11 a.m.; Frontline Support Group, 4-5 p.m.
- Tuesdays — Coffee and Questions: Ask the Expert, 8-9 a.m.; Frontline Support Group, 1-2 p.m.
- Wednesdays — Integrated Wellness, 2-3 p.m.
- Thursdays — Staying Connected: Navigating Close Relationships Through Tough Times, 3-4 p.m.
- Fridays — Frontline Support Group, 10-11 a.m.; Inside Out: Creative Expression Despite Uncertainty, 12-1 p.m.; Managing Worry, 1-1:30 p.m.

Impact of COVID-19 on future cardiac care



In an American College of Cardiology (ACC) video, Thomas Maddox, MD, (above, left) professor of medicine and chair of ACC Science and Quality Committee, [discusses how the coronavirus outbreak has impacted the ACC and its members.](#) He said he thinks the pandemic has taught physicians a lot about virtual care, as a result of the huge acceleration in its use, and that many patients may consider virtual visits over the long term.

“When we get back to being able to have the option in person, I think we certainly will. I still think a lot of health care will be appropriately delivered in person, but I think a lot less physicians and patients will be hesitant to use a virtual strategy,” Maddox said. He also said he thinks his team and people around the world have learned more about how to work well together, how to trust each other and how to improvise during the global pandemic.

Youths aging out of foster care face destitution during the shutdown

Pediatrician Katie Plax, MD, introduces St. Louis Post-Dispatch readers to a population hit especially hard by the current pandemic: Youth aging out of foster care. For the last nine years, Plax has cared for patients from the time they enter foster care until age 25, and has seen firsthand how difficult the transition can be. She writes that some states have decided to extend services to these young adults past their 21st birthday. [“We can show our support, offer buffering, and tell these young people they matter,”](#) she said.

One website contains key WashU Med coronavirus info

[Coronavirus.med.wustl.edu](https://coronavirus.med.wustl.edu) is your central resource for the latest policies, procedures and resources related to COVID-19 at WashU School of Medicine. There, you'll find information about research, education, coping, and things you need to know about working on campus or from home.



Important numbers and links

- Call the BJC/WUSM employee hotline for COVID-19 exposure or illness: 314-362-5056
- Use this [online screening tool](#) before reporting to work
- Review [inpatient protocol](#)
- Review [ambulatory protocol](#)
- Call the Coping with COVID hotline for in-the-moment emotional support: 314-286-1700
- Contact the Employee Assistance Program for 24/7 work-life support: 844-365-4587
- Email inspirational stories to heroes@wustl.edu

For Medical Campus updates, visit coronavirus.med.wustl.edu »

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