**DICON COVID-19 Weekly Digest 5/04/2020**
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**What’s New on DICON COVID Resources?**

**COVID-19 DICON FAQ:** Can we use serologic testing to gauge immunity to COVID-19 at this time?

**Duke Document Updates:**
- Dependent Care Financial Assistance
- FAQs on COVID-19 Transmission and Exposure Risk for Team Members
- Meal and Medicine Resources for Patients in Home Isolation
- Guidelines for Healthcare Workers upon Returning Home from Work
- Key Messages for Communicating Enhancing Patient Access to Care
- CDC Guidance Attestation Form for High Risk Redeployment
- FAQs for COVID Work Modification Request
- PAPR Instructions for Donning, Doffing and Disinfection (Combined)
- Pediatric Visitation COVID-19 Guidelines

**Notable articles related to SARS-COV-2 Epidemiology, Transmission and Infection Prevention:**

**NEJM:**
- Early Detection of Covid-19 through a Citywide Pandemic Surveillance Platform

**MMWR:**
- COVID in poultry plants
- Public health response to COVID through 4/21

**JAMA:**
- The Business of Medicine in the Era of COVID-19
- Contact Tracing Assessment of COVID-19 Transmission Dynamics in Taiwan and Risk at Different Exposure Periods Before and After Symptom Onset
- Commentary on face shields

**ICHE:**
- Commentary from DICON on universal masking and shielding

**CID:**
- Role of serology in the COVID-19 pandemic
- Throat Wash Testing for COVID 19- Should we put our money where our mouth is?
Other Journals:
- Repeat Molecular Testing for Respiratory Pathogens: Diagnostic Gain or Diminishing Returns?
- Impact of viral sample transport conditions on testing results.
- Incidence of disease in homeless shelters

Regulatory updates:
- NCDHHS has added a tracker of COVID cases by zip code to its on-line dashboard.
- Medicare to Increase Rates for Telephone Visit, Similar to Regular E&M Codes [Tip Sheet]
- NC DHHS leaders issued a memo today that states ... "Effective May 1, elective and non-urgent procedures and surgeries can be resumed in accordance with the guidance developed by the NC Healthcare Association..." Read the full memo and the related guidance
- CMS has announced a new commission to investigate response in nursing homes
- CMS made many additional regulatory changes yesterday- these cover broad topics including the ability to expand bed capacity, provider orders are no longer needed for tests and telehealth visits.
- CDC Private Sector Call today at 4pm
- FDA issued an umbrella EUA for antibody tests.
- OSHA Issued guidance for mask decontamination last week
- CDC Made Several Updates to Guidance Documents Yesterday- here are some of the major ones:
  - Change in the 7 plus 3 to 10 for continuing symptom-based precautions (note name changed from non-test based strategy to symptom based strategy)
  - Updated guidance for use of PPE during shortage
  - Updated Clinical Guidance tips- including that identifying other respiratory viruses does not exclude COVID
  - New contact tracing tools
  - Updated return to work criteria
  - In addition, the CDC has issued guidance for communities, schools, workplaces and events (this includes daycare guidance). These can all be found at this link. Most of the changes were made to cleaning/disinfecting guidelines

News Updates:
- FDA approved use of a ventilator developed by NASA
- Walgreens in Durham is offering free COVID testing with an appointment.- it is the self-test using the nasal swab (not NP swab)
- There are reports emerging of interesting symptoms- some of pediatric cases presenting with similar symptoms to Kawasaki disease and there are many, many reports of the COVID toes
- What Is ‘Covid Toe’? Maybe a Strange Sign of Coronavirus Infection
- The impact of virtual conferences
- Lots of lay press on vaccine developments- and US effort by DHHS called Operation Warp Speed and the Oxford vaccine study is moving forward and here is a review from BMJ news about current vaccine status
- Roche has been granted emergency authorization for an antibody test on the Cobas platform