

Week of 4.27.20

Situational Overview

Number of Advocate Aurora Health COVID-19 patients discharged: **2,182**

Cases	Illinois			Wisconsin		
	State	AAH	Inpatient	State	AAH	Inpatient
Active (4/27)	43,903	2,746	598	5,912	837	81
Fatal (4/27)	1,933	305		272	54	

*Note the numbers are fluid. For the most updated information on active/fatal cases, visit the IL Dept of Public Health and WI Dept of Health Services

Key Advocate Aurora Health Action Items

- As our access to COVID-19 testing increases, we continue to expand our testing to help patients safely get the right care at the right time while also reducing the transmission of this virus. This week, we are expanding COVID-19 testing for patients undergoing urgent and emergent surgeries and procedures including scheduled C-sections. To operationalize testing, we are introducing, and in some cases reintroducing, drive through testing locations. Please remember these locations will only be for pre-scheduled tests and will not be available for community testing at this time. Physicians will direct patients who have scheduled procedures to the testing sites as needed.
- We are extending restrictions on elective procedures and non-urgent ambulatory visits until May 15. In the meantime, we are evaluating communities with low prevalence of COVID-19 to explore lifting restrictions while considering necessary PPE, staffing and equipment availability.
- We continue to seek convalescent plasma donations from people who have recovered from COVID-19 to help patients with severe COVID-19 symptoms. Advocate Aurora is now partnering with Versiti Blood Center for donations in both Illinois and Wisconsin. Recovered COVID-19 patients who had a positive test result at an Advocate Aurora site and who have an active MyAdvocateAurora portal account received a message to gauge interest and eligibility for donating plasma through Versiti. We are initially targeting patients who received a positive test more than 28 days ago as they will not require a repeat test. Patients who qualify will be contacted by an Advocate Aurora clinician to discuss further. To date, 14 Advocate Aurora patients have successfully undergone convalescent plasma transfusions.
- As a reminder, our Emergency Departments are open and available to provide all types of emergency medical care. We encourage patients to seek care for medical emergencies such as chest pain, heart attack, stroke symptoms, injuries and more, and should not delay care during the pandemic. We are well-equipped and taking proactive measures to prevent the spread of all infectious diseases, including COVID-19.
- To help our patients continue safely recovering at home, we are piloting a program to provide COVID-19 Symptom Relief Kits to COVID patients who have been discharged from the Emergency Department. The kit includes a 3-day supply of over-the-counter medications that can help alleviate COVID symptoms and that are currently in short supply at retail stores. It allows patients to recover at home, eliminating the need to go to the pharmacy and risk exposure to others. The program is being piloted at hospitals with a high volume of patients presenting to the Emergency Rooms with COVID symptoms.

Resources for the Community

- As a trusted health care partner, Advocate Aurora is committed to keeping our patients and consumers informed about our response to COVID-19. We continually update the [COVID-19 Resource Center](#) and our social media channels with relevant and helpful information, tools and resources.
- Our online [COVID-19 Symptom Checker](#) is the best way for patients to find the care they need. By answering a few simple questions, they'll quickly learn what they need to do next – from seeing a provider with a video visit – 24/7 – to contacting their doctor.
- The COVID-19 hotline at 1-866-4-HEALTH is staffed by clinicians who can answer questions about symptoms and determine the next steps in care.
- Our Virtual Health platform, [LiveWell app](#), continues to offer virtual appointments with physicians 24-hours a day. Those who have or suspect they may have COVID-19 symptoms can do a virtual visit.

Thank You for Your Support

- Since March 31, our communities have donated more than 120,000 meals and other food donations to health care workers across our system. See [Wisconsin photos here](#) and [Illinois photos here](#).
- Across Advocate Aurora, we are proud to honor our health care heroes and share their inspiring stories. Visit our [health news website](#) to read about the impact our heroes are making on the community.
- We have been touched by the overwhelming support from our community and the offers to help. As a reminder, we are currently seeking donations of the following items:
 - Hand sanitizer – personal sized hand sanitizer that has been unopened. CDC guidelines encourage sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol composition.
 - Disinfectant wipes – All brands of unopened premoistened wipes are accepted.
 - Unused scrubs – All brands and all sizes accepted.Drop off items at your local Advocate Aurora Health hospital at the shipping and receiving dock.
- Since the launch of the [Relief Fund for Critical Care](#), more than \$2.4 million has been given and more is coming in every day. Thank you to our communities for supporting our health care heroes. All the proceeds from this fund will be used exclusively to ensure additional resources needed to treat our patients and protect our team members are at the ready.
- We are touched by the outpouring of love and support our team members receive from our patients and communities. Visit our [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) channels to join the celebrations, stories and words of encouragement for our frontline staff. If you would like to join us in saying thank you to the dedicated Advocate Aurora doctors, nurses and team members who are working tirelessly to support our patients, you can [download our social media images](#) and use on your profiles.