Today's COVID-19 stats from BJH

49 inpatients confirmed positive  
17 admitted, awaiting test results

Question of the week: How can I safely visit my doctor during COVID-19?

Please do not delay your regular checkups. Although in-person appointments are still available, almost all Washington University specialties also are offering virtual visits for many conditions and concerns. A new video explains the benefits of our telemedicine visits. Learn more about how we are keeping patients safe.
If you are a WUSM employee and your child has COVID-19 symptoms, please follow these guidelines.

Parents who are not health-care providers should contact their child’s pediatrician. Many pediatricians are able to get results quickly.

For parents who are health-care providers, there are two options for arranging testing for your symptomatic child.

1. Request testing through your child’s primary care provider (PCP) or pediatrician. This is the preferred method because it will allow the test results to be sent directly to your child’s doctor. Make sure to mention that your child has a parent who is a health-care worker.

2. If your child doesn’t have a PCP or the pediatrician is not available, you can call 314-714-6472 to initiate the process. This call line is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon. Make sure to mention that your child has a parent who is a health-care worker.

Learn more about testing of symptomatic children of employees.
Trial tests immune modulator drugs in hospitalized patients

William G. Powderly, MD, discusses patient care with Maanasi Samant, MD, in the intensive care unit at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Powderly, director of the Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences, is protocol chair of an international phase 3 clinical trial.

One of the most vexing aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic is the novel coronavirus’s ability to turn the body’s immune system against the body. After the virus has been cleared from the body, the immune system sometimes continues to hurl an arsenal of immune proteins at the already vanquished virus, creating a dangerous inflammatory response called a cytokine storm.

A new, international phase 3 clinical trial, led by the School of Medicine and funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), will investigate the potential of three drugs — developed for other inflammatory diseases — to tame the cytokine storm, shorten hospital stays and reduce the need for patients to be placed on ventilators to help with breathing. The goal is to enroll 2,000 patients hospitalized with moderate to severe COVID-19 across the U.S. and Latin America.

Read more in these St. Louis Post-Dispatch and KMOV news stories.
Food service open with limited seating

Some of your favorite places to eat on the Medical Campus are now open with limited seating:

- **Kaldi’s MCC** 5:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- **Shell Café** 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Farmstead Café** 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Campus Store** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Please visit the [website](#) to order in advance through ChowNow or Toast.

**Things to know before you go**

The flow of the Shell Café has been reversed. You are encouraged to order and pay online to assist with limiting the number of people in the café. Enter through the seating area and follow signage for pre-order pickup location.

Order in person by entering through the seating area and placing your order with the cashier. View the menu ahead of time to reduce density in the café. Follow signage for order pickup in the café.

Limited seating is available. Please disinfect your area after you dine with the spray bottle and paper towel available in the café. For more information, please...
The Washington University influenza vaccine policy requires all employees not working 100% remotely to receive a flu vaccine by Nov. 20, unless granted an exemption for medical reasons or religious beliefs. While it’s not required, we strongly encourage remote employees to get a flu vaccine through their private care practitioners or preferred pharmacy and provide appropriate documentation. Flu vaccination is required should you return to campus before March 31.

Employees should go to the portal to submit a record of the completed vaccination or request an exemption. Learn more at flu.wustl.edu.

Screening process to access Medical Campus

In addition to masking, washing hands and distancing, we all provide an additional layer of protection for our colleagues, patients and visitors by undergoing the required daily screening
process to enter the Medical Campus.

1. Fill out your **online assessment** daily, no earlier than two hours before your arrival. In the screening tool, you will be asked about COVID-19 symptoms, recent exposures, and any COVID-19 testing results. If you are unable to complete the assessment prior to arrival, the screening staff will ask you all of the same screening questions.

2. Present yourself at a campus screening station and maintain social distancing. Screening stations are positioned at major campus entry points. Not all screening stations are open 24 hours. Please use an entrance where a screening station is in operation. Thermal cameras at screening stations now allow for a faster temperature check upon arrival. Show your screening tool result on your device for expedited entry at the screening location. Based on your daily screening tool result and thermal screening clearance, you will be given a color-coded sticker to wear on your badge indicating that you may access campus for a 24-hour period, beginning at 6 a.m. each day.

3. Put your screening sticker on your badge. You’re done! For infection control, please remove the screening sticker at the end of each day. Wipe your badge daily with disinfectant.

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**WashU doctor answers COVID questions**
In his bi-weekly appearance on KSDK-TV, Jason Newland, MD, professor of pediatrics in infectious diseases, answered questions sent to the station from viewers. This segment’s questions included whether herd immunity is an effective strategy for getting the country through the virus (short answer – no), whether people should keep their cancer preventive screenings (short answer – yes), and whether it is necessary to take sheets and pillows from home for a hotel stay (short answer – no). Newland joins KSDK-TV Thursday and Sunday evenings.
Going to the doctor during the COVID-19 pandemic doesn’t have to be scary. Physician offices are taking measures to keep patients safe — including mandating masks, following social distancing protocols in waiting areas, regularly disinfecting spaces and supplying hand sanitizer.

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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 Well-Being Line for in-the-moment emotional support: 314-286-1700
- Contact the Employee Assistance Program for 24/7 work-life support: 844-365-4587
- Email story ideas and requests to heroes@wustl.edu
For Medical Campus updates, visit coronavirus.med.wustl.edu »

To ensure that this newsletter is delivered to your inbox, add updates@wusm.wustl.edu to your address book.