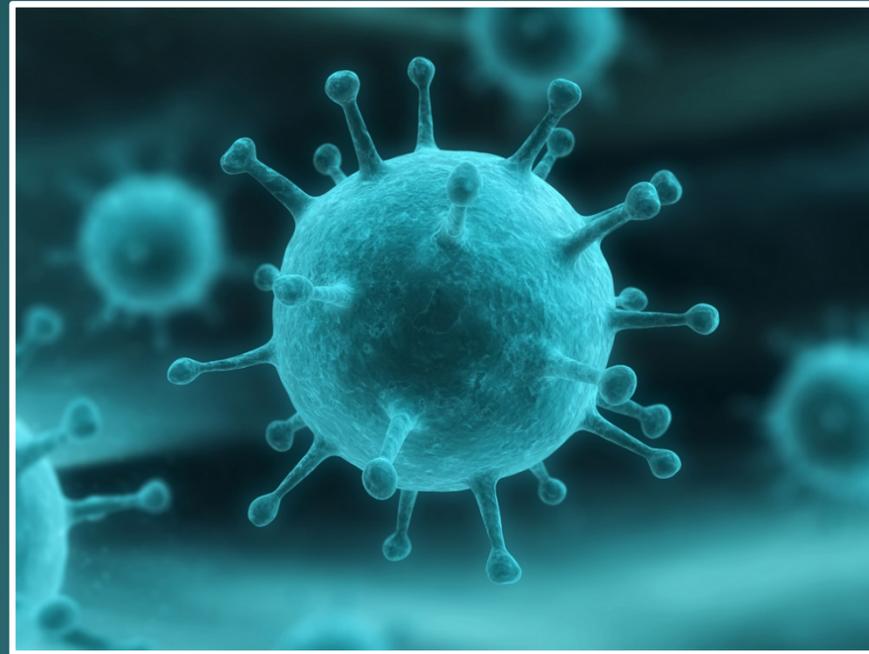


# COVID-19

An End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) National Coordinating Center (NCC)  
Professional Education Quickinar

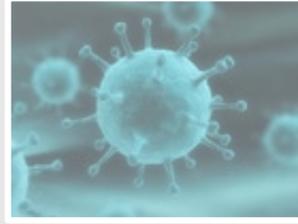


April 22, 2020

COVID-19 = Coronavirus Disease-19

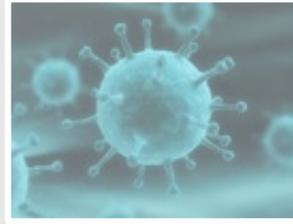


# Agenda



- What is this call about?
- Today's speakers from Northwest Kidney Centers:
  - Liz McNamara, MN, RN  
Chief Nursing Officer and VP of Patient Care Services
  - Suzanne Watnick, MD, FASN  
Chief Medical Officer
  - Topic: Dialysis Provision and COVID-19
  - Questions and answers (Q&As) from chat and Q&A panels

# What Is This Call About?



- Hear from stakeholders in the ESRD community adapting to COVID-19.
- Provide real-world strategies for facilities to put into use.
- Engage in weekly calls on varying topics.

# Liz McNamara, MN, RN

Chief Nursing Officer and  
Vice President of Patient Care Services

Northwest Kidney Centers

# Suzanne Watnick, MD, FASN

Chief Medical Officer

Northwest Kidney Centers



# Basic Principles



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Ensure patients are coming to dialysis
- Remind all that this is a respiratory disease primarily transmitted by droplets

## BASIC STEPS:

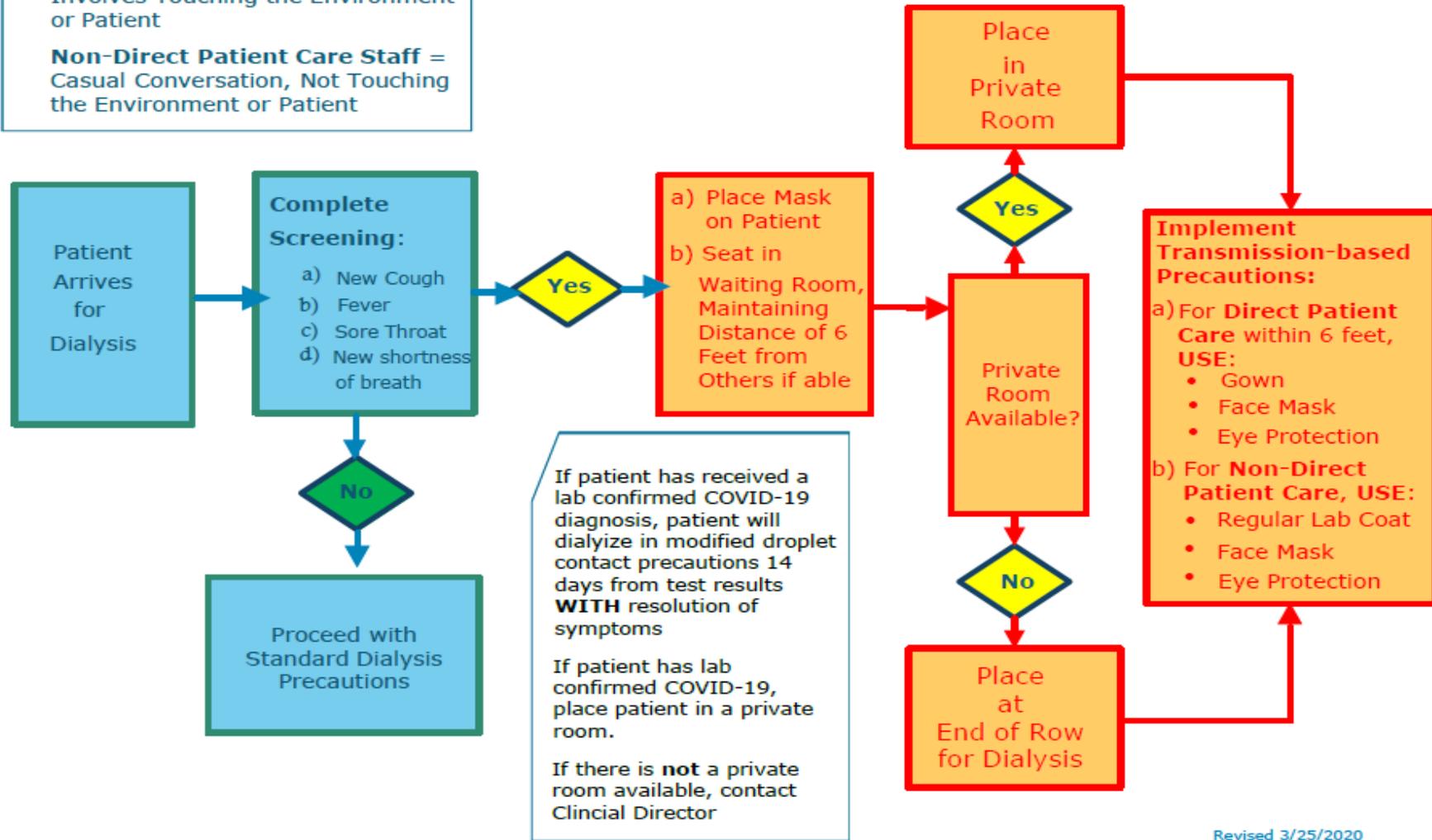
- Screen all patients and staff- masking
- Educate Staff and Patients – education sheets and emails
- Educate and re-educate staff regarding disease transmission and modified contact droplet precautions
- Provide guidelines if ill +/- COVID-19
- Expand environmental surface cleaning



# Patient Screening for COVID-19

**Direct Patient Care Staff =**  
Involves Touching the Environment  
or Patient

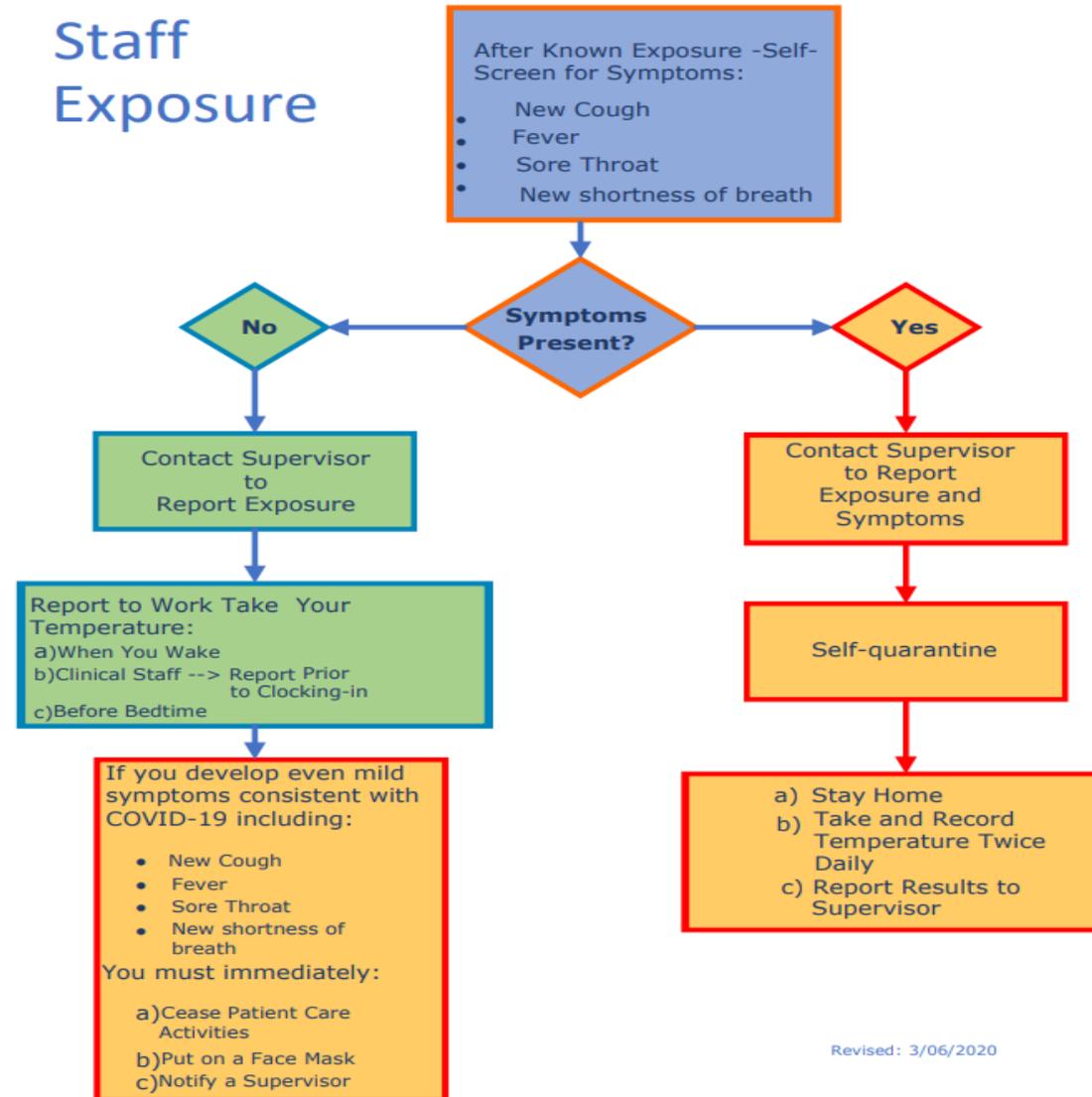
**Non-Direct Patient Care Staff =**  
Casual Conversation, Not Touching  
the Environment or Patient





# COVID-19 Staff Exposure

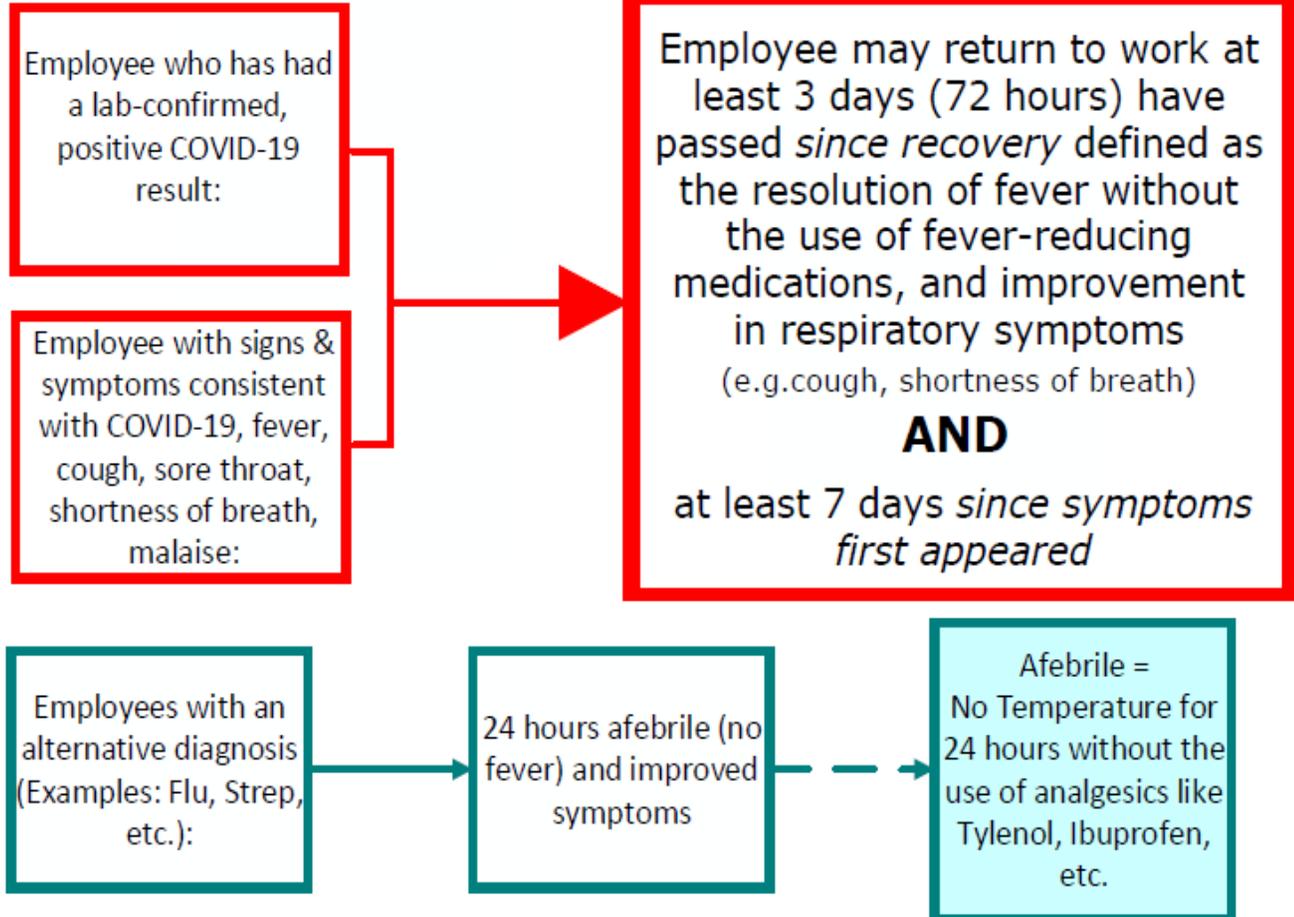
## COVID-19 Staff Exposure





## Symptomatic Positive Employees Returning to Work

# Symptomatic Positive Employees Returning to Work



# Implications for Home Dialysis



- Less visits to the dialysis clinic
- Less exposure to healthcare workers
- Better able to adhere to social distancing

# Changes for Home Program



Home patients

'Quick Visits' Established Monthly Phone Assessments

- Get supplies
- Get bloodwork drawn
- Medication Administration
- HHD Patients send Blood directly to Lab
- Contact via telephone or telehealth



# Rapid Resource Acquisition for Patients and Staff

## PPE

- Issues around sourcing
- Creative solutions
  - ✓ Masks
  - ✓ Bandanas

## Hand Sanitizer



# Home Program: Current State

- Training
  - Continued training using newly established infection control
- Increased Home Visits for Deliveries
  - Assist with vendor delivery COVID-19 policies
- Remote Care Management
  - Larger units to align with Social Distancing
    - Encourage clinic staff to work from home when possible

# Solving Issues and Possible Long-Term Impacts of COVID-19



- **Screening and transmission-based precautions:** Will become the new normal. This is appropriate infection prevention and control practice for outpatient dialysis and will continue into the upcoming flu season. This will require continued competency-based education and increased use of PPE.
- **Enhanced environmental cleaning:** This should be considered standard practice and Northwest Kidney Center's (NKC's) plan is to continue—we may see a decrease in overall infection transmission as we continue the focus on strict infection prevention and control.
- **Telehealth technology:** Will have fewer restrictions for use and we anticipate many waivers to allow for enhanced patient and provider connectivity will remain in place. This will enhance patient and medical staff satisfaction.

# Solving Issues and Possible Long-Term Impacts of COVID-19 (cont.)



- **Psychosocial Impact:** Will be extensive and profound—the psychological impact on all our caregivers remains an unknown, but we anticipate the need to ensure we provide support and training; long term dialysis care already impacts caregiver fatigue and moral distress.
- **Integrated care models will be emphasized:** Integrated care within a community will allow for better communication, and improved patient safety, and enhanced quality of care.

# Three Guiding Principles



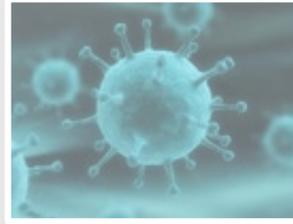
- ✓ **We can provide dialysis to COVID-19 + patients**
  - We have an obligation
- ✓ **Follow the science**
  - Infection Prevention and Control
  - Highest Standards of Care
- ✓ **Leadership is critical**
  - Assurance
  - Transparency
  - Communication
  - Support for patients, dialysis and medical staff

# Let Us Hear From You

Q&As from chat and Q&A panels



# Our Next COVID-19 Awareness Events



- Save the dates for our next events.
  - Patient-focused event:  
April 28, 2020, at 5 p.m. ET
  - Provider-focused event:  
April 29, 2020, at 5 p.m. ET
- Visit <http://www.KidneyCOVIDInfoCenter> for information and to register.

# Thank You!

[NCCinfo@hsag.com](mailto:NCCinfo@hsag.com)

844.472.4250

813.865.3545

[www.esrdncc.org](http://www.esrdncc.org)

Additional COVID-19 resources for patients and providers:



<https://www.kcercoalition.com/en/covid-19/>

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>

This material was prepared the End Stage Renal Disease National Coordinating Center (ESRD NCC) contractor, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy nor imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. Publication Number FL-ESRD NCC-7N56TD-04202020-01

