☑ **For Your Information**

July 21, 2020

This message is for all Bozeman Health employees from Incident Command.

New and Updated COVID-19 Ordering and Testing Policies

Here's what's happening…
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) recognize that healthcare systems need to have the flexibility to respond effectively to the serious public health threats posed by the spread of COVID-19. As a result, CMS has approved a payment waiver which has modified ordering and documentation requirements for COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory tests. Orders do not require a signature and may be ordered as "no signature required". To implement the flexibility provided by the waiver, one new protocol has been developed and four protocols have been updated. The applicable protocols are listed below and are located on the COVID-19 MIND page:

- BH B2 UC Viral Triage Clinic Delegated Order Authority (new)
- COVID-19 Hotline and Employee Health Delegated Ordering Authority (update)
- Family Birth Center COVID-19 Testing (update)
- Preprocedural COVID-19 Testing Outside Main OR (update)
- COVID Testing Guidelines for Surgical Services (BHDH) (update)

Effective immediately and throughout the duration of the public health emergency (PHE), the order mode for test NBLD0624, SARS-COV-2 RNA, QUALITATIVE REAL-TIME RT-PCR will be "**No Cosign Required**." Please utilize the following guidelines when ordering the COVID-19 test NBLD0624 (SARS-CORV-2 RNA, Qualitative Real-time RT PCR):

a. **Order Mode:** No Cosign Required
b. **Ordering Provider:**
    - **COVID-19 Hotline:** Keven Comer is the ordering and authorizing provider.
    - **Employee Health or Gallatin County Health Department:** Dr. Winton is the ordering and authorizing provider.
    - **Pre-surgery, Pre-procedural and Family birth center:** Attending provider is the ordering and authorizing provider.
    - **B2, Urgent Care, Viral Triage Clinic:** please refer to protocol above for ordering/authorizing provider.
    - **Other Sites:** For those areas not covered in one of the above protocols, please follow licensure with RBTO/RVTO and attending provider as the ordering/authorizing.
c. **Diagnosis: Enter one of these 2:**
    - DX ID: 1370834 - (Z20.828 - contact with and, suspected, exposure to other viral communicable diseases)   or
    - DX ID: 1413353 - (Z11.59 - encounter for screening for other viral diseases).

Here's why…

In order to reduce administrative burden and increase access to COVID-19 testing, COVID-19 tests may be ordered without requiring a provider's co-signature. Going forward, all orders for test NBLD0624 may be entered with an order mode of "no cosign required" and associated with one of the aforementioned diagnoses and providers.

Questions or comments? Contact incidentcommand@bozemanhealth.org.