COVID-19: Public Health Considerations For Re-Opening Maine

May 14th, 2020
Proposed Maine Gating Criteria – Summary

REDUCTION OF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS
- Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported within a 14-day period
- Downward trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period

DECREASE IN COVID-19 CASES
- Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period
- Downward trajectory of newly hospitalized patients within a 14-day period

HEALTH SYSTEM CAPACITY
- Treat all patients without crisis care
- Robust testing program in place for at-risk health care workers, including emerging antibody testing
Maine Recommendations for Gating Criteria - Symptoms

**Objective:** Measure the burden of symptoms of COVID-19-like illness to capture patients who may have COVID-19, even if they were not tested.

**Number of visits with Influenza Like Illness (ILI)**

**Purpose:** Strict, symptom-based definition, which may be more objective.

**Number of visits that are potentially COVID-19**

**Purpose:** Broad query, which may capture a larger number of visits.

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1 Definition: Fever AND (Cough OR Short of Breath) 2 Definition: Fever OR Cough OR Short of Breath OR Viral infection OR COVID/Coronavirus mentioned
Maine Recommendations for Gating Criteria - Cases

Objective: Measure the burden of confirmed COVID-19 cases—both in number and severity—focusing on severe disease that may result in high health care utilization

Number new COVID-19 cases

Purpose: Measure the incidence of new COVID-19 cases.

Number of patients newly hospitalized for COVID-19

Purpose: Measure the burden of severe COVID-19 disease.
Maine Recommendations for Gating Criteria - Hospitals

**Objective:** Ensure adequate health care resources are available to protect health care workers and patients in the event of a new outbreak.

**Criterion: Treat all patients without crisis**

**Purpose:** Ensure adequate hospital capacity if case numbers rise

**Criterion: Robust testing program in place for at-risk health care workers**

**Purpose:** Ensure healthcare workers are tested to protect patients and health care workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>COVID-19 Occupied¹</th>
<th>Available¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICU Beds</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>163 (+200)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventilators</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>230 (+416)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-ICU Beds</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>~1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Available Number reported on Maine CDC survey of hospitals 5/14/2020 + approximate surge capacity

Health care workers are currently:
- In the top tier for COVID-19 testing and,
- Are able to receive tests promptly after exposure or symptom onset
Additional Public Health Measures

EXPAND TESTING
• Widespread testing—especially in congregate settings—allows high-risk settings to prevent and manage outbreaks
• Expand testing capacity among public and private labs
• Determine role of antibody testing in allowing individuals to return to work or social activity

EXPAND CONTACT TRACING
• Contact tracing allows for contacts of confirmed cases to be identified and properly quarantined to limit spread
• Maine CDC will engage additional individuals to perform contact tracing and outbreak investigation

ENSURE HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS
• Maine CDC has distributed pieces of PPE to health care facilities and will continue, with a focus on congregate settings
• Maintain ability to surge health care system capacity if cases rebound