

MSSC NEWS

What doctors should know about COVID-19

Coronavirus Disease 2019 – or COVID-19 – has stressed medical care in Sedgwick County like no other situation in recent decades. Hospitals, the Sedgwick County Health Department and physician practices are increasingly stretched beyond capacity with limited resources.

The Medical Society is engaged in the issue and is here to help provide resources to its member physicians. We are working closely with the health department to ensure there is consistent, accurate messaging.

MSSC members also are playing key roles in gathering and disseminating information and recommendations, including Dr. Garold Minns, Sedgwick County's chief medical officer. MSSC also worked with Sedgwick County leaders to investigate the possibility of creating a testing site.

In this issue, you will find a number of physician resources, including guidance on handling the influx of patients who want testing, how to protect yourself and your staff, what kind of supplies you should have on hand, and how to take care of your mental and physical health.



March
2020

About upcoming MSSC events in Wichita area

Due to the cancellation of various events around Sedgwick County in response to the coronavirus threat, please note that planned MSSC events in April and May have been delayed. We will keep you posted on new dates as we set them. Please be sure to check your e-mail and mssconline.org for the latest updates.

MSSC events postponed

Wichita Docs Under 40 was scheduled to have an event at a Wichita Wind Surge baseball game on April 17. Because Major League Baseball is delaying the start of its season, that event has to be rescheduled (date yet to be determined).



MSSC also had a general membership meeting scheduled for May 5 at Wichita State University. It was to feature the new presidents of WSU and the Kansas Health Foundation, and Wichita's new mayor. But WSU is cancelling all events with more than 50 people through the end of the spring semester. We are hoping to reschedule that event in the fall.

Family medicine doctors must be safe, resilient

In addition to emergency room staff and other front-line workers, family medicine physicians are feeling the brunt of coronavirus fear and mitigation.

Faced with the unknown, many physicians are doing what they can to help patients while still protecting their own health, and the health of their families and the practices they manage.

"We have been giving daily updates to our staff, trying to keep them alert of everything," said Lindsay Landers, DO, with Andover Family Medicine. "And we have a phone triage system with four nurses set up to accept those phone calls and ask about symptoms."

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and other physician-support groups say staying educated on the latest guidance and information about coronavirus is one of the most important steps physicians can take.

Some Wichita physicians are looking into providing alternative services such as telemedicine.

"We have five or six doctors over age 70," said Larry Derksen, DO, with West Wichita Family Physicians. "They don't need to be exposed either. We're checking with the insurance companies now. If they broaden the scope to do some telemedicine, that would help a lot."

The American Academy of Family Physicians advises doctors to educate staff on facility policies and practices to minimize chance of exposure to respiratory pathogens including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

See inside this issue for more resources compiled especially for MSSC members.

*Physicians
who care for ...
our patients,
our community,
and our profession.*

MSSC
MEDICAL SOCIETY of
SEDGWICK COUNTY

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Physicians benefit most by following latest recommendations



Patricia Wyatt-Harris, MD
March President's Message

Health care professionals, including many MSSC members, are on the front lines combating COVID-19. They are scrambling to handle a surge of patients – and struggling to manage the many more who want to be tested.

These professionals may be putting themselves at risk. Nationwide, dozens of health care workers have fallen ill from the virus, and dozens more have been quarantined after exposure.

My personal story is minor in comparison, but it illustrates the wide sweep of this public health crisis.

My husband is a teacher, so we usually travel over spring break. We planned a ski trip with friends several months ago. We decided to drive to Avon, Colorado, and ski at Beaver Creek.

We arrived the afternoon of March 14 and went to rent our skis. The young man at the ski store had a stricken look on his face. "They just closed the mountain," he said.

Closed the mountain? We couldn't believe it.

We then went to the grocery store to pick up a few supplies. We debated about what to do, but Jim and I decided to come right home on the 15th so we could shelter at home.

We then found out that Eagle County in Colorado is a high-risk county. The recommendation is to use social distancing for 14

days. Our only potential exposure was at the grocery store, but it was packed with people. I am taking this very seriously.

We were grateful that we had made the decision to drive rather than fly to our destination. The drive home was interesting, because every stop was crowded with people doing the same thing.

It seems that the COVID-19 story changes day to day, minute to minute. The most difficult part of dealing with this situation is the unknown.

Hopefully more testing will become available, so we will know exactly who has the virus. I also hope social distancing will "flatten the curve" so our medical supplies and facilities will be able to handle the cases.

The MSSC has a very informative fact sheet on its website, so I'm not going to include those things in this column. In the "Resources for Physicians" section of that fact sheet, there is a link to World Health Organization information on the coronavirus. I found that website to be very helpful, with up-to-date statistics and recommendations.

We are all struggling to cope with this situation. The news media reports with such a sense of urgency that it is difficult not to panic.

I'm so grateful for all the MSSC members and their staffs who are on the front lines of response to this pandemic. We need to protect our patients and ourselves by continuing to follow the most current recommendations.

Testing for the novel coronavirus: Information for health care providers

Created by the Sedgwick County
Health Department for the MSSC

Patients requesting testing for the novel coronavirus can be screened by health care providers or the Sedgwick County Health Department (SCHD). Please do not direct patients to emergency departments.

Health care providers can screen patients and collect samples for COVID-19, or providers can have patients call the new Sedgwick County Health Department COVID-19 Testing Triage Line at (316) 660-7425.

- If patients call the SCHD Testing Triage Line and they meet the criteria for testing, SCHD will make an appointment with the patient. The appointment will be at the SCHD clinic at 2716 West Central, Wichita. At the appointment, an SCHD provider will collect the specimen and send for testing starting Thursday, March 19. Patients must call the Testing Triage Line and schedule an appointment before coming to the SCHD clinic.
- Alternatively, providers can collect patient specimens and send for testing to LabCorp or Quest.
 - ▶ If cost is an issue, providers can call the KDHE Epidemiology Hotline (1-877-427-7317) for approval for testing at KDHE (must meet criteria for Person Under Investigation).
 - ▶ Do not direct patients to emergency departments for testing.

Questions the SCHD COVID-19 Testing Triage Line staff will ask if a patient requests COVID-19 testing:

1. Have you had close contact with a person who has been tested and is laboratory-test positive for COVID-19?

If yes:

- a. What date was the last close contact (droplet contact or within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more)?
 - b. What is the name of the person who is laboratory-test positive and what state do they live in?
2. Have you traveled outside of Sedgwick County in the past 14 days?
 3. We are really concerned about people with severe symptoms.
 - a. Do you have a measured fever (99.6°F or higher)?
 - b. Do you have a cough or have experienced a recent decrease in the ability to breathe?
 - c. For this illness:
 - ▶ Have you seen a health care provider?
(Date, name of health care provider)
 - ▶ Have you been diagnosed with flu or other respiratory viruses?

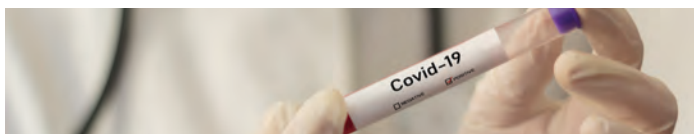
Current criteria for evaluating patients for COVID-19:

1. Fever or cough or shortness of breath **AND** close contact of a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 positive person within 14 days.
2. Fever **AND** cough or shortness of breath.

Collecting patient specimens:

1. Put on PPE when working with patients suspected of having COVID-19.
 - ▶ Health care workers should wear face shields or goggles, N95 mask (fit tested), gown, and gloves. If N95 masks are in short supply, a facemask can be worn if not performing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



SCHD COVID-19 RESPONSE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

medical procedures that will create an aerosol (e.g., intubation, suctioning).

See: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirator-use-faq.html>

2. Follow the laboratory's instructions for specimen collection.
 - ▶ Specimen is a nasopharyngeal (NP) swab placed in Viral Transport Media (VTM). The VTM vial is placed in a bio-hazard bag, stored at 2-8°C, and shipped on ice packs as a Category B infectious substance.
 - ▶ A video on nasopharyngeal (NP) and oropharyngeal (OP) specimen collection and other information is found on the KDHE Coronavirus Resource Center website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/>.

Contacting SCHD:

- Health care providers with any questions can call the SCHD Epidemiology Hotline at (316) 660-5555 (press 1) or email diseasereport@sedgwick.gov.
- The public with general questions can call 2-1-1 (United Way Helpline) or email COVID19@sedgwickcounty.gov.
- To be screened for testing, call the SCHD Testing Triage Line at (316) 660-7425.

Beginning March 20, local screening and testing information will be available on the Sedgwick County COVID-19 website at sedgwickcounty.org.



Health Insurance Now Available!

The Medical Society of Sedgwick County is now offering a new and exciting option for its members' group health care coverage.

ProviDRs Care's NexUS Health Plan is a value-based health care program designed to lower costs and improve health. It can be offered to groups down to 2 employees and depending on the size of your group, you can offer multiple options to your employees.



To learn more or to request a group quote,
contact **Bret Emberson** at

BretEmberson@ProviDRsCare.Net or **(316) 221-9106**.

Preparing your staff and practice for COVID-19

SOURCE: AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Design a COVID-19 office management plan that includes patient flow, triage, treatment and design. Ensure adherence to standard precautions, including airborne precautions and use of eye protection. Cross-train staff for all essential office and medical functions.

Physician and practice preparedness

- ❑ Plan for cross-coverage with other health care professionals in your community and participate in local hospital planning exercises.
- ❑ Identify materials and supplies required for care to be delivered during an outbreak or pandemic, and suppliers that can provide those materials. Order appropriate materials and supplies.
- ❑ Contact representatives at your office's waste-disposal service regarding plans for appropriate waste disposal so that they can prepare for an increased amount of waste materials. At this time, there is no evidence to support the need of different waste management protocols for facilities caring for patients with COVID-19.
- ❑ Stay informed. Visit your state and local department of health's website daily or develop a reliable method for routine epidemiologic monitoring. Make appropriate connections with local and state health department staff.
- ❑ Become knowledgeable about available testing and treatment as that information becomes available. This should include, general recommendations on COVID-19 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); Work with your state and local health departments on diagnostic testing protocols and procedures.
- ❑ Ensure that you and your staff are familiar with specific public health reporting practices legally required in your area. Familiarize staff with procedures on transporting patients from your office to the hospital or other facility if required.
- ❑ Post signage in appropriate languages at the entrance and inside the office to alert all patients with respiratory symptoms and fever to notify staff immediately.
- ❑ Post signage in appropriate languages with pictures to teach/remind all patients about correct respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Specifically, they should cough and sneeze into a tissue (which then should be properly discarded), or into the upper sleeve. Remind patients to use appropriate hand-washing technique.

Find more physician resources here

Information on preparing your practice, including COVID-19 education for your staff, triage and patient flow systems, the referral or transfer of patients, waste disposal, a checklist of required equipment and supplies, and much more are available on the MSSC website at MSSOnline.org.

Physicians must rise in coordinated response to COVID-19

BY PATRICE A. HARRIS, MD, MA
PRESIDENT | AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Physicians understand instinctively the best response in a health emergency is to remain calm and let our training and the science guide us.

It's important we remember this as news spreads about the global outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus, called SARS-CoV2, and the disease it causes – COVID-19. The medical community has a critical role to play during such

emergencies, not only in diagnosing and treating patients but, just as importantly, as sources for timely, accurate and evidence-based information in the face of fear, anxiety, misinformation, and stigma.

Now more than ever, it's critical to heed the expert advice of the highly trained physicians and scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and around the world as we face this potential pandemic.

Combating misinformation, whether it's spread unknowingly or with the intent to harm, is no easy task. Misinformation is rampant online and through social media, especially in times of great concern. We're witnessing that play out again as health officials across the world work to mitigate the impact of this latest outbreak and contain transmission of COVID-19.

Under these circumstances, containing misinformation about the novel coronavirus may rank second only to curbing the spread of COVID-19 itself. We recognize that fear is a natural human response to a public health threat about which so much remains

unknown—and we also realize that fear can incapacitate us and inhibit an appropriate response.

Viruses simply don't target specific populations, ethnicities, or racial groups, and so as physicians we must be voices of reason and defend against the stigmatization of communities that are unfairly under scrutiny. As the CDC tells us, people—including those of Asian descent—who have not recently traveled to China or been in contact with a person who is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 are not at greater risk of acquiring and spreading COVID-19 than are other Americans.

Public trust in organizations such as the CDC, the NIH, and the World Health Organization (WHO), agencies that are leading the global response to COVID-19, is essential to containing global health threats. Undermining public trust through misinformation, conflicting messages, and other methods cripples that response and exacerbates fear.

At the AMA, we're working in tandem with the CDC to ensure physicians have the timely and accurate information they need to allay their patients' concerns and to help them appropriately prepare and plan for the possibility of a widespread COVID-19 outbreak in the U.S.

Accurate information that is rooted in science and evidence is the most powerful weapon we have in the battle against a health emergency. Our patients will look to us to be that source for credible information, never more so than in times of high anxiety and fear.

How we respond will play an important role in minimizing the impact of a potential COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S., and help doctors, hospitals and health officials mount an effective response to mitigate its impact.

Physician ENGAGEMENT

This month, we feature medical students and guests who attended the JayDoc Awards Banquet on Feb. 29 at Botanica.

The JayDoc Awards Banquet recognizes University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita faculty and students who serve at the JayDoc Community Clinic, a student-run learning clinic that provides health care to medically underserved patients. Also a fundraiser, the banquet's proceeds will help purchase medications for the clinic, organizers said. **Photos courtesy of KUMC-W.**



▲ JAYDOC AWARDS BANQUET ATTENDEES POSE WITH KUMC MASCOT.



▲ MARIAH JOHNSON (THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT) AND HUSBAND, STEVEN JOHNSON



▲ J.V. JOHNSTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GUADALUPE CLINIC, RIGHT, AND HIS WIFE, VERONICA JOHNSTON



▲ JAMES WALKER, JAYDOC 2020 PHARMACY STUDENT OF THE YEAR



▲ ATTENDEES CHECK OUT THE SILENT AUCTION TABLE.

ROSTER UPDATE

Keep your 2020 roster current with this information. Key: [BC] Board Certified [F] Accredited Fellowship [R] Residency [AT] Additional Training [F*] Unaccredited Fellowship

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS



Suneetha Chintalapati, MD

[BC] Pathology- Anatomic/Pathology-Clinical
Southcentral Pathology Laboratory, PA
OFF: 268-5657
FAX: 291-7881
929 N St Francis, 67214
NPI: 1548670938

Medical education obtained at Rangaraya Medical College 8/2002-12/2008. Residency Anatomic/ Clinical Pathology at Loma Linda Univ. 6/2014-6/2018. Fellowship in Genitourinary Pathology at Univ. of TX Southwestern 7/2018-6/2019.



Monica C. Quinn, DO

[BC] Pediatrics
[F] Pediatric Critical Care
Wesley Medical Center- Pediatric Critical Care
OFF: 962-3304
FAX: 962-2152
550 N Hillside, 67214
NPI: 1114260676

Medical education obtained at KCUMB 8/2009-5/2013. Residency in Pediatrics at Children's Mercy Hospital 7/2013-6/2016. Fellowship in Pediatrics Critical Care at Emory Univ. 6/2016-7/2019.



Paul T. Stockmann, MD

[BC] Pediatric Surgery
[BC] Surgical Critical Care
[BC] Surgery
Wesley Medical Center- Pediatric Critical Care
OFF: 962-3304
FAX: 962-2152
550 N Hillside, 67214
NPI: 158864932

Medical education obtained at Univ of Missouri-Columbia 8/1979-5/1983. Residency in General Surgery at Washington Univ of School of Medicine- St Louis 7/1983-6/1990. Fellowship in Pediatric Surgery at Children's Hospital of Michigan 7/1992-6/1994.

CHANGES

Selim S. Ahmed, MD

Wesley Medical Center
OFF: 962-7190
550 N Hillside

Steven M. Passman, MD

Office name change to:
Heartland Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center, PA
OFF: 612-1833
FAX: 612-2420
1861 N Rock Rd S-310, 67206
www.heartland-derm.com

James A.M. Smith, DO

Kansas Vascular Medicine, PA
OFF: 616-3333
FAX: 616-0974
925 N Hillside St, 67214

RETIRED

Christopher Moeller, MD – 3/1/2020

DROPPED

Kevin Guevarra, DO – 3/17/2020

Paula Worley, MD – 3/2/2020

Jessica Paxson, MD – 3/4/2020

James T. Prescott, MD – 3/5/2020

In Brief ►►► New and noteworthy

New summer camp treats ADHD kids

The Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita is sponsoring a new summer camp designed to help children with ADHD modify their behavior while having fun.

The camp is built on the belief and developing research that teaching kids how to adjust their behavior and cope is a powerful tool alongside medications that help but can't entirely do it alone.

The camp, for children ages 6-10, will be at Sunrise Christian Academy in Bel Aire from June 1 to July 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The day will be divided into various sessions and will include weekly parents' meetings to help them learn about their child's individualized plan and how they can supplement and reinforce it at home.

In addition, Wichita businesses can support this initiative by providing items the children can buy in the "points store." Points are earned by children for following the rules and paying attention. At the end of each week, they can spend those points. Donations of meals for parent education nights are also a need. If an individual, business or organization would be willing to sponsor a child or provide a scholarship, that would help make the camp more accessible to families. The cost of the seven-week camp is \$4,000, which encompasses about 280 hours in behavioral therapy overall.

To learn more about the KU Summer Treatment Program, please visit wichita.kumc.edu/ADHDSTP or call (316) 293-2691.

Health care professionals as well as parents can begin the application and screening process at that website.

Physician group pledges \$25,000

Wichita Nephrology Group recently made five-year, \$25,000 pledge to the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Internal Medicine residency program, university officials reported.

Nine of Wichita Nephrology Group's 11 doctors did internal medicine residencies through the KUMC-Wichita, and five did advanced training in nephrology with KU as well.

Jany Moussa, M.D., said the gift was not only a way to support the program and its residents but also the leadership of William Salyers, M.D., who became chair of internal medicine last year and continues in his previous role of residency director.

MSSC NEWS

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Managing Editor: Phillip Brownlee, Executive Director

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The ABC'S of Heart Health

Appropriate Aspirin Use

Ask your doctor if aspirin will reduce your risk of heart attacks.

Blood Pressure Control

Monitor your blood pressure and work with your doctor to maintain a healthy blood pressure.

Cholesterol Management


Check your cholesterol and work with your doctor to make lifestyle changes.

Smoking Cessation

It is never too late to quit.



CALL US TODAY AND SCHEDULE
YOUR APPOINTMENT!

 **316-686-5300**



 316-686-5300

 heartlandcardiology.com