

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

April 6, 2020

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Current COVID-19 stats

At BJH, there are currently **53** inpatients who are confirmed positive and **30** admitted patients under investigation (PUIs), which means that results are pending.

Wear it right: Follow proper protocols for wearing a respirator or surgical mask

Remember to practice proper donning and doffing techniques for surgical masks and N95 respirators, including how to perform seal checks on N95 respirators each time a respirator is donned.

Please download and post these instructions in your area:

- [3M 1804 VFlex Respirator and Surgical Mask](#)
- [3M 1860 Respirator and Surgical Mask](#)

Refer to these reuse guidelines, as we work together to conserve our supply of respirators and other equipment: [PPE Conservation Current Strategies](#).

Mental health resources provide support to medical community

A new Coping with COVID hotline is now live for employees on the front lines. Additionally, an employee assistance program and other mental health resources

are available to faculty, staff and all clinical fellows and residents. The Department of Psychiatry's Coping with COVID hotline, at 314-286-1700, is providing in-the-moment support to frontline hospital staff dealing with the stress caused by COVID-19. Callers also have the option to be referred for telehealth appointments with a psychiatry faculty member or to Zoom support groups. The hotline is monitored from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours, employees should call the Employee Assistance Program.

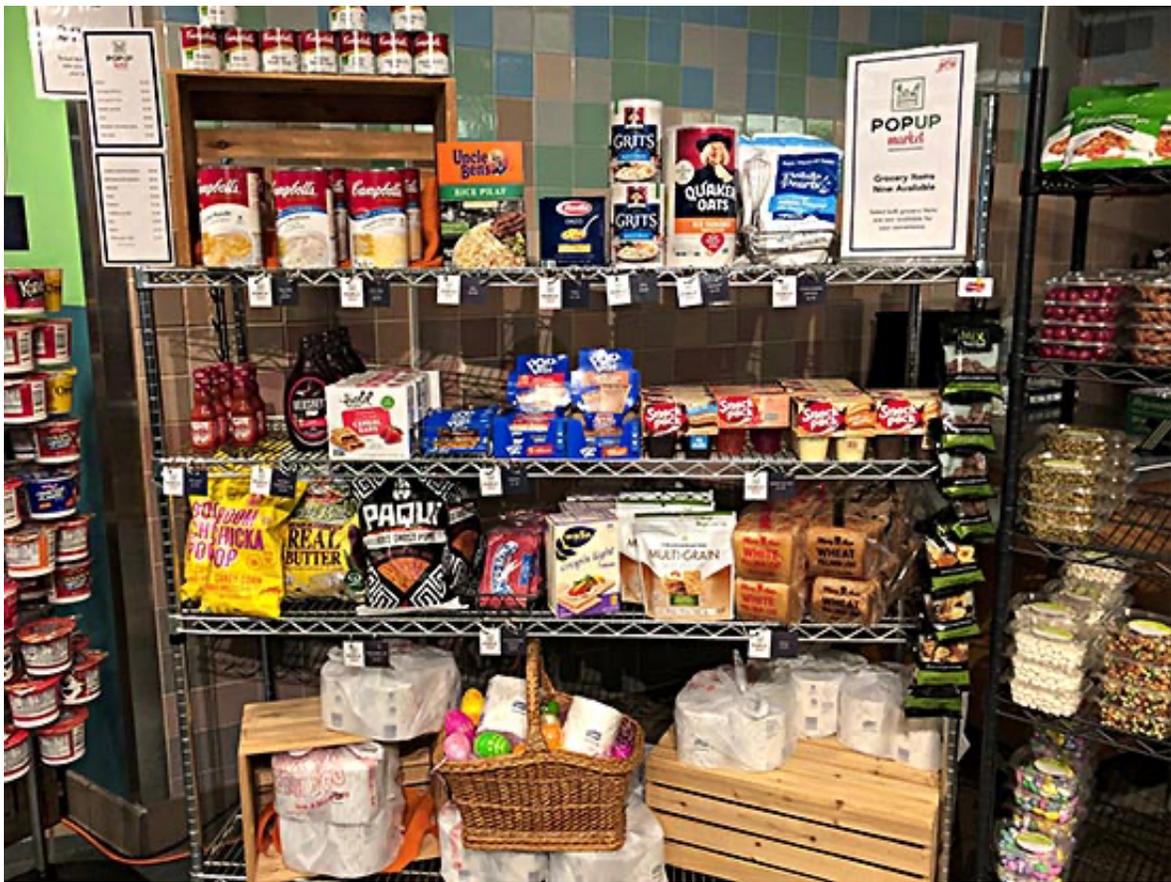
The employee assistance program, Work-Life Solutions, is also available to faculty, staff, postdocs and now to all clinical fellows and residents. Call 844-365-4587 for free, confidential, 24/7 support and information. A guidance consultant will answer your questions and, if needed, refer you to a counselor or other resources. Employees receive five free counseling sessions.

Visit the [Human Resources website](#) for more information and to learn about a Care and Connection toolkit to send messages of hope and gratitude to health-care heroes and other essential employees. For more well-being support, including fitness, mindfulness and other resources, visit HR's [web hub](#).

Piloting ICU patient transfers

To prepare for the anticipated COVID-19 patient surge, teams from BJH and SLCH have begun working together to coordinate bed capacity and patient care across the Medical Campus. This past weekend, an adult BJH ICU patient was transferred to the ICU at SLCH and cared for by SLCH ICU nurses and physicians. More transfers are planned this week of patients who are COVID-19-positive or patients under investigation (awaiting test results). There are no current constraints related to bed capacity at BJH or other BJC hospitals. This proactive work will help us learn and be better prepared in the coming weeks, as patient care needs evolve across our campus and region.

Avoid the grocery store with pop-up market



Skip the hassle and stress of making a trip to the grocery store and pick up essentials at the St. Louis Children's Hospital Cafeteria. For your convenience, select groceries items — even toilet paper — are available.

Don't be THAT guy



[In a parody of Billie Eilish's "Bad Guy,"](#) WashU med students emphasize the importance of social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students from the entering Class of 2017 conceived, produced and directed the video to encourage social distancing regardless of age.

In the U.S., coronavirus is killing more men than women

Statistics show that coronavirus is killing more men than women across the U.S. To Robyn Klein, director of the Washington University Center for Neuroimmunology and Neuroinfectious Diseases, [the combination of lopsided statistics and divergent immune responses is an indicator that sex differences may be at play.](#) “With regard to viral infection, it’s been very well established that females have much stronger immune responses than males,” Klein said in a Washington Post article. “Not just as a result of exposures or behavior. But there are actual differences in the ways that immune cells respond.”

For Medical Campus updates, visit coronavirus.med.wustl.edu »

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