

COVID-19 Update: April 15, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

COVID Patient Discharges

While our Health System continues to face significant challenges, we are beginning to find ways to celebrate everyone's role in helping patients heal and go home.

- Each time a COVID-19 positive patient is discharged from the hospital, a short clip from Andra Day's inspirational song "Rise Up" will be played on the overhead paging system.
- In addition, every morning, the previous day's total discharges from across the Health System will be texted to Mobile Heartbeat devices, pagers, and registered mobile phones.

Monitoring and Care Coordination of COVID-19 Positive/Pending Patients

A new report has been created to identify all Smilow patients who have been tested for COVID-19 who have upcoming appointments in a Smilow location. This will allow for proactive management of appointments and implementation of daily assessments for patients who are COVID-19-positive or pending to monitor symptoms, triage appropriately, and provide education.

- Each patient care area should reconcile their appointment schedules against the COVID-19 Positive and Rule Out Report in Helix weekdays by noon.
- Patients with an in-person visit scheduled who are COVID-19-positive or pending should be rescheduled per the direction of the clinical team (i.e., changed to Telehealth or a phone consult).
- If a patient has concerning symptoms requiring an in-person evaluation, consider an appointment in Smilow's Rapid Evaluation Clinic by calling (203) 200-1919, or, consider referral to nearest ED.
- Patients who are COVID-19-positive or waiting for COVID-19 results should be called daily by an oncology nurse (7 days/week) for symptom assessment and management. Daily assessments should be documented in Epic.

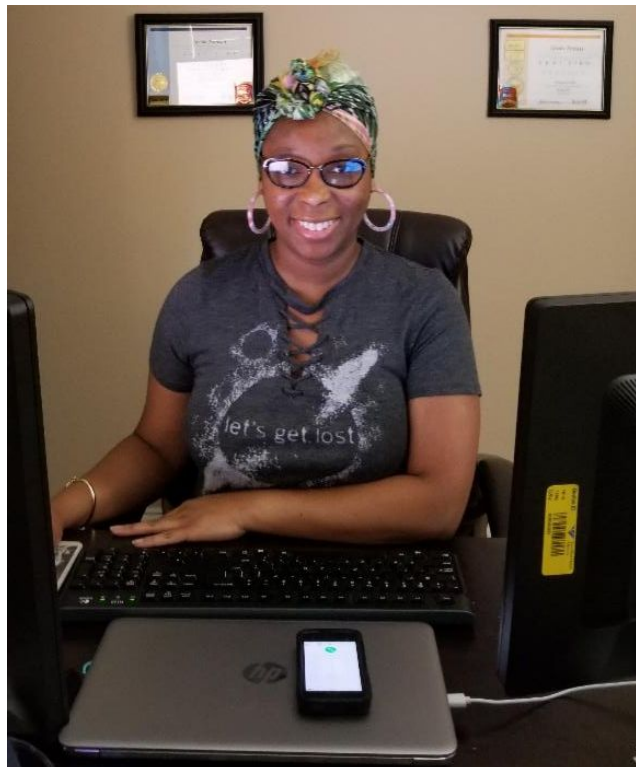
Yale Respiratory Infections Repository

Michael Chiorazzi, MD, PhD and Roy Herbst, MD, PhD, are leading a case control study to interrogate how cancer patients, especially those receiving immunotherapies, respond to COVID-19 disease. Any Smilow faculty or staff interested in being involved in this effort can email [Michael Chiorazzi](mailto:Michael.Chiorazzi).

- The study builds upon the Respiratory Infections Repository, an ongoing IRB approved protocol led by Albert Ko, MD, prospectively collecting samples from COVID-19 patients at YNHHS.
- The team is collecting blood, nasopharyngeal swabs, endotracheal aspirate (when available), urine and stool from COVID-19 patients, and, in collaboration with Yale investigators Akiko Iwasaki, Aaron Ring, Nathan Grubaugh, Craig Wilen, Lieping Chen, Naftali Kaminski, Ruth Montgomery, and David Hafler, subjecting these to high-dimensional immunophenotyping, serologic testing, viral titering, single-cell genomics, and cytokine measurements.
- By combining these data with patient outcome information, the investigators hope to better understand how cancer patients respond to COVID-19 compared with non-cancer controls, and how immunotherapy-treated cancer patients differ from other cancer patients in their immune responses and clinical outcomes.

Smilow Star

The recent moves and relocation of our Smilow Cancer Hospital clinics created a significant number of changes in our Epic departments and structure. **Ideola Edmead**, Epic Application Analyst for Yale New Haven Health, was behind the incredible amount of work resulting in our new Epic builds and transition of departments. Her commitment to Smilow Cancer Hospital and dedicated efforts to meet our deadlines was absolutely key in all of our moves and consolidations. She participated in all of the planning calls to understand our needs and subsequently built many Epic departments in a day, when the usual turnaround time is 60 days. Finally, she ensured all components were accurate before moving patients to the newly created departments. Ideola's conscientious work and effort make her a true Smilow Star!



Best regards,

Charles S. Fuchs, MD, MPH

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