March 19, 2020

A Message to Community Healthcare Providers:

As we are all aware, the COVID-19 situation in Arizona continues to evolve. In recent days, a group of leaders from the Coconino County and Flagstaff community have assembled to launch community testing centers for COVID-19, expand available COVID-19 testing capability, and help support our public health and clinical readiness and response.

Based on the rapidly developing situation, please see the following recommendations and requests:

1. Office-based testing for strep, flu, RSV, and other conditions should be **discontinued**. This is for the safety of outpatient clinical staff and the conservation of testing materials. COVID-19 testing is also **NOT** recommended in most outpatient practices and offices. For practices in the greater Flagstaff area, testing is available at community testing centers being coordinated by Northern Arizona Healthcare, North Country HealthCare, and the Coconino County COVID-19 Incident Management Team.

2. Viral test kits (ie synthetic swabs and transport media) are <u>urgently needed</u> for FMC and community COVID-19 testing centers. CCHHS would appreciate it if you would be willing to drop off those supplies to the Coconino County COVID-19 Incident Management Team, 2625 N. King Street or North Country Health Center, 2920 N Fourth St, Flagstaff.

3. Use of telehealth and telephone tools for patients with non-emergent flu-like health conditions is strongly encouraged.

The above recommendations may change as the access to supplies and the community prevalence of COVID-19 may change.

Thank you for your collaborative support of our community response. We very much appreciate your commitment to evidence-based improvements in our delivery system, as the situation evolves.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Coconino County COVID-19 Incident Management Team with any questions at 928-679-7300. And please stay healthy, share kindness and support, and – of course – wash your hands.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marie Peoples,
Coconino County COVID-19 Incident Commander