



May 27: Ambulatory Webinar, Serology Testing, Response and Reactivation Survey, Visitor Policy, and Get #FitForTheFrontLine

This weekly communication is intended to facilitate the sharing of important clinical information during our Reactivation phase of the COVID-19 healthcare crisis and to help respond to questions from physicians across Northwestern Medicine.

In this week's issue of *Reactivation Update*, we invite physicians to attend the Ambulatory and Outpatient Diagnostic Reactivation Webinar, to participate in a Northwestern University (NU) serology study with free testing, to provide feedback on NM's COVID-19 response and reactivation, and to join the campaign to get #FitForTheFrontLine. Also included are updates on NM's visitor policy.

AMBULATORY AND OUTPATIENT DIAGNOSTIC REACTIVATION WEBINAR

Noon to 12:45 pm, Friday, May 29

To participate, join the [Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) when it's time.

Ambulatory and outpatient diagnostic groups will be hosting a webinar for all ambulatory and outpatient diagnostic physicians, leaders and Registration staff on Friday, May 29, to share important information about reactivation, returning to work, COVID-19 patient screening, telehealth tools, safety measures, PPE and emotional well-being.

EMPLOYEE AND PHYSICIAN SEROLOGY TESTING

NM is offering no-cost SARS-CoV-2 serology (antibody) testing to all NM staff, physicians, residents and medical students, as well as the opportunity to participate in a Northwestern University research study. SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19.

The test, which is completed through a simple blood draw, will determine whether you have antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. It is not yet known whether developing antibodies to the virus provides protection against future infections. Therefore, if you are found to have antibodies to SARS-CoV-2, you will still be required to follow COVID-19 safety protocols, including universal masking, hand hygiene and physical distancing.

The blood draw is being used only for serology testing, and the test is completely voluntary.

Staff and physicians who primarily work within hospitals will be part of the first group and will receive an email by Monday, June 1. The email will include links to reserve a testing time and details on the study. Additional groups will roll out over the next few weeks in stages to allow for physical distancing. **Please do not forward this email to others, as it has an identifier that is unique to you.**

The NU study is designed to help scientists better understand the experience of people working in a broad range of clinical, administrative and support roles, including:

- Which groups develop antibodies
- How long antibodies last
- What protection antibodies provide

Participation in this research study is completely voluntary and unrelated to employment at NM. You can obtain the serology test without taking part in the research study.

Results will be reported in NM MyChart within a couple days. Results are confidential —you will be the only one who can access them unless you designate others such as your physician. If you are not yet a registered NM patient and do not have an NM MyChart account, you will need to establish an account to receive your results. Click [here](#) to reach the NM MyChart log-in page and follow the prompts. NM will not have access to individual results, and neither your choice to be tested nor the result will impact your employment status. Questions should be directed to MyNM Service Center by calling 312.926.HELP (4357).

Please note that the antibody testing is not being conducted through NM Corporate Health.

COVID-19 RESPONSE AND REACTIVATION SURVEY OPENS JUNE 2

As the world rapidly evolves along with the COVID-19 pandemic, Northwestern Medicine recognizes both the personal and professional impact felt by physicians. Your work is different today than it was a few months ago, and sharing your experience and feedback can help shape the future of the health system.

There is no quick fix to some of the current challenges, but your responses to the COVID-19 Focus Survey will inform efforts to help keep NM a safe, healthy and supportive place to work and receive care during this time of change and uncertainty. Please take a couple of minutes to share your feedback to help guide response and reactivation efforts.

Employees and physicians will receive an email link on Tuesday, June 2, from a third-party vendor to ensure the confidentiality of responses. The survey will close on June 8. For more information about the survey, visit the [Your Feedback Makes Us Better page](#) on NM Interactive (login required). If you have additional questions, please email physicianengagement@nm.org.

GET #FITFORTHEFRONTLINE FOR OUR HEROES FOR BETTER

We're joining forces with health systems across the country in a national event, the #FitForTheFrontLine campaign. The campaign encourages physical activity and donations in honor and support of front-line healthcare workers throughout America. NM is inviting physicians, providers, employees and community-based supporters to join the campaign. All proceeds raised

by our health system will benefit The COVID-19 Relief Fund at NM. Visit the [#FitForTheFrontLine](#) page on nm.org to learn more and become part of the movement.

NM VISITOR POLICY UPDATES

For the continued safety of patients, physicians, staff and the community, NM has a no-visitor policy in place at all inpatient and outpatient care sites, with exceptions in cases where the policy may have negative health impacts for the patient. Several additions have been made to these exceptions, which now include:

Hospitalized Patients

- Pediatric patients under the age of 18 (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Neonatal ICU patients (limited to two visitors 18 or older, one at a time)
- Compassionate care, including pastoral care visits and end-of-life patients (limited to two visitors 18 or older)
- Laboring and post-delivery mothers (limited to one visitor 18 or older)
- Patients with disabilities who require a reasonable accommodation for assistance related to an intellectual, developmental or cognitive disability (limited to one support person 18 or older)

Emergency Department Patients

- Pediatric patients under the age of 18 (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Patients requiring transportation home after an Emergency Department visit (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Patients with disabilities who require a reasonable accommodation for assistance related to an intellectual, developmental or cognitive disability (limited to one support person 18 or older)

Outpatient Clinic/Diagnostic Testing Patients

- Pediatric patients under the age of 18 (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
 - Patients requiring transportation home after an outpatient visit (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Note: Visitors may be asked to wait somewhere other than the waiting room and will be notified when the patient is ready to be picked up.*
- Patients with disabilities who require a reasonable accommodation for assistance related to an intellectual, developmental or cognitive disability (limited to one support person 18 or older)

Outpatient Surgical or Procedural Patients

- Pediatric patients under the age of 18 (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Patients requiring transportation home after a surgery or procedure (limited to one visitor/companion 18 or older)
- Patients with disabilities who require a reasonable accommodation for assistance related to an intellectual, developmental or cognitive disability (limited to one support person 18 or older)

For additional information, please review the [Communication for No-Visitor Policy](#).

As the environment changes, we will continue to communicate important updates each week here in **Reactivation Update**, as well as on the new **Reactivation Resources** pages on [NMI](#) and [Physician Forum](#).

Thank you for your continued partnership and leadership during this unprecedented time. If you have questions or would like to share the story of an NM hero, email us at covid-19md@nm.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard B. Chrisman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Howard" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Chrisman".

Howard B. Chrisman, MD
President
Northwestern Medical Group
Senior Vice President
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare