

MEETING AGENDA

EVENT:	Testing Surge Workgroup	Date / Time:	June 19, 2020 @ 1130
Author:	Dale Cowan, NCNG	Approved:	August 21, 2020

Enter information below: (text box will automatically expand, numbering is automatic)

Required Attendees (X=Present):

	NCDHHS	Sec. Mandy Cohen	X	NCDHHS	Dr. Betsey Tilson
X	NCDHHS	Dr. Scott Shone	X	NCDHHS	Dr. Cardra Burns
X	NCDHHS	Dr. Zack Moore	X	NCDHHS	Dr. Shannon Dowler
X	NCDHHS	Jay Ludlam	X	NCDHHS	Azzie Conley
	NCDHHS	Amanda Fuller-Moore	X	LabCorp	Traci Butler and Clay Gibson
X	Quest	Betsey and Natalie Jackson		Duke	Dr. Michael Datto
X	MAKO	Josh Arant	X	Atrium Health	Dr. Gerald Capraro
X	UNC Health	Dr. Melissa Miller		NC Medical Society	Dr. Garrett Franklin
X	Old North State Medical Society	Dr. Charlene Green	X	NCCHCA	Chris Shank
X	NCCHCA	Dr. Mark Massing	X	Mecklenburg Cty	Dr. Meg Sullivan
X	NC Board of Pharmacy	Jay Campbell	X	NC Healthcare Association	Dr. John Fallon and Dr. Mary Jo Cagle
X	NCALHD	Stacie Saunders and Lisa Macon-Harrison	X	NC Institute of Public Health	Doug Urland
	NC HIEA	Christie Burris	X	UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health	Dr. Kauline Cipriani and Tim Thomas
X	NCNG (in support of NC DHHS)	Dale Cowan		Manatt (in support of NC DHHS)	Emily Carrier

Agenda:

- I. **Welcome and Roll Call**—Dr. Burns (5 min)
- II. **Opening Remarks**—Secretary Cohen, if available (5 min)
- III. **New Business**
 - a. **Test Trends and Hot Topics**—Dr. Shone (5 min)
 - b. **June 8th Provider Guidance**—Dr. Tilson or Dr. Moore (5 min)
 - c. **Update on new collection sites or testing partnerships**—Dr. Massing (10 min)
 - d. **Vidant COVID-19 Dashboard Presentation** —Dr. Fallon (15 min)
 - e. **Antigen Testing Discussion Continuation** —Dr. Caparo (15 min)
- IV. **Due Outs Assigned and Closing**—Drs. Burns, Tilson, or Moore, if available (5 min)

Tasks / Due Outs: (List the recommended lead responsible for each task)

Due Date	Organization POC	Task
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Every Monday	Test Surge Workgroup	Distribute the Collection and Testing Capacity and Barrier Survey to network
	All hospitals on the call	Discuss Panther/Hologic supply chain issues with each entity's Hologic representative
	All	Share with each entity's partners that the state can distribute free supplies
	All	Report issues and bottlenecks that each entity is seeing with their partners
	All	Reach out to Dr. Shone if you would like an Abbott Id now kit

Discussion by Major Topic: (Information not covered on slides or handouts)

- Dr. Burns welcomed the group and conducted roll-call.
- Dr. Shone provided an update on testing trends and hot topics
- Messaging around 3Ws (wash, wait, wear): wearing cloth face coverings is necessary to reduce the trends
- Test numbers continue to increase
- Percent positivity has been staying consistent
- Concerning number of hospitalizations (trending upwards)
- New movement of anti-maskers
- Disparities of trends (case increases, mortality, and hospitalizations) in LatinX community have grown and are rapidly increasing
 - most rapidly increasing mortality and hospitalizations
 - 44% of hospitalized patients are Hispanic
 - Not only LatinX but seeing disparities in Black/African American population
- Age is a key trend – demographics over time to be presented soon
- All younger age groups have increased; notably, 25-49 have increased
- 65+ have been steady but no increase
- Dr. Massing followed up with new sites and partnerships
 - Receiving weekly updates from HRSA
 - Cabarrus is out today expecting to test 75-100 people today along with their LHD
 - Dr. Green (Old North State Medical Society)
 - North Carolina's Community Health centers are continuing to expand testing and forming new collaborations
 - HRSA is performing weekly surveys of community health center activities
 - Talking with health centers across the state (e.g. Lincoln Health Center) asking them to help with increasing test surges in Durham
 - Aiming to start ASAP next week
 - Has extensive marketing and staff support (ex. Sending 4 providers (physicians and dentists) and providing billboards, flyers, and educational support to Greensboro with Michelle Lewis at their FQHC for their major event)
 - Natalie Jackson (Quest)

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- 5,951 Molecular Tests – 9% Positivity Rate
- 811 Serology Tests
- 6,762 COVID-19 tests this week; 5.9k were molecular and the others were serology
- Opened 2 new Walmart Marketplace locations this week
- Continuing to partner with health departments and FQHCs throughout the state
- Clay Gibson (LabCorp)
 - Seen an increase at almost 60k COVID PCRs in the past week from over 1.1k locations
 - Positivity rate was 8%
 - Has seen almost 11k samples submitted from 60 CVS sites
 - Increasing the scope of where we collect samples
- Dr. Fallon (NC Healthcare Association)
 - 3.5k PCR tests
 - Positivity rate of 4.15%
 - Hit 20k tests as of this week
 - Has capacity of 1k tests/day and wants to increase 3x by next week by bringing new high throughput instruments – using Quidel reagents on the Cobas and Thermo Fisher
- Dr. Shone (State lab)
 - Working with team from UNC: doing outreach to migrant farm workers this week and setting up collection at a variety of locations around the area
 - Had an event in Lee county this week and got 232 samples
 - Planning weekly events
 - Has seen a lower volume in the beginning of the week (going to shift to Monday after next week)
 - Record week [7-12 June] in state lab for submissions (1k on Tuesday and 500-600 a day since)
 - Percent positivity rate is not indicative because of testing priority populations; 13-14% positivity rate for June for the state lab
- Lisa Macon-Harrison (Granville Vance Public Health)
 - Planning a focused community event in Henderson and Vance county on Wednesday of next week [24 June] – these counties have 52% African American population, but are seeing 60% of COVID-19 deaths being from the African American population – The African American population in these counties have had 1,200 cases and 49 deaths;
 - Need to do more outreach to the African American population
 - Combining efforts with FQHC health group and a Duke Lifepoint hospital there (Duke is bringing a mobile unit to the church parking lot – walk up, not drive through; trying to do at least 200 sample collections)
- Dr. Thomas provided an updated on the Pandemic Ethics dashboard.
<https://pandemicethics.org/diagnostics-testing/>
 - Completed a page on diagnostic testing, now available online

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- Important to share data on what's occurring in vulnerable pops
 - DHHS dashboard – can change the way that we report things to understand the impact on vulnerable populations
- Dr. Shone discussed the Collection and Testing Capacity and Barrier Survey
 - Need to be clear on purpose to everyone taking the survey. Purpose is to assess statewide collection capacity, assess statewide processing and testing capacity, and determine rate-limiting steps for testing or processing across the state. Data from the survey will be brought to the Test Surge Work Group to identify potential solutions, develop best practices, or elevate to the federal government
 - Survey will be distributed Monday mornings and completed by close of business Tuesday. Data will be assessed on Wednesday and early Thursday, and results distributed for discussion on Friday Test Surge Work Group calls (repeats weekly) – everyone approved the cadence
 - Survey asks demographic, collection and processing/testing questions
 - Intended distribution of survey is SLPH, local health lab managers and directors. Doesn't catch clinical labs; might not all get captured in first week; open to other listserves
- Dr. Shone also brought up the Command Center with air traffic control view: part of ELC submission – received HHS feedback and they are pleased with the plan; proactive effort to identify challenges
 - Barriers and testing reagents are creeping up. Three main manufacturers are having supply chain issues
 - Cepheid: (having challenges around plastics and the reagents)
 - Roche: (reagents are being cut – shared this with HHS)
 - Panther/Hologic: Multi-test swab (also used for chlamydia and gonorrhea) are running out. State lab is completing validation to Panther. Several LHDs and clinics that have Panthers but will not be getting supplies (brought this up to the HHS)
 - NC Healthcare Association teamed up with ECU and are using 3D printing to make their own swabs – anyone can reach out to learn how to do this. FDA guidance issued on 3D printing
 - Swabs have ramped up production (the state lab acquired 400k NP swabs and 240k nasal swabs that are available for free distribution)
- Dr. Green reported on the Vulnerable Populations workgroup.
 - Old North State Medical Society reached out to FQHCs and are focusing on increasing the testing surges in the Operation 9 counties
 - Sub-group continues to recommend supporting migrant workers so that they feel comfortable getting tested (ICE officers sometimes follow, scare, and intimidate these workers/patients) – how can we support them to mitigate the virus?
 - Hoping to get a unified approach to increasing testing across the state rather than being motivated by everyone's own interests – “just do it.”
- Dr. Tilson closed with being excited about the increase of testing and targeting of high-risk populations – note that we are testing more specifically in those populations and so percent positive might be higher

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- We have supply chain barriers again but we are trying to work through them
- Working on statewide standing orders to decrease barriers – especially at high throughput sites
- Working on the standing order to allow no Dr. orders for testing
- Thanks to all for the work
- Today is Juneteenth

To request supplies: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/health-care/requesting-specimen-collection-supplies/>

Form for requesting supplies: <https://nc.readyop.com/fs/4ck5/3e69>

Next Meeting:

26 June 2020, 1130-1230

Microsoft Teams [Link](#); Phone: 984-204-1487, Conference ID: 575 272 672#