



PHG COVID-19 Update: April 3

Dear Valued Providers

We want to be a resource to our Premier Health Group Independent providers. That is why we will be sending out a daily COVID-19 email to provide updates.

In addition, we have created a resources page on the [PHG website](#). Please bookmark this page as it will be updated regularly with clinical updates and helpful resources.

Please feel free to contact us directly at **(937) 499-7441** with any questions you might have or if you would like to speak with our Medical Director, Scott Swabb, DO.

Yours sincerely,

Renee George
President, Premier Health Group

IN THIS ISSUE

[COVID-19 Clinics Established](#)

[Commune In-House Testing](#)

[Telehealth Billing Update](#)

[COVID Mental Health Support Line](#)

[Assistance During Surge](#)

[PHG Hotline Number](#)

COVID-19 Clinics Established


Premier Health is planning for an anticipated surge in hospital and emergency department release of COVID-19 positive and presumptive positive patients into the community. To support successful discharge to the community and to prevent readmissions, Premier has established two COVID-19 clinics. Premier Health Urgent Care sites in Vandalia and Miamisburg are planned to open on Monday, April 6 as repurposed clinics. Additional south, central and north locations may be added if needed.

The clinics will be staffed by Premier Physician Network physicians and providers. Hours of operation are planned for Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These sites will accept any discharged patients from Premier facilities and are intended to be a community resource.

Key benefits of these focused clinics include the following:

- Minimizing the exposure to other patients and providers/staff across our primary care clinics
- Preserving PPE by funneling COVID-19 positive and presumptive positive discharges with greater PPE needs into specific locations
- Providing focused patient education to this population
- Directing patients to a site that houses x-ray in case of needed chest x-ray follow-up More details regarding the workflow will be provided later in the week.

When a patient recovering from COVID-19 is ready to be discharged, the hospital provider will make a recommendation for the appropriate next level of care using risk and comorbidity criteria; either a video visit or in-person visit will be recommended. The Premier discharge team will outreach to the PCP on record to determine if the provider would like to utilize the clinic or prefers to schedule the patient in their own practice.



In some cases where a patient does not have a means for transportation and an in-person visit is recommended, Premier will offer a video visit and augment with a home visit provided by Fidelity. **There is no obligation to utilize the COVID-19 clinic. This is offered as a community benefit.**

Providers who choose to use the COVID-19 clinic will receive communication about the care provided in the clinic.

Premier Health, CompuNet Launch COVID-19 Testing for Hospitalized Patients

Starting Friday, April 3, Premier Health in conjunction with CompuNet Clinical Laboratories will offer local testing for hospitalized patients for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

CompuNet has completed validation of test kits which were developed by DiaSorin Molecular, LLC. Recently, DiaSorin received FDA emergency use authorization for their Simplexa™ COVID-19 Direct kit, which detects severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus causing COVID-19, directly from nasopharyngeal swab specimens. [Read the memo.](#)

Telehealth Billing Update

Please note the following clarification regarding telehealth services for Medicare patients. Providers must submit the level of service code with the normal office place of service and CPT modifier 95 to ensure proper payment. Visits billed with telehealth place of service “02” will be reimbursed at the lower facility rate. Department of Health and Human Services CMS-1744-IFC page 13-15.

COVID Mental Health Support Line

The Boonshoft School of Medicine (BSOM) Department of Psychiatry has set up a COVID Mental Health Support line for all our physicians. BSOM Psychiatry faculty will be staffing the phone line at (937) 775-8140, Monday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The attending psychiatrists on the line will be offering educational resources, coping strategies, building resilience, and other screening and linkages as appropriate for physicians who may need mental health support during this time. **All calls will be handled confidentially.**

Assistance During Surge

We are asking for your help now so we can get a feel for the size of the potential provider labor pool. Some physicians, due to the nature of their training, would be able to work in a clinical space during the COVID-19 pandemic in which they are not currently working. These temporary privileges would have to be at the facility at which you currently have privileges. We have a brief [survey](#) to capture the required information. We understand that many offices plan to remain open. **We are still asking that you complete the survey in case the situation changes.**

PHG Hotline Number

To assist you in assessing which patients are appropriate for screening, Premier Health has opened a command center hotline number for the independent / PHG providers in the community. **Please call 937-208-5628 and press option 4 to talk with the command center team about confirming your patient should be sent to the collection site.**