



## March 31: COVID-19 Clinical Update

### PPE, Hospital Access, Panel Discussion and Diagnostic Imaging

*This daily communication is intended to facilitate the sharing of important clinical information during the COVID-19 healthcare crisis and to help respond to questions from physicians across the health system.*

Last night, Northwestern Memorial HealthCare President and CEO Dean M. Harrison sent a message to all employees about hospital access and use of PPE. Please refer to this [communication](#) for information on new processes being implemented at all NM hospitals. All related materials are now available on both [NM Interactive](#) and [Physician Forum](#).

In today's issue, you will find information about a Clinical Insights Panel scheduled for 7 to 8 am on Thursday, April 2, and find answers to frequently asked questions regarding radiology and COVID-19 provided by Chair of Radiology James Carr, MD; and Radiologists Frank Miller, MD; Nishant Parekh, MD and Rishi Agrawal, MD.

#### CLINICAL INSIGHTS PANEL

- 7 to 8 am, Thursday, April 2
- Available to all physicians
- Submit questions ahead of the session by emailing [COVID-19MD@nm.org](mailto:COVID-19MD@nm.org)
- To participate, [join the Microsoft Team meeting](#) when it's time
- Live chat options available

#### DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING IN PATIENTS WITH COVID-19

Chest imaging of patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 has dramatically increased over a short period of time. Initial studies performed in China claimed that laboratory testing alone had lower sensitivity, which was improved when interpreted in conjunction with imaging findings. However, with the improvement and increasing sensitivity of laboratory testing capabilities, imaging is not generally recommended for diagnosis. As such, its role has changed and may be more important in certain populations, such as those where it is incidentally discovered or those at risk for complications. [View the Diagnostic Imaging FAQs](#) for answers to some frequently asked questions regarding radiology and COVID-19.

### GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

Doctor's Day has been postponed, but that didn't stop the Transplant team from hosting a mini-celebration yesterday – while observing distancing requirements – for physicians who were caring for patients. Dr. Park, instructor of Medicine at the Organ Transplant Center, is pictured here.



As always, thank you for your dedication to providing care to our patients and supporting each other during this challenging period. As this healthcare crisis evolves, we will continue to provide you with the most current information through this daily COVID-19 Clinical Update. To help inform future communications, please submit any questions you may have to [COVID-19MD@nm.org](mailto:COVID-19MD@nm.org).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary A. Noskin".

**Gary A. Noskin, MD**  
Senior Vice President, Quality  
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare  
Chief Medical Officer  
Northwestern Memorial Hospital