

## WashU Med COVID-19 Update

June 15, 2020

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

### Today's COVID-19 stats from BJH

**28** inpatients confirmed positive      **23** admitted, awaiting test results

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### Patients with COVID-19 donate specimens to advance research



Philip Mudd, MD, PhD, above, an emergency medicine physician, and his

colleague, Jane O'Halloran, MD, PhD, an infectious diseases specialist, have led efforts to create a repository for storing and managing specimens collected from patients with COVID-19. To date, more than 7,000 samples, including blood, urine and saliva specimens, have been distributed to investigators conducting COVID-19 research on the Medical and Danforth campuses.

Collecting samples via one centralized process speeds research, prevents scientists from duplicating work already underway and relieves patients of the burden of being asked to participate in multiple studies. Learn more about [current efforts or how to obtain research samples](#).

The repository was created with financial support from The Foundation for Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Siteman Cancer Center and Washington University's Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences (ICTS), as well as input from the Community Advisory Board of Washington University's Institute for Public Health and ICTS.

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## Urgent need for blood and platelet donations

A blood drive will be held from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. July 8 in the North South Link of the Medical Campus near the Sprint/TFC Customer Center. All donated blood will be screened for the presence of COVID-19 antibodies, with donors receiving the results. Learn more about antibody testing [here](#).

The American Red Cross faces a severe blood shortage after COVID-19 resulted in the cancellation of more than 30,000 blood drives. As hospitals resume surgical procedures and treatments that were delayed due to the pandemic, donors are urged to give now to ensure blood products are readily available for patients.

[To keep donors and staff safe](#), the Red Cross is taking extra precautions. **All donors must wear a mask** and must register ahead of time for a donation [time here](#) (enter sponsor code BJH). No walk-ins will be taken. Donors can shorten their donation time by using [RapidPass](#) prior to visiting a drive. See more [tips](#)



## Podcast: Safely navigating re-openings while risks remain



As the country reopens and people venture back to restaurants, shopping malls and hair salons again, how can that be done as safely as possible? School of Medicine experts in testing and infectious diseases offer some tips. [This episode of “Show Me the Science”](#) focuses on how best to fend off COVID-19 as restrictions are lifted.

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## Is it safe to let repair people inside your home during COVID-19?

Health officials tell us not to let people who aren't part of our households into our homes. So, what's the best way to stay safe when home repairs are needed? In a story published in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution,

infectious disease expert Steve Lawrence, MD, associate professor of medicine, suggests [starting the screening process](#) before the repair or delivery person arrives.

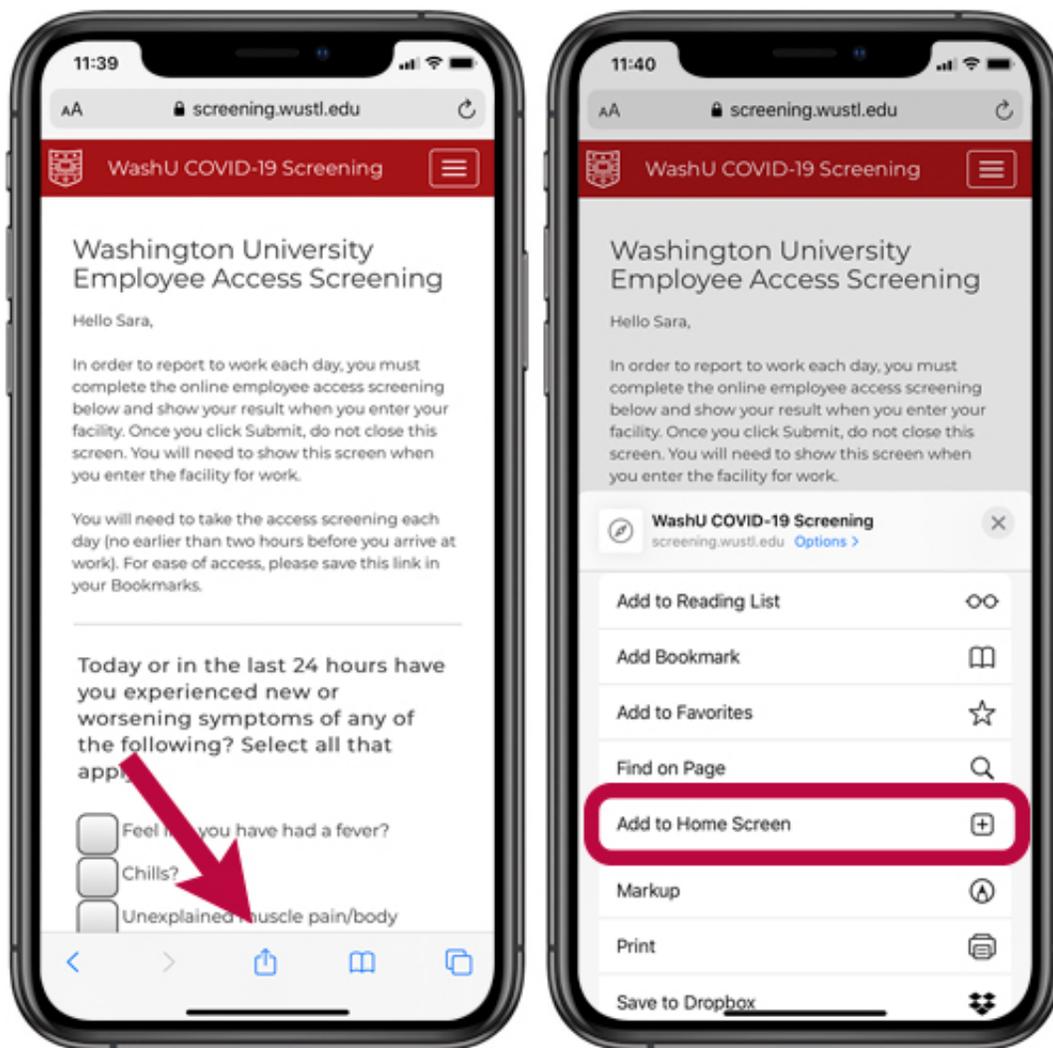


“Call ahead or look online to find out what kind of safety procedures and protocols they have in place to protect workers and customers,” Lawrence said. “That should include masks, cleaning supplies, sanitizer that they bring with them.”

Upon arrival, Lawrence said it’s important to ask the person about possible COVID-19 exposure and illness symptoms — but do so respectfully, at a safe distance and while wearing a mask. And don’t be surprised if the company you’re booking a service with asks you a similar set of questions.

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## How to bookmark the COVID-19 screening app on your phone



All School of Medicine faculty, staff and trainees must use the [WashU COVID-19 Screening Tool](https://screening.wustl.edu) to enter buildings on the Medical Campus. To make it easier to use this daily tool, consider following these [directions to bookmark the screening app](#) on your iOS or Android phone.

To complete the daily screening, log in to the tool using your WUSTL Key no earlier than two hours prior to your arrival to work. You will be asked about recent exposures and common COVID-19 symptoms and prompted to record your temperature. (If you do not have a thermometer, your temperature will be taken at a campus screening station.) Show results to screeners, and you will receive a sticker to place on your badge if you are good to go to work.

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## Inspiring workspace



Doctors wear masks June 1 in Hope Plaza while recording a video to honor graduating internal medicine residents. Pictured: 2019-20 chief residents Peter McDonnell, MD, Ryan Patterson, MD, Adam Lick, MD, Aisling Doyle, MD, and Shakthi Bhaskar, MD.

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## 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
- Know your [screening stations](#)
- 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](mailto:heroes@wustl.edu)

For Medical Campus updates, visit [coronavirus.med.wustl.edu](https://coronavirus.med.wustl.edu) »

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