



May 18: COVID-19 Clinical Update

Physician Well-Being Clinical Insights Panel and Abbott ID NOW Test Information

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 Northwestern Medicine.

Today's issue includes details regarding this week's Clinical Insights Panel and an announcement about the Abbott ID NOW™ rapid diagnostic test.

CLINICAL INSIGHTS PANEL: PHYSICIAN WELL-BEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

The next Clinical Insights Panel for all physicians is scheduled **on Thursday, May 21 from 7 to 8 am**. You are encouraged to submit questions prior to the session by emailing covid-19md@nm.org. This session is approved for CME credit.

Topics for this week's panel include:

- Reducing stress and improving physician well-being
- Combatting anxiety, depression and adult trauma
- Responding to family stressors
- Overcoming substance use

To participate, [join the Microsoft Teams meeting](#) when it's time. To claim Northwestern University CME credit in NU Feinberg School of Medicine Cloud CME, text the activity code provided during the session to 312.957.8301. View [instructions](#).

The video recording of the [May 7 Clinical Insights Panel](#) is now available for viewing.

ABBOTT ID NOW TEST

Northwestern Medicine Laboratory Services recommends maintaining current testing guidelines and workflows to test for SARS-CoV-2 using the Abbott ID NOW platform (formerly Alere), despite recent communications from [New York University](#) and [Abbott Laboratories](#) concerning possible false negative results. The ID NOW test delivers results in minutes and received emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration in March.

Laboratory Services thoroughly evaluated ID NOW for SARS-CoV-2 testing before implementing it across the health system. Results at NM confirmed a sensitivity of approximately 90%, compared with approximately 70% sensitivity for the Cepheid platform and in-house PCR assay.

Laboratory Services recommends the following testing procedures when using the ID NOW device:

- Sample collection should be performed by trained personnel using nasopharyngeal swabs.
- Sample should be placed in a dry tube and delivered for testing within five to 10 minutes of collection.
- Testing should be performed by dedicated, licensed and trained laboratory professionals.

As with any RNA-based detection method, a negative test result must be considered based on the clinical syndrome, patient history and epidemiology of the infection.

Thank you for your extraordinary dedication and collaboration in providing exceptional care to our patients and supporting one another during this unprecedented crisis. If you have questions or would like to share the story of an NM hero, please email us at covid-19md@nm.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gary A. Noskin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" and last name "Noskin" clearly legible.

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