March 16, 2020

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News & Announcements
MDPH issues updated COVID-19 testing guidance
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In addition, two commercial laboratories, Quest and LabCorp have received federal approval and have begun offering testing for COVID-19. They are expected to gradually increase their test capacity for patients who should be tested. We anticipate these changes will help alleviate some of the current confusion and frustration surrounding coronavirus testing. For additional clinical questions about testing, test results, specimen transport, or control measures, contact MDPH (24/7) at 617-983-6800. Read the full DPH release »

Governor’s Declaration Allows for Additional Resources
As the number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases continued to rise, Governor. Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency in Massachusetts this week. State officials promulgated a number of new protocols and guidelines for both health care clinicians and facilities as well as individuals in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and support the Commonwealth’s response to the outbreak of Coronavirus.
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- Isolation information and guidance sheet
- Quarantine information and guidance sheet

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Dial 2-1-1 and press 2-6 for information and resources about coronavirus. Help is available to the public in English, Spanish, and other languages.

Photo credit: CDC/ Alissa Eckert, MS; Dan Higgins, MAMS

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**Payer Watch**

**COVID-19 coverage and reimbursement policies by payer**

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**What's New in Health Care**
Mass. reports 15 new coronavirus cases, increasing state count to 28 (WBUR)

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