

Kaleida Health  
COVID-19 Update

August 11, 2020

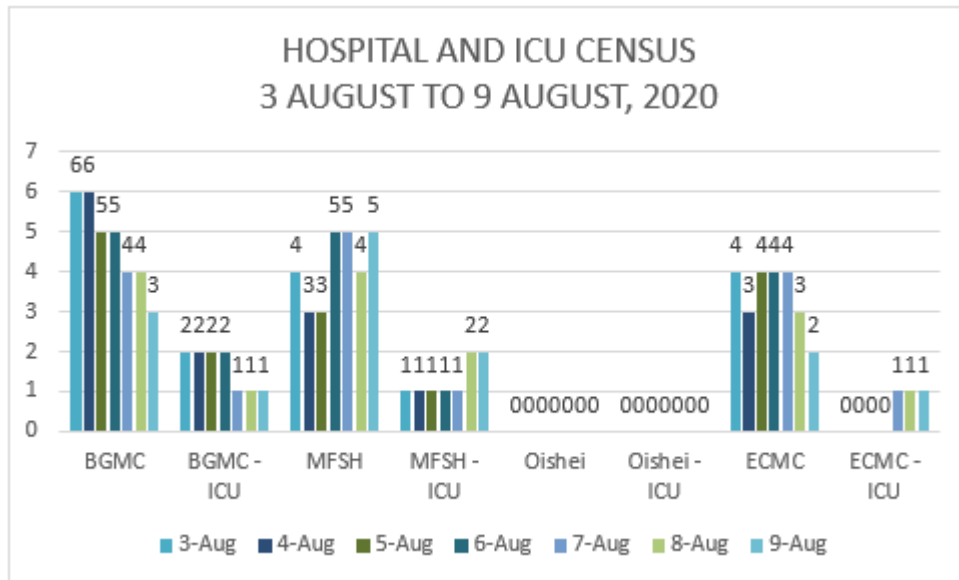
Good afternoon,

Today is the 52<sup>nd</sup> day of summer, and we are now 44 days until the fall. Although we are supposed to be enjoying the lazy days of summer, there is much going on. Both ambulatory practice and surgery remain at a high tempo as the incidence of COVID-19 remains low in the community. Away from work, if you look out your window this evening, you might see that it is the first day of the Perseids meteor shower. This week marks the midpoint National Neurosurgery Awareness Month, and today, for the first time since 1915, professional baseball returns to Western New York. It is also the anniversary of the date in 1929 that Babe Ruth became the first hitter in Major League Baseball to hit 500 home runs.

**Bottom Line Upfront**

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  - National Trend (Data in Motion)
- Mini Grand Rounds – Cardiovascular Manifestations of COVID-19 (Dr. Vijay Iyer)
- Important Updates
  - WNY Healthcare Heroes
  - Legionella and Pneumonia
  - Kaleida Health leadership changes
- Practice Updates
  - Reimbursement for COVID-19 counseling
- Updates in the Literature
  - Drug treatments for COVID-19: Living systematic review and network meta-analysis
  - Geographic and Genomic Distribution of SARS-CoV-2 Mutations
  - Risk of COVID-19 Among Front-line Health-care Workers and the General Community: A Prospective Cohort Study
  - Neurological and neuropsychiatric complications of COVID-19 in 153 patients: A UK-wide surveillance study
  - Clinical Course and Molecular Viral Shedding Among Asymptomatic and Symptomatic Patients With SARS-CoV-2 Infection in a Community Treatment Center in the Republic of Korea
  - Prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies in Health Care Personnel in the New York City Area

## Hospital Census



## National Trend (Data in Motion)



- The team at Johns Hopkins, which has been at the front of COVID-19 data reporting since the start of the pandemic, has developed a new tool
- It is called “Data in Motion” and is designed to give you a one-minute snapshot of what is changing across the nation. It is well worth your time
- It is available at: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/covid-19-daily-video>

# MINI GRAND ROUNDS COVID-19 SERIES

## Cardiovascular Manifestations of COVID-19

**Vijay Iyer, MD, PhD, FACC, FSCAI**

*Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine and Associate Professor of Medicine, University at Buffalo and UBMD Internal Medicine*

*Medical Director of Cardiology and Director of the Structural Heart Program,*

*Buffalo General Medical Center/Gates Vascular Institute*

*Medical Director, Great Lakes Cardiovascular for General Physician, PC*



**When:**

**Wednesday**

**7:30 to 8:00 AM**

**How to Access:**

**Skype:**

**<https://lynxmeet.kaleidahealth.org/droman/M4>**

**TTL8WD**

**Phone: 716-859-7444 (Conference Number 1142805)**

### Important Updates

#### Western New York Real Heroes Event

- The American Red Cross is sponsoring an event intended to recognize the real heroes across Western New York
- 2020 has been a unique time with countless demonstrations of bravery and self-sacrifice
- It is the perfect year to recognize the people in this community who truly make a difference for all
- Please take a couple of moments, to look at the website and help them find the everyday heroes who are going about doing their work with quiet compassion
- The link is available at:  
[https://www.redcross.org/local/new-york/western-new-york/about-us/news-and-events/events/wny-real-heroes-breakfast.html?fbclid=IwAR3nNAR-eh\\_XdBSqO\\_LWshgUR667vRtFkIMRkWITYyGWdy2CLOKcag-ufMM](https://www.redcross.org/local/new-york/western-new-york/about-us/news-and-events/events/wny-real-heroes-breakfast.html?fbclid=IwAR3nNAR-eh_XdBSqO_LWshgUR667vRtFkIMRkWITYyGWdy2CLOKcag-ufMM)

#### Legionella and Pneumonia (Update)

- High summertime Lake Erie water temperature fosters the growth of *Legionella* in our water supply system
- There is an annual rise in cases from June through September, and this year is following past trends

- While our focus has been on COVID-19 as a cause of pneumonia, we must remember that other pathogens, including *Legionella*, are still important causes of lung infection
- Please remember to order a *Legionella* urinary antigen and a *Legionella* sputum culture whenever possible for patients admitted with pneumonia

#### **Leadership Changes at Kaleida Health**

- Kaleida Health has named Judy Baumgartner president of Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital and DeGraff Medical Park
- Judy Baumgartner has been with Kaleida Health for nearly 30 years, most recently serving as the president of the Visiting Nursing Association (VNA) of Western New York
- Lisa Greisler, BSN, the VNA's chief operating officer, will succeed Baumgartner as president of the VNA. Since 2013, Greisler has led the clinical and operational direction for nursing, rehabilitation, home health and other services with incredible success



Judy Baumgartner



Lisa Greisler

#### **Practice Updates**

##### **Reimbursement Available for Providers Counseling Patients during COVID-19 Testing**

- CMS announced last week that healthcare providers can be reimbursed for counseling patients about the importance of isolation during COVID-19 testing
- To learn more about this policy and the requirements associated with it, please refer to: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/counseling-checklist.pdf>

#### **Updates in the Literature**

##### **Drug treatments for COVID-19: Living systematic review and network meta-analysis**

- An interesting interactive tool was published in the British Medical Journal
- It allows the reader to parse the available data regarding COVID-19 therapies to get the best answer to their specific question
- It is available at: <https://www.bmj.com/content/370/bmj.m2980>

##### **Geographic and Genomic Distribution of SARS-CoV-2 Mutations**

- A recent article in the journal *Frontiers in Microbiology* discusses the mutation of the coronavirus
- At present, there are at least six known strains, but the authors suggest that despite these mutations, the virus shows little variability, and they believe that this will make it a more viable vaccine candidate

- The article can be found at:  
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmicb.2020.01800/full>

### **Risk of COVID-19 among Front-line Health-care Workers and the General Community: A Prospective Cohort Study**

- In the UK and the USA, risk of reporting a positive test for COVID-19 was increased among front-line healthcare workers. Healthcare systems should ensure adequate availability of PPE and develop additional strategies to protect healthcare workers from COVID-19, particularly those from Black, Asian, and minority ethnic backgrounds. Additional follow-up of these observational findings is needed
- The study is available at:  
[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667\(20\)30164-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667(20)30164-X/fulltext)

### **Neurological and neuropsychiatric complications of COVID-19 in 153 patients: A UK-wide surveillance study**

- A recent article in Lancet addressed the neurologic implication of COVID-19
- The authors report that “to our knowledge, this is the first nationwide, cross-specialty surveillance study of acute neurological and psychiatric complications of COVID-19. Altered mental status was the second most common presentation, comprising encephalopathy or encephalitis and primary psychiatric diagnoses, often occurring in younger patients.”
- The study is available at:  
[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(20\)30287-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(20)30287-X/fulltext)

### **Clinical Course and Molecular Viral Shedding Among Asymptomatic and Symptomatic Patients with SARS-CoV-2 Infection in a Community Treatment Center in the Republic of Korea**

- An article was published last week in JAMA Internal Medicine addressing the question of whether there are viral load differences between symptomatic and asymptomatic patients with severe coronavirus infection
- The authors found that there is not a difference and suggest that tracking/isolation of asymptomatic patients may be necessary to control the spread of the virus
- The full article is available at:  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/fullarticle/2769235>

### **Prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Antibodies in Health Care Personnel in the New York City Area**

- A research letter was published in JAMA which sought to investigate the prevalence of antibodies against the coronavirus among healthcare workers in the New York City area
- The authors found an incidence of 13.7% which was similar to the benchmark rate across New York State 14%
- The article is available at:  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2769322>

Today's theme is about remembering that the journey is our destination. Today, many of us will mark the 91<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Babe Ruth hitting his 500<sup>th</sup> home run. For baseball fans, it is a significant milestone, but that home run is only relevant in the context of a longer career. It would never have arrived if Ruth had not spent the prior 15 years mastering the art of baseball and hitting the first 499 home runs. As soon as he hit that ball, the goal simply became another marker in his record book. Too often in life, we are tempted to believe that there are certain objectives which – once achieved – will

ensure that we have on-going happiness. For many of us, it may have been getting into and then subsequently graduating from a given training program, getting a particular job, or working on a particular project. What we inevitably find is that the endpoint soon becomes a simple milestone on a longer journey as we refocus and move ahead. Today, as a nation, we are met with this very challenge. Too frequently, we hear conversations about getting beyond COVID-19 and getting back to the way things once were. Crowded beaches in Florida and a quarter of a million Harley Davidson owners in Sturgis, South Dakota bear witness to the fact that many of our neighbors feel that they have gone as far as they want in dealing with COVID-19. They have crossed their personal thresholds and want to return to the familiar. As healthcare workers, we do not have this luxury. We have an obligation to our patients and our community to understand that life is not always so simple, and victory is not always so clear. It is likely that we will never have satisfaction of declaring victory over this virus. In time, the challenges of the coronavirus will likely fade into the past, but this will not come with a moment to pause or relax. Experience has shown that COVID-19 will most assuredly be replaced by a novel challenge or perhaps the reemergence of an old one. Instead of worrying about our destination, we must keep our eyes focused on our journey. This journey – the practice of medicine – will not end with the passing of this virus. Our patients will have new challenges, and we must be ready to care for them. We will do this by practicing medicine as we were taught with a focus on the patient and a belief in the power of science. As a healthcare community, we will never arrive at a final destination, but we can take pride in knowing that our neighbors will be better off because of the journey we are on.

David P. Hughes, MD, MPH  
*EVP, Chief Medical Officer, Kaleida Health*

Ken Snyder, MD, PhD  
*Chief Physician Quality Officer, Kaleida Health*

Jamie Nadler, MD  
*Medical Director of Quality and Patient Safety, Kaleida Health*

David Pierce, MD  
*CMO, Buffalo General Medical Center/Gates Vascular Institute*

Michael Mineo, MD  
*CMO, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital*

Stephen Turkovich, MD  
*CMO, Oishei Children's Hospital*

Richard Charles, MD  
*CMO, General Physician, PC*

Thomas Hughes, MD  
*CMO, Optimum Physician Alliance*

## **Questions**

If you have questions, please reach out ([coronavirusupdates@kaleidahealth.org](mailto:coronavirusupdates@kaleidahealth.org)), and we will do our best to get you the information you need.