



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

ASCO SPECIAL REPORT:
A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

UPDATED: JULY 29, 2021

Updates

July 29, 2021:

- COVID-19 Vaccination: The Association of Clinical Oncology [joined](#) more the 50 health care professional societies and organizations to support mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for health care workers.
- COVID-19 Treatment: On April 16, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration [revoked](#) emergency use authorization for bamlanivimab when used alone to treat mild-to-moderate COVID-19. References to bamlanivimab, when used alone, have been removed from this guide. We have also updated our [link](#) to the federal Monoclonal Antibody Playbook.
- Note: Since the December 15, 2020 update, many states have updated local mandates related to wearing of masks and social distancing. This guide has retained its recommendations on the use of masks and other mitigation methods, as necessary for infection prevention and control in regions with community transmission. Methods should be escalated or decreased by cancer centers based on local levels of risk of transmission and public health mandates.

December 15, 2020:

- COVID-19 Treatment: Several infusion medications have received emergency use authorization and may be used for the treatment of COVID-19 in non-hospitalized patients (e.g., bamlanivib and casirivimab plus imdevimab combination). Infection Prevention and Control guidelines are a necessity for managing COVID-19 positive patients during the administration of these medications. These medications may be administered in some outpatient cancer centers who choose to offer these infusions. For centers offering such infusions, preparations must be made for separating COVID-19 positive patients from any patients who are immunosuppressed. As a result, we have updated our report to address COVID-19 treatment and precautions needed for immunosuppressed patients.
- On August 3, 2020, CDC updated its [isolation guidance](#), recommending that “people with COVID-19 should be isolated for at least 10 days after symptom onset and until 24 hours after their fever subsides without the use of fever-reducing medications.” The CDC guidance recommended a symptom-based strategy for isolation and return to work. As a result, we have updated our report to reflect the most recent CDC guidance, as of this date.

Introduction

As states and municipalities implement phased easing of pandemic-related restrictions, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) has received requests from its members for guidance on preparations that should be in place to safely continue cancer center operations and resume elective procedures. The *ASCO Special Report: A Guide to Cancer Care Delivery During the COVID-19 Pandemic* describes immediate and short-term steps oncology practices can take to protect the safety of patients and healthcare staff as the pandemic response continues. Practices should consider internal cancer center and practice policies as well as state, medical board, and municipality regulations or guidance regarding practice operations, as circumstances vary widely across the United States.

ASCO clinical experts have reviewed a wide range of policies and practices adopted and/or planned by cancer facilities, as well as guidance provided by government agencies and other medical societies. With this information, we hope cancer practices have more confidence in determining when and how to resume their usual practice operations during this phase of the pandemic. This document is not a systematic review of evidence and does not provide clinical guidance for individual patient care. This document should supplement and not supersede applicable institutional, local, regional, or national plans or guidance and is not intended as clinical, legal, or medical advice.

This report represents a narrative review of available agency guidance, published information and clinical examples from ASCO members, government agencies, and professional organizations. ASCO developed this report in the following fashion:

- ASCO staff received guidance and examples of local policies and procedures from members of its Clinical Practice Committee, COVID-19 Clinical Questions Advisory Group, and speakers in the ASCO-ONS Webinar Series: Caring for People with Cancer During the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- For each subject area, ASCO staff used the information received to create a summary of available information for use by individual practices in developing their own policies and procedures.
- The entire report was reviewed by the ASCO Clinical Practice Committee and approved by ASCO's Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President.

For questions regarding this document, please contact ASCO's Clinical Affairs Department at clinicalaffairs@asco.org.

Disclaimer

This information is provided by the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (“ASCO”) for voluntary, informational use by providers in the rapidly evolving novel coronavirus crisis. This information does not constitute medical or legal advice, is not intended for use in the diagnosis or treatment of individual conditions, does not endorse products or therapies, recommend or mandate any particular course of medical care, and is not a statement of the standard of care. New evidence may emerge between the time information is developed and when it is published or read. New recommendations from health authorities such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may emerge more frequently than updates to this document. This information is not comprehensive or continually updated. This information is not intended to substitute for the independent professional judgment of the treating provider in the context of treating an individual patient. ASCO provides this information on an “as is” basis, and makes no warranty, express or implied, regarding the information. ASCO specifically disclaims any warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular use or purpose. ASCO assumes no responsibility for any injury or damage to persons or property arising out of or related to any use of this information or for any errors or omissions.

Table of Contents

Updates 1

Introduction 2

Triage/Screening 5

COVID-19 Patients Under Investigation/Positive..... 6

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing 7

Infection Prevention Controls..... 10

Workforce 11

Resources and Supplies..... 14

Facility Considerations 14

Location Services and Hours of Operations 15

COVID-19 Surge Planning..... 15

Sanitation Protocols..... 16

Support Services 16

Patient Health and Safety Education 17

Telemedicine..... 18

Medical Oncology 19

Radiation Oncology..... 20

Ancillary Services 21

Cancer Screening 21

Surgeries 21

Clinical Trials 22

COVID-19 Treatment: Outpatient Infusion Care..... 22

Other Helpful References 26

Acknowledgements..... 27

Triage/Screening

Before Patient Arrival

- When scheduling appointments, inform patients that appointments will need to be rescheduled for any of following reasons:
 - if the patient develops symptoms of a respiratory infection (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms) on the day they are scheduled to be seen. Instruct patients to call the office prior to departing for appointment (or sooner).
 - if they have symptoms of COVID-19 within the 10 days prior to their appointment
 - if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 infection within 10 days prior to their appointment, or
 - if they have had contact with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection within 14 days prior to their scheduled appointment (note that while the CDC has issued guidance to states that they may reduce quarantine to 10 days, or 7 days under certain circumstances, the CDC continues to endorse a full 14-day quarantine for exposed persons).
- Advise patients that they are required to put on a face mask or other face covering, regardless of symptoms, before entering the facility and throughout their visit.
- Contact the patient 48 to 72 hours prior to the appointment to screen for symptoms of cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms. If symptoms are present, triage protocols should be utilized to determine if an appointment is necessary or if the patient can be managed from home.
- If the patient can be managed from home, the patient should be instructed to contact their primary care physician if symptoms worsen or do not resolve within 14 days. The patient appointment should be rescheduled when he or she is determined to be no longer infectious.
- An in-person or telemedicine provider visit may be necessary to assess symptoms related to cancer treatment or COVID-19-positive/potential COVID-19-positive to avoid an emergency department visit (e.g., assessing for COVID-19 and/or neutropenic fever).
- Residents in long-term care facilities or other congregate living settings, including prisons and shelters, should be considered high risk, particularly if the patient lives within a documented COVID-19-positive facility or area.

Upon Patient Arrival

- Limit access to the facility through one point of entry, if possible. If there are multiple points of entry, screening must occur at all entrances. No visitors should be permitted, unless a patient requires accompaniment due to specific patient needs, such as intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or other cognitive or physical impairments. No one under 18 years of age should be permitted as a visitor. Facility access should exclude non-essential vendors and allow only essential ancillary services. Practices should consider remote or virtual communication with business partners and support services.
- Establish triage stations outside the facility, with social/physical distancing of six feet apart to screen patients and visitors for COVID-19 symptoms and fever before they enter. All patients should wear masks on arrival and follow a strict handwashing protocol.
- Implement face masks for everyone entering the facility, regardless of symptoms to help prevent transmission from infected individuals who may not have symptoms of COVID-19.
- Symptoms of coronavirus appear 2 to 14 days following exposure. Symptoms include:
 - Cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms.

A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Include signage with COVID-19 screening questions and visualization of symptoms for all patient/visitors, as well as patient education materials and illustrations of proper hygiene for infection prevention and symptoms to report. Provide signage and patient education materials in language(s) appropriate for your patient population.
- Patient screening status and COVID-positive status should be documented prior to the patient entering the facility (e.g., EMR, patient identification wrist band with date of screening).

Additional resources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 Prevention Poster

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

CDC COVID-19 Symptoms Poster

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>

Healthcare Facilities: Preparing for Community Transmission

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-hcf.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhealthcare-facilities%2Fguidance-hcf.html

Symptoms of Coronavirus

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

Screening illustration workflow and checklist:

Screening workflow

<https://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2020-05/COVID-19%20diagram%20updated.pdf>

Screening checklist example

https://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2020-05/COVID%20-%2019%20Checklist_v3.pdf

COVID-19 Patients Under Investigation/Positive

Patient under investigation (PUI)

- In the event a patient screens positive as a PUI, staff should activate facility protocol for immediate management, including notification of appropriate infection control and state/local health department.
- Patients designated as PUI after arriving at the clinic should wear a mask and be escorted to a designated isolation room/area. The oncologist provider should review and determine appropriate action for delivery of care/services.
- Patients with fever as the only symptoms should be evaluated to determine whether a COVID-19 test is appropriate. Patients should be evaluated on an individual basis for other potential infections or possible “tumor fever”.
- If a viral test is ordered, cancer treatment should be delayed until the result is available. In the event of a positive result, the patient’s oncologist, in consultation with the patient, should determine next steps.

COVID-positive criteria for infusion services

- In-office care for COVID-19-positive patients should be delayed for a minimum of 10 days from symptom onset or the date of the first positive RT-PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 RNA. Certain patients with severe illness may require extended isolation.
- The patient should have improvement in symptoms and at least 24 hours must have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications before receiving an infusion.
- There is preliminary evidence that immunocompromised patients may continue to shed virus up to and beyond 30 days after infection. Precautions should be taken with previously COVID-positive patients, to include source control masking, proper staff PPE, bypass of common waiting areas, use of private rooms as available, and staff notification (i.e., all staff should be briefed daily on the upcoming schedule and any suspected, positive, or recently recovered patients).

Additional resources:

Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

Information for Health Departments on Reporting Cases of COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/reporting-pui.html>

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

Current testing available for COVID-19 include:

- Nucleic acid amplification tests for viral RNA (polymerase chain reaction), in order to measure current infection with SARS-CoV-2.
- Antigen tests for rapid detection of SARS-CoV-2.
- Antibody (serology) tests to detect presence of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2.

The following testing strategies should be implemented using RNA tests. If the facility chooses to use rapid antigen testing for symptomatic patients, such patients with negative results should be retested with an RNA test.

Note: Per the CDC, patients may continue to test positive up to 3 months following infection. For such patients, further evaluation may be required in order to discern the cause of symptoms.

Operational testing policies for patients will be dependent upon available testing resources and laboratory capacity. Recommended priorities are below:

- Priority 1:
 - Hospitalized patients with symptoms.
 - Symptomatic residents of long-term care facilities or other congregate living settings, including prisons and shelters.
- Priority 2:
 - Persons with COVID-19 symptoms, including cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms.

- Priority 3:
 - Asymptomatic patients prior to receipt of immunosuppressive therapy (e.g., cytotoxic chemotherapy, stem cell transplantation, biologic therapy, cellular immunotherapy, or high-dose corticosteroids).
 - Asymptomatic individuals prioritized by health departments or clinicians, for any reason, including but not limited to: public health monitoring, sentinel surveillance, or screening according to state and local plans.

Processes for pre-screening of asymptomatic patients with cancer (dependent upon availability of testing supplies and laboratory capacity)

- New patients to receive cytotoxic chemotherapy, stem cell transplantation, long acting biologic therapy, cellular immunotherapy, or high-dose corticosteroids should be tested 48 to 72 hours before initiation of therapy.
- During treatment, all patients should be screened 48 to 72 hours prior to each new cycle of therapy. Screening should include administration of a standardized questionnaire about symptoms and potential exposure.
- Based on screening results, oncology practices should test any patient identified as having a potential risk of exposure, respiratory symptoms, and/or two other symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms).
- If possible, testing should occur at a site other than the cancer care facility. Testing at the cancer care facility should be limited to patients identified as symptomatic or at risk after arrival at the clinic.
- As above, all patients should be screened upon arrival to the facility, to determine whether there has been a change in status and/or the need for testing or retesting.

Testing policies for healthcare personnel (HCP)

- Priority 1
 - Healthcare facility workers, workers in congregate living settings, and first responders with symptoms.
- Priority 2
 - Persons with symptoms of potential COVID-19 infection, including cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms.
 - Persons without symptoms who are prioritized by health departments or clinicians, for any reason, including but not limited to: public health monitoring, sentinel surveillance, or screening of other asymptomatic individuals according to state and local plans.
- Priority 3:
 - Asymptomatic individuals who are either known or suspected to have been exposed to COVID-19 while not wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Known exposure is defined as direct contact with a laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19. Suspected exposure is defined as working or residing in a congregate setting.

- Testing Policies and Protocols
 - Testing should be considered if there has been exposure to a patient or person with suspected COVID-19, with or without laboratory confirmation.
 - HCPs in the high- or medium-risk category should undergo active monitoring, including restriction from work in any healthcare setting until 14 days after their last exposure.
 - If an HCP develops a fever (measured temperature of at least 100.4°F) OR presents with COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms), they should immediately self-isolate and notify their local or state public health authority and their healthcare facility management and obtain referral to a healthcare provider for further evaluation.
 - HCPs in the low-risk category should perform self-monitoring with delegated supervision until 14 days after the last potential exposure.
 - Low-risk HCP who report potential exposure and are asymptomatic are not restricted from work. They should check their temperature twice daily and remain alert for symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, myalgias, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms).
 - Such individuals should ensure they are afebrile and asymptomatic before leaving home and reporting for work. If they do not have fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 they may report to work. If they develop fever (measured temperature of at least 100.4°F or subjective fever) OR symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they should immediately self-isolate and notify their local or state public health authority or healthcare facility management so that they can coordinate consultation and referral to a healthcare provider for further evaluation.
 - Healthcare facilities should consider measuring temperature and assessing symptoms for all HCP prior to starting every work shift.
 - Facilities should consider COVID-19 testing for all HCP at the beginning of a cycle of consecutive workdays.
 - Commercially manufactured antibody tests check for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in individuals and are available through healthcare providers and commercial laboratories. CDC is evaluating the performance of these tests. Antibody test results should not be used to diagnose someone with an active SARS-CoV-2 infection. It typically takes 1 to 3 weeks after someone becomes infected with SARS-CoV-2 for their body to make antibodies; some people may take longer to develop antibodies.

Additional resources:

Evaluating and Testing Persons for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/clinical-criteria.html>

Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>

A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Processes for testing and questionnaires for asymptomatic cancer treatment patients was developed from recommendations from the Infectious Diseases Society of America Guidelines on the Diagnosis of COVID-19. <https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/covid-19-guideline-diagnostics>

Serology Testing for COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/serology-testing.html>

Patient and HCP testing; HCP return to work illustration workflows:

COVID-19 Patient Testing

https://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2020-05/COVID_Patient_Testing.pdf

COVID-19 HCP Testing

<https://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2020-05/COVID-19%20HCP%20testing.pdf>

COVID-19 Return to Work

<https://practice.asco.org/sites/default/files/drupalfiles/2020-05/COVID-19%20HCP%20return%20to%20work.pdf>

Infection Prevention Controls

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- HCP should always wear a facemask while they are in the healthcare facility. When available, medical grade facemasks are preferred over cloth face coverings for HCP.
- All staff entering the room of a patient with known or suspected COVID-19 should adhere to recommended CDC Standard Precautions and use an N95 respirator or medical grade facemask, gown, gloves, and eye protection. Cloth face coverings are not proven effective PPE and should not be worn for the care of patients with known or suspected COVID-19.
- All staff should follow Standard Precautions and Transmission-Based Precautions based on anticipated exposures and suspected or confirmed diagnoses.
- All physical contact between staff should be minimized and 6-foot distancing maintained whenever possible.
- The facility should have a clear policy on optimizing the supply of PPE and planning for healthcare professional inventory needs.
- Healthcare facilities should consider decontamination and reuse of filtering facepiece respirators as one means of optimizing scarce resources.

Additional resources:

CDC Transmission-based Precautions

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/transmission-based-precautions.html>

Decontaminating and Reuse of Filtering Facepiece Respirators

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>

Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Interim Guidelines During the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.ons.org/covid-19-interim-guidelines>

Standard Precautions for All Patient Care

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>

Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment

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

Workforce

Workforce

- Screen all HCP at the beginning of their shift for fever and symptoms consistent with COVID-19. CDC considers a person to have a fever when he or she has a measured temperature of at least 100.4 °F [38 °C].
 - As part of routine practice, HCP should be asked to regularly monitor themselves for fever and symptoms of COVID-19.
 - HCP should be reminded to stay home when they are ill. Criteria for return to work should be based on employer requirements. If an HCP is COVID-19-positive, they should follow the criteria for return to work with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.
 - If HCP develops a fever (of at least 100.4°F) or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 while at work, they should keep their facemask on, inform their supervisor, and leave the workplace.
 - Facilities should consider COVID-19 testing for HCP at the beginning of a cycle of consecutive workdays.
 - Facilities should use CDC Standard Precautions and other infection prevention and control strategies to limit exposure.
 - Healthcare facilities should follow interim CDC guidance on recommended criteria for return to work for healthcare personnel with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. Return to work criteria include:
 - Symptom-based strategy. Exclude from work until:
 - At least 24 hours have passed since recovery [defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)]; and
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- Test-based strategy may be used if it would result in discontinuing isolation sooner than the symptom-based strategy:
- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
 - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), and negative results of a Food and Drug Administration Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens).
- Reduce the number of staff in the clinic by allowing work-from-home for scheduling, billing, and other phone-based staff.

A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Healthcare facilities should impose social/physical distancing of 6-foot distance in workspaces.
- Move cancer conferences and other meetings to a virtual format.
- Identify number of staff essential for facility operations and patient care and treatment.
- Identify separate, designated staff for COVID-19-positive patient care.
- Modify duties and make other accommodations for HCP with additional risk factors.
- Workforce/Staff Education
 - Provide training for infection control, proper selection and use/disposal of PPE, and use of respiratory equipment.
 - Provide training on proper use/cleaning of equipment and isolation rooms.
 - Provide training for proper disposal of potentially infectious waste.
 - Conduct routine cleaning of rooms and exam equipment.
- Practices should require all staff to get an annual influenza vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine series
- Personal travel should be based on an abundance of caution to help lower the probability of spread of COVID-19:
 - Encourage all employees to carefully consider personal travel plans.
 - For employees who travel outside their geographic area or into an epicenter/surge/elevated risk location during their time off and/or become exposed or acquire COVID-19, require quarantine and testing until confirmed COVID-19 negative.
- Facility should engage Human Resources support for employee health issues.
- Facility leaders should be alert to clinicians and members of the cancer care team who may experience increased stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This can result in the following:
 - Isolation as a result of strict biosecurity measures; physical isolation from family and friends.
 - Worry about own health and health of family, peers, and colleagues.
 - Multiple medical and personal demands; competing demands of typical daily workload and COVID-19 response; changes in family care responsibilities.
 - Difficult choices and challenges in patient care, worry about patients; supporting patients and families during reduced visitation.
- Facility should provide support and stress management resources for HCP:
 - Maintain social support.
 - Check-in with employees regarding physical and emotional well-being and effective coping strategies.
 - Offer employee assistance or mental health support to address COVID-19 stress.
 - Be mindful of employee's possible feelings of being overwhelmed or signs of harming self/others.

Additional resources:

A segregated-team model to maintain cancer care during the COVID-19 outbreak at an academic center in Singapore

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0923753420364103?via%3Dihub>

Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 (Interim guidance)

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhealthcare-facilities%2Fhcp-return-work.html

ONS Recommendations for Oncology Staff Assignments During the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.ons.org/oncology-staff-assignments-covid-19>

Standard Precautions for All Patient Care

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Oncologist Burnout, Emotional Well-Being, & Moral Distress: Considerations for the Cancer Organization's Response for Readiness, Mitigation, & Resilience

<https://www.asco.org/sites/new-www.asco.org/files/content-files/practice-and-guidelines/documents/2020-The-Impact-of-COVID-Burnout.pdf>

Tools for health professional well-being and mental health:

[Physician Support Line](#): a free and confidential support line run by volunteer psychiatrists hoping to provide peer support to fellow physicians.

[Crisis Text Line](#): text HOME to 741741 to connect with a free crisis counselor (US and Canada). UK: text 85258. Ireland: text 086 1800 280.

[PTSD Coach](#): an app created by the VA and DoD to help those who are or may be experiencing effects of trauma.

[Doctor On Demand](#): a telemedicine service focused on behavioral health.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Disaster Distress Helpline: [1-800-985-5990](tel:1-800-985-5990) or text TalkWithUs to 66746. (TTY [1-800-846-8517](tel:1-800-846-8517))

[TalkSpace](#): offering free online therapy to health care workers fighting COVID

American Medical Association, [Caring for our Caregivers During COVID-19](#)

American Psychological Association, [Resources for Pandemic](#)

Cates, Gomes, and Krasilovsky. *Bioemergency Planning*, [Behavioral Health Support for Patients, Families, and Healthcare Workers](#)

Sources: US Department of Veterans Affairs, [Managing Healthcare Workers' Stress Associated with the COVID-19 Virus Outbreak](#); National Academies, [Duty to Plan: Health Care, Crisis Standards of Care, and Novel Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2](#)

Resources and Supplies

Resources and Supplies

- Assure sufficient inventory of medications, PPE, and cleaning supplies.
- Centralize inventory storage for security and healthcare facility distribution oversight.
- Healthcare facility should have policies/procedures to ensure the integrity of donated PPE (e.g., cloth masks) and proper utilization, as well as chain-of-custody of supplies.

Additional resources:

How to Report a Product Shortage or Supply Issue to FDA

<https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/safety-availability-biologics/how-report-product-shortage-or-supply-issue-fda>

Facility Considerations

Social/Physical Distancing in Clinical Areas

- Consider shared spaces with 6-foot distancing or elimination of waiting areas (e.g., patient wait in parking area and called immediately prior to entrance to examination or treatment room).
- If facility is without parking lots or close public parking, create a “drop off” zone or drive through location.
- For patients arriving via public transportation, designate an arrival area with team members escorting patients to screening area.
- Instead of waiting rooms, have patients enter the screening area upon notification of appointment commencing.
- Remove any materials or communal goods that may be in contact with patients (e.g., magazines, patient education materials on display, snacks, beverage dispensers, prepared beverages such as coffee or bottled water/beverages).
- Patients should be seen by each provider or team member individually, assuring social/physical distancing.
- Patients waiting in lines should stand at least 6 feet apart from one another. Facilities should consider placing distance markings on the floor to provide guidance to patients. Waiting in lines can be reduced/eliminated through an alternative workflow (e.g., patient waiting in their car or designated area prior to entering the building; virtual check-in from waiting location; check-out performed in the exam room or patient escorted to check-out when front desk without other patients).
- Assign a designated location and route of entry/exit for COVID-19 Patient Under Investigation and/or COVID-positive.
- Identify specific bathroom facilities for COVID-19-positive patients.

Social/physical distancing in administrative and non-patient care areas:

- Identify essential staff members for administrative and non-patient care duties within the facility. Consider allowing work from home for amenable job responsibilities.
- Apply social distancing in facility shared spaces (e.g., workstations, work assignment areas, break room/staff lounge) with 6-foot distancing.
- Block off staff areas from patient access during patient care visits, including the staff restrooms and lounge/breakroom.
- Shared food areas (e.g., coffee machine, refrigerator, water cooler) should be discontinued. Restrict business and vendor on-site visits, including accepting communal food.
- All meetings, multidisciplinary clinics, and tumor boards should be converted to online rather than in person.

Facility signage and directions:

- Segregated areas should be clearly indicated via signage. All signage should be in English, Spanish, and/or other languages as appropriate to the patient population.
- The facility website should include information about facility policies related to COVID-19 patient care, including those related to both on-site and virtual visits.

Location Services and Hours of Operations

Location Services and Hours of Operations

- Based on in-office patient care volume and telehealth visit volume, some facilities should temporarily close, with staff available for COVID-19-positive patient care, rotation of staff for work and rest cycles, and remote work, such as telephone triage and medical records tasks.
- Consider extended hours to allow for influx/surge of in-office patient visits allowing for Patients Under Investigation and COVID-positive patients at end of day if possible.
- Consider opening new areas for treatment to allow appropriate distancing and/or isolating patients at highest risk of exposure (e.g., injection only rooms/areas and grouping COVID-positive patients in designated areas for care).
- Consider hours of operations for terminal cleaning procedures.

COVID-19 Surge Planning

Surge Planning

- Develop an escalation plan for care of COVID-19 positive surge patient care that includes staffing, facility segregation, and deployment of any precautions that may have been lifted with COVID-19 response.
- Establish a Surge Planning team that identifies data and metrics that trigger activation of escalation plan.
- Maintain awareness and prepare for impact of staff health, resilience, and availability from COVID-19 impact.

Additional resources:

CDC Information for Healthcare Professionals About Coronavirus (COVID-19) – COVID-19 Surge Tool
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhealthcare-facilities%2Findex.html

Framework for Healthcare Systems Providing non-COVID-19 Clinical Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/framework-non-COVID-care.html>

Sanitation Protocols

Sanitation Protocols

- Follow required healthcare facility infection control practices for cleaning.
- Current evidence suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. A thorough wipe down for disinfection should be done in exam room/treatment area following every patient visit using an EPA-registered household disinfectant.
- Facility cleaning protocols should include disinfectant to all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment (like tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls) used by anyone infected with COVID-19.
- For end of day terminal clean, include all patient care rooms and equipment (e.g., infusion pumps, vital sign monitoring, linear accelerator). Decontaminate all surfaces and close room to allow for airflow exchange with disinfectant cleaning afterwards. This should be done before the next day prior to any non-COVID-positive patient treatments/patient care.
- If specific isolation areas are being used, cleaning procedures must occur immediately following patient discharge from the facility room/area.

Additional resources:

Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>

Support Services

Support Services

Support services should continue during this time. Resources should be provided to patients remotely. Below is a list of resources available to share with patients. Most resources can be located at <https://www.cancer.net/>.

- Financial
 - <https://www.cancer.net/navigating-cancer-care/financial-considerations>

A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Nutrition
 - <https://www.cancer.net/survivorship/healthy-living/nutrition-recommendations-during-and-after-treatment>
 - <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/eating-hints>
- Exercise
 - <https://www.cancer.net/survivorship/healthy-living/exercise-during-cancer-treatment>
- Psychosocial
 - <https://www.cancer.net/survivorship/follow-care-after-cancer-treatment/asco-cancer-treatment-and-survivorship-care-plans>
 - https://www.cancer.net/sites/cancer.net/files/asco_answers_when_doctor_says_cancer.pdf
 - https://www.cancer.net/sites/cancer.net/files/asco_answers_anxiety_depression.pdf
- Reproductive and Sexual Health
 - <https://www.cancer.net/navigating-cancer-care/dating-sex-and-reproduction>
 - https://www.cancer.net/sites/cancer.net/files/asco_answers_fertility.pdf
- Spiritual
 - <https://www.cancer.net/blog/2016-04/what-role-chaplain-cancer-care>

Patient Health and Safety Education

Patient Health and Safety Education

- Provide patient education regarding infection control practices in conjunction with each new initial communication to a new patient, during their first office visit, as part of treatment planning, and reinforced with each subsequent visit. Below are examples of such health and safety information:
 - Masking is required for office visits.
 - Hands should be washed often with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Avoid close contact with others who are ill.
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Discard tissue and then wash hands.
 - Regularly clean/disinfect frequently used surfaces and other objects at home.
 - Stay home if you are ill and avoid others.
 - Encourage patients to speak to their provider about annual flu vaccines.
 - Encourage patients to be proactive about the above recommendations and to call the practice prior to coming should respiratory symptoms occur.
- Patient education should include information regarding the practice care delivery changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and instructions for virtual/telemedicine visits.
- Patient education should address resumption of care and safety questions and concerns regarding risk of COVID-19 exposure.

Additional resources:

Common Questions About COVID-19 and Cancer: Answers for Patients and Survivors

<https://www.cancer.net/blog/2020-05/common-questions-about-covid-19-and-cancer-answers-patients-and-survivors>

Coronavirus and COVID-19: What People With Cancer Need to Know

<https://www.cancer.net/blog/2020-05/coronavirus-and-covid-19-what-people-with-cancer-need-know>

National Cancer Institute– Coronavirus: What People with Cancer Should Know

<https://www.cancer.gov/contact/emergency-preparedness/coronavirus>

Patient Communication Strategies for COVID-19 Conversations

<https://voice.ons.org/stories/patient-communication-strategies-for-covid-19-conversations>

Telemedicine

Telemedicine (telehealth, telephone E&M, virtual check-in, e-visit)

- Identify visits that continue to be appropriate for telemedicine (e.g., COVID-positive infection, non-urgent high-risk patient population, symptom management triage – who, what, when, why, and how).
- Identify practice visits that include a combination of in-office and telemedicine (e.g., identifying appropriate visits for telemedicine and in-office with COVID-19 precautions in place, such as new/consultation, follow-up, on-therapy, surveillance).
- Utilize telemedicine visits to expand service capacities especially in COVID-19 surges.
- Telemedicine visit types:
 - Patients not requiring an in-person physical exam, treatment, or in-office diagnostics.
 - Other patient visits: follow-ups, oral oncolytic treatment adherence, survivorship, palliative care, genetic counseling, support services, patient education.
 - Telephonic and telehealth interactions for triage and quick assessment of patients.
 - Symptom monitoring for high-risk patients.
- Telehealth visit considerations:
 - Visit performed with audio and visual capabilities.
 - Includes visits equivalent to new or established patient visits, along with other visit types approved by Medicare, Medicaid and other third-party payers.
 - During the public health emergency, for new and established patients.
 - The patient must verbally consent to receive a telehealth visit.
- Telephone-only visit considerations:
 - Used in lieu of telehealth visit for patients with audio-only capabilities.
 - The patient must verbally consent to receive a telephone-only visit.
- Virtual check-in considerations:
 - A brief communication with a patient via telephone or other telecommunication modality, such as audio/video, secure text messaging, or email.
 - During the public health emergency, for new and established patients.
 - Communication should be related to medical visit within the previous 7 days and does not lead to a medical visit within 24 hours.

- The patient must verbally consent to receive a virtual check-in.
- E-visit considerations:
 - A patient-initiated visit via an online patient portal or other electronic means.
 - During the public health emergency, for new and established patients.

Please note that telemedicine coverage may be subject to frequent updates beyond the publication date of this guide.

Additional resources:

The American College of Physicians has created a [tutorial](#) for deploying telemedicine services.

The Federation of State Medical Boards has created a [resource](#) to track which states have modified their in-state licensure requirements for telehealth in response to COVID-19.

Additional information from ASCO regarding expanded access to telemedicine may be found on the [COVID-19 Government, Reimbursement & Regulatory Updates](#) page.

Medical Oncology

Medical Oncology

- Patient Management (In-Office)
 - All patients who present with COVID-19 positive infection or who become COVID-positive on treatment should be placed on immediate treatment break or delay while a determination is made about next steps.
 - A request for review to start or continue treatment of COVID-19-positive patients should be considered in the context of medical necessity to start or continue treatment.
 - Only prioritized COVID-19-positive patients should be considered for starting or resumption of treatment (e.g., priority list identifies risk/benefit based on treatment intent and urgency; i.e., some patients may be COVID-19-positive and still appropriate for treatment).
 - Many patients may be appropriate to place on break for a minimum of 10 days and/or until improvement in symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications. As above, consider a flexible and modifiable hybrid model of in-office and telemedicine visits based on provider determination of patient care (both present and future).
- Treatment Suite
 - Establish an identified area for COVID-19-positive patient treatment (e.g., outpatient, inpatient).
 - Assign dedicated staff for COVID-19-positive patients.
 - Staff scheduling should include time off for recovery and monitoring for symptoms.
- Home Infusion
 - Oncologists have shared concerns regarding the safety and appropriateness of home infusion for anti-cancer drug administration and, generally, do not recommend it for most drugs. The decision to administer chemotherapy in this setting should be made by the treating physician in consultation with the patient after consideration of

precautions necessary to protect medical staff, patients and caregivers from adverse events associated with drug infusion and disposal and risk of COVID-19 infection.

- Oncologist providers may consider home infusion for supportive care, such as hydration and anti-emetics.
- Pharmacy
 - Consider telemedicine for oral oncolytic agent adherence and patient counseling.
- As practices reopen, they should anticipate the possibility of a surge in patients newly diagnosed with cancer as screening and primary care services increase. Practices may need extended hours to support patient care needs.

Additional resources:

ASCO Coronavirus Resources – Patient Care Information

<https://www.asco.org/asco-coronavirus-information/care-individuals-cancer-during-covid-19>

Radiation Oncology

Radiation Oncology

- Patient Management (In-Office)
 - Per facility protocol, Patient's Under Investigation (PUI) and/or COVID-19-positive status should be verified and documented.
 - All patients who present with PUI, COVID-positive infection, or who become COVID-positive on treatment should be placed on immediate treatment break or delay while a determination is made about next steps.
 - A request for review to start or continue treatment of COVID-19-positive patients should be made in the context of medical necessity to start or continue treatment.
 - Only prioritized COVID-positive patients should be considered for starting or resuming treatment (e.g., priority list identifies risk/benefit based on treatment intent and urgency).
 - Many patients may be appropriate to place on break for a minimum of 10 days and/or until improvement in symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications. Consider testing for COVID status. If testing not available, physician, radiation oncologist, and infection control should determine if and how to move forward with treatment.
 - Designated linear accelerator may be considered for COVID-19-positive patients, if possible.
 - PUI and COVID-19-positive patients should be last appointments of the day on the machine and should remain in these time slots for at least 10 days and/or until improvement in symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications. If there are multiple PUI and COVID-positive patients on treatment, they should be treated in consecutive slots at the end of day. Facilities should conduct a thorough wipe down of all surfaces between each PUI or COVID-19-positive patient.
 - Treatment visits can be performed in the linear accelerator vault or by telemedicine visits.
 - Identify private changing/waiting room with a thorough wipe down being done between each patient.

- Consider a flexible and modifiable hybrid model of in-office and telemedicine visits based on provider determination of patient care (both present and future).
- As practices reopen, they should anticipate the possibility of a surge in patients with newly diagnosed cancer, as screening and primary care services increase. Practices may need extended hours to support patient care needs.

Additional resources:

The Impact of COVID-19 on Radiation Oncology Clinics and Patients with Cancer in the United States. *Adv Radiat Oncol.* 2020 Mar 27. DOI: 10.1016/j.adro.2020.03.006 [Epub ahead of print]
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7118653/>

Ancillary Services

Ancillary Services

- Evaluate ancillary services availability for patient care needs (e.g., elective surgery, physical therapy, physician specialists).
- Oncologist provider may consider care coordination with other services and providers related to patient facility visits and telemedicine visits.

Cancer Screening

Cancer Screening

- Healthcare facilities should follow state and local health authority declarations for resumption of other cancer care services (e.g., colonoscopies, diagnostic radiology, dermatology, dentistry, mammography).
- Some screening may be performed with distancing and masks.
- Biopsies may be performed by interventional radiologists, generally in the Interventional Radiology suites or physician's office and with use of PPE.

Surgeries

Surgeries

- The American College of Surgeons (ACS) has released a new surgical resource document, "Local Resumption of Elective Surgery Guidance," as a guide for healthcare facilities preparing to resume elective surgery once COVID-19 has peaked in their area.
- The guide outlines categories with distinct issues to be addressed before resuming elective surgeries.
- As with all other guidance in this document, this resumption of care is subject to individual state and municipal orders.

Additional resources:

Local Resumption of Elective Surgery Guidance
<https://www.facs.org/covid-19/clinical-guidance/resuming-elective-surgery>

Clinical Trials

Clinical Trials

- Manage current patients based on sponsor policies and in accord with agency guidance (e.g., FDA Guidance; NCI Interim Guidance for Patients on Clinical Trials).
- Continue treatment on protocol, if possible, maintaining good clinical practice.
- Consult sponsor and IRB (Institutional Review Board) with inquiries regarding deviations from protocol requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Protocol monitoring modifications may include all study monitoring being virtual visits if the trial sponsor agrees.
- Ensure access to drugs prior to patient visit scheduling.
- Resume screening and enrollment with consideration to COVID-19 exposure. Testing may be appropriate.
- Expand access to clinical trial enrollment as imaging, surgery, and ability to collect biospecimens expand safely for patients and staff.
- Consider discussion with sponsor regarding eliminating nonessential tests needed for study enrollment and remote laboratory testing.
- Contact Principal investigator and/or trial sponsor to get discuss anticipated protocol deviations during the pandemic.

Additional resources:

Early Impact of COVID-19 on the Conduct of Oncology Clinical Trials and Long-Term Opportunities for Transformation: Findings from an American Society of Clinical Oncology Survey

<https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/OP.20.00275>

FDA Guidance on Conduct of Clinical Trials of Medical Products during COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/fda-guidance-conduct-clinical-trials-medical-products-during-covid-19-public-health-emergency>

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has issued guidance on the NCI Central Institutional Review Board (CIRB) including advisories and FAQs.

<https://www.ncicirb.org/content/nci-cirb-information-about-covid-19>

COVID-19 Treatment: Outpatient Infusion Care

Several infused medications have received emergency use authorization from the FDA and may be used for the treatment of COVID-19 in non-hospitalized patients (e.g., bamlanivimab and casirivimab plus imdevimab combination). Infection Prevention and Control guidelines must be followed for managing COVID-19 positive patients during the administration of these medications. These medications may be administered in some outpatient cancer centers that choose to offer these infusions. For centers offering such infusions, preparations must be made for separating COVID-19 positive patients from any patients who are immunosuppressed. Having a current cancer diagnosis or immunosuppression from prior treatment increases the risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

Additionally, it is important to minimize risk to cancer patients from interruption of cancer-specific care or other medical care due to COVID-19 exposure and potential COVID-19.

Health care facilities should attempt to identify/utilize alternative infusion sites for treatment of COVID Positive patients not requiring concurrent anti-cancer treatment or routine cancer care.

Facilities

- Segregated treatment areas:
 - Due to the risk to immunosuppressed patients of COVID-19 exposure, designated area(s) should be allocated for treatment of COVID-19 positive patients. The designated area(s) will allow appropriate distancing and/or isolating patients who could potentially expose vulnerable, high risk cancer patients and those who have undergone immunosuppressive procedures such as solid organ or stem cell transplantation, or who have received long-acting biologic therapy, cellular immunotherapy, or high-dose corticosteroid treatment.
 - Health care facilities may identify COVID-19 positive infusion centers/facilities for further segregation in areas of care. Per the CMS Hospital Without Walls Initiative, hospitals may be able to provide services at alternative and remote locations or sites (e.g., on-campus physician office space may be converted to temporary expansion site for COVID-19 treatment).
 - Segregated areas should be clearly indicated via building signage and directional signage with as much separation from the general public as possible (e.g., designated walkways and elevator, restrooms, waiting areas.) All signage should be in English, Spanish, and/or other languages as appropriate to the patient population.
 - Designated isolation areas being used for COVID-19 positive patient care should be cleaned immediately following patient discharge from the facility room/area.
- Alternative strategies:
 - Facilities that are unable to have separate infusion areas may consider designated appointment times for COVID-19 positive patients to reduce the risk of cross contamination with immunosuppressed patients (e.g., AM for non-COVID-19 and PM for COVID-19 positive; designate day(s) of the week for COVID-19 positive patient care.
 - If designated isolation area(s) being used for COVID-19 positive patients are converted to usage for non-COVID-19 positive patients, proper cleaning and disinfecting must occur prior to use.
 - Note that clinical protocols may call for post-infusion monitoring (e.g., bamlanivimab and casirivimab plus imdevimab combination requires one hour of monitoring). This time should be accounted for when determining facility needs and designated appointment times.
- Optimize the use of Engineering Controls to reduce or eliminate exposures by shielding staff and other patients from infected individuals. Examples of engineering controls include:
 - Physical barriers and dedicated pathways to guide symptomatic patients through triage areas.
 - Remote triage facilities for patient intake areas.
 - If climate permits, outdoor assessment and triage stations for patients with respiratory symptoms.
 - Explore options, in consultation with facility engineers, to improve indoor air quality in all shared spaces.

- Optimize air-handling systems (ensuring appropriate directionality, filtration, exchange rate, proper installation, and up to date maintenance).
- Consider the addition of portable solutions (e.g., portable HEPA filtration units) to augment air quality in areas when permanent air-handling systems are not a feasible option.

Before Patient Arrival

- Contact the patient 24 to 48 hours prior to the appointment for education on infection prevention and control practices to minimize exposing others to COVID-19 (e.g., dedicated COVID-19 positive patient entrance, masking, physical distancing, handwashing)
- Advise patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection that they are required to put on a face mask, regardless of symptomatic or asymptomatic, before entering the facility. Face mask must remain in place throughout the visit.
- Instruct the patient that no visitors are permitted, unless a patient requires accompaniment due to specific patient needs, such as intellectual and/or developmental disabilities or other cognitive or physical impairments. Visitors who accompany COVID-19 positive patients will be identified as person(s) under investigation due to COVID-19 exposure and required to follow infection prevention and control practices against exposing others to COVID-19.

Upon Patient Arrival

- Limit access to the facility through one point of entry, if possible. If there are multiple points of entry, identify and instruct the patient of the appropriate entry for COVID-19 positive patients.
- Patients should be escorted from the point of entry directly to the designated, isolated treatment area. Escort should comply with appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Appointments should be staggered to reduce the number of COVID-19 positive patients moving through the facility.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All staff in contact or entering the room of a patient with known COVID-19 should adhere to recommended CDC Standard Precautions and use an N95 respirator or medical grade facemask, gown, gloves, and eye protection. Cloth face coverings are not proven effective PPE and should not be worn for the care of patients with known COVID-19.
- Wearing eye protection in addition to a facemask is recommended to ensure the eyes, nose, and mouth are all protected from exposure to respiratory secretions during patient care encounters.

Workforce

- Identify separate, designated staff for COVID-19-positive patient care.
- Policies should be put in place to prevent staff caring for immunosuppressed patients from floating or re-assignment to areas that have patients with known or suspected COVID-19 infection.
- Staff caring for patients who are immunosuppressed should not have contact with patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection.
- Monoclonal antibody administration typically requires specialized staff training in the administration of these agents (e.g., procedures for infusion, drug/dose verification, monitoring consideration, anticipated side effects, procedures for safe handling and disposal)
- Staff preparation and training on response and treatment to hypersensitivity including anaphylaxis and infusion-related reactions should be in place.

- Identify process to activate the emergency medical system, as necessary, for emergency treatment.

Equipment & Supplies

Prior to offering therapeutic therapy for COVID-19 patients, the facility should ensure that they have the proper equipment and supplies available for the treatment area, including:

- Refrigeration (e.g., mAb therapies should be stored at 2-8° C with temperature monitoring).
- Infusion supplies: poles, infusion sets with 0.2- or 0.22-micron PES in-line filter, syringes, wipes, pads, etc.
- General supplies: infusion administration, anaphylaxis and infusion-related reaction supplies (e.g., biohazard disposal, kits or emergency cart, etc.)

Additional resources:

Bamlanivimab Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers

<http://pi.lilly.com/eua/bamlanivimab-eua-factsheet-hcp.pdf>

Casirivimab and Imdevimab Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers

<https://www.regeneron.com/sites/default/files/treatment-covid19-eua-fact-sheet-for-hcp.pdf>

Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

CMS Flexibilities to Fight COVID-19, Rural Crosswalk

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/omh-rural-crosswalk-5-21-21.pdf>

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Using Personnel Protective Equipment

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>

Delivering Cancer Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Recommendations and Lessons Learned from ASCO Global Webinars

<https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/GO.20.00423>

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Cancer Care: A Global Collaborative Study

<https://ascopubs.org/doi/full/10.1200/GO.20.00351>

Infection Control Guidance for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control.html>

Infectious Diseases Society of America Guidelines on the Diagnosis of COVID-19

<https://www.idsociety.org/practice-guideline/covid-19-guideline-diagnostics/>

Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>

Managing Healthcare Workers During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

<https://meridian.allenpress.com/innovationsjournals-JQSH/article/3/2/33/438319/Managing-Healthcare-Workers-During-the-COVID-19>

ONS Monoclonal Antibodies

<https://www.ons.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/MonoclonalAntibodyNov2020.pdf>

ONS Information Regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19): Bamlanivimab

<https://www.ons.org/coronavirus>

ONS Recommendations for Administration of Monoclonal Antibodies for COVID-19 Positive Patients

https://www.ons.org/sites/default/files/2020-12/ONS_Recommendations_Administration_MonoclonalAntibodies_COVID19.pdf

ONS Recommendations for Oncology Staff Assignments During the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.ons.org/oncology-staff-assignments-covid-19>

Operation Warp Speed Therapeutics: Monoclonal Antibody Playbook

https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Documents/COVID-Therapeutics-playbook_22April2021.pdf

Standard Precautions for All Patient Care

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html>

Other Helpful References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus (COVID-19)
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html>
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Recommendations Re-opening Facilities to Provide Non-emergent Non-COVID-19 Healthcare: Phase I
<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-flexibility-reopen-essential-non-covid-services.pdf>
- Ethics and Resource Scarcity: ASCO Recommendations for the Oncology Community During the COVID-19 Pandemic
<https://ascopubs.org/doi/pdf/10.1200/JCO.20.00960>
- Safety at the Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic: How to Keep our Oncology Patients and Healthcare Workers Safe. JNCCN. Online publication date: 15 April 2020.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.6004/jnccn.2020.7572>

Acknowledgements

ASCO thanks the following organizations and individuals who contributed to the development of this document and provided perspective through the ASCO-ONS Webinar Series: Caring for People with Cancer During COVID-19 Pandemic.

American Cancer Society
American Society for Radiation Oncology
Association of Oncology Social Work
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Oncology Nursing Society
The American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Kerin Adelson, MD
Krishna Alluri, MBBS
Suprith Badarinath, MD, MSc
Ed Balaban, DO, FACP, FASCO
Gina Baxter, MPH
Nancy Baxter, MD, PhD
Elizabeth M. Blanchard, MD, FASCO
Sibel Blau, MD
Linda Bosserman, MD, FACP, FASCO
Brian Bourbeau, MBA
Ronda Bowman, MHA, RN, OCN
Suanna Steeby Bruinooge, MPH
Jenna Campbell, BA
Elquis Castillo, MD
Laura Q. M. Chow, MD, FRCPC
Risë Marie Cleland
John Cox, DO, FASCO, MBA, MACP
Moshe C. Chasky, MD
Anne Chiang, MD, PhD
Joan O'Hanlon Curry, MS, RN, CPNP, CPON
Robert Daly, MD, MBA
Shaheenah Dawood, MD
Roselle De Guzman, MD
Angela DeMichele, MD, MSCE
Kandie Dempsey, DBA, MS, RN, OCN
Natalie Dickson, MD, MMHC, FACP
Amy Evers, BNS, RN, OCN, CPHQ
Daniel Fontes-Argolo, MD
Kristin Fox, MS, APRN, ACHPN
Chris Friese, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN
Elizabeth Gaufberg, MD, MPH
Anne Gross, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
Olwen Hahn, MD

Jack Hensold, MD
Paul Hesketh, MD, FASCO
Nancy Houlihan, MA, RN, AOCN
Chikashi Ishioka, MD
Abdul-Rahman Jazieh, MD, MPH
Dorothy Keefe, PSM, MBBS, MSc, MD, FRACP, FRCP
Ronan Kelly, MD, MBA
Lisa Kennedy Sheldon, PhD, ANP-BC, AOCNP, FAAN
Paul Kluetz, MD
Elise Kohn, MD
Michael Kosty, MD, FACP, FASCO
Michele Lacy, RN, BSN, OCN
Patrick Leavy, MD
Gary H Lyman, MD, MPH, FASCO, FACP, FRCP
Alan Lyss, MD
Barbara McAneny, MD, MACP, FASCO
Heather McArthur, MD, MPH
Terry M. McDonnell, ARNP, MSN, DNP
Erin McMenamin, PhD, CRNP
Thomas Marsland, MD, FASCO
Deborah Mayer, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN
Matthew I. Milowsky, MD
Allyn Moushey, MSW
Therese Mulvey, MD, FASCO
Krista Nelson, LCSW, OSW-C
MiKaela Olsen, DNP, APRN-CNS, AOCNS, FAAN
Ray Page, DO, PhD, FACOI, FASCO
Sumanta Pal, MD
Jyoti D. Patel, MD
Kashyap Patel, MD
Robin Patel, MD(CM), D(ABMM), FIDSA, FACP
Todd Pickard, PA-C, FASCO
William Pirl, MD, MPH

A GUIDE TO CANCER CARE DELIVERY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Martha Polovich, PhD, RN, AOCN
Anthony F. Provenzano, MD
Evangelia Razis, MD
David H. Regan, MD, FASCO
Amar Rewari, MD, MBA
Flavio Rocha, MD, FACS
Gabrielle Rocque, MD, MSPH
Trevor Royce, MD, MPH
Piotr Rutkowski, MD
Joel Saltzman, MD
Michael Savin, MD
Dan Sherman, MA, LPC
Lawrence Shulman, MD, FASCO
Samuel M. Silver, MD, PhD, MACP, FASCO
Pam Soliman, MD
Rebecca Spence, JD, MPH
Piyush Srivastava, MD

Alec Stone, MA, MPA
Chee-Chee Stucky, MD
Preeti Sudheendra, MD
Sana Al-Sukhun, MD, MSc
Ashley Sumrall, MD, FACP
Julie Sussi, MA
Elitza S. Theel, Ph.D., D(ABMM)
Christian Thomas, MD
Charlotte Tremonti, RN
Praveen Vikas, MD
Victor M. Villalobos, MD, PhD
Daniel Wakefield, MD
Jeffery C. Ward, MD, FASCO
Kimberly Woody, MSN, PPCNP-BC
Robin Yabroff, PhD
Angela Zambrano, MD
Dan Zuckerman, MD, FASCO