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PRESIDENT NAPOLITANO
CHANCELLORS
DIRECTOR – LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY
VICE PRESIDENT – AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Subject: Return to Normal Onsite Operations and Remdesivir Allocation Guidance

As the novel coronavirus pandemic continues to evolve, surge and challenge us, a return to normal onsite operations is not without risk of morbidity and mortality for the students, faculty and staff living, learning, and working on our campuses. It is reasonable to expect ongoing SARS-CoV-2 transmission and outbreaks in US communities until herd immunity is achieved or an effective vaccine is available.

As UC campuses take actions to restore onsite operations, significant mitigation measures will be required to decrease opportunities for SARS-CoV-2 transmission. The cornerstone of mitigation will be decreasing normal campus population density in order to decrease interactions that may result in person-to-person transmission of the virus. Diagnostic testing, case investigation, and contact tracing are important strategies for mitigating risk, and can inform how best to deploy resources – such as isolation, quarantine, and other support activities – to facilitate containment. The extent to which UC locations are able to implement these strategies will be vital to determining their capacity for onsite activities

Additionally, non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI), including performing frequent hand hygiene, practicing physical distancing, and wearing facial coverings while in public, should be required to reduce opportunities for viral spread.

The following recommendations and guidance documents have been developed to inform decision-making and support campuses in planning for a return to onsite operations during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

- Updated Testing and Contact Tracing Recommendations
- Symptom Screening Recommendations
- Strategies for Reducing Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 at UC Campuses

These recommendations represent the consensus of the UC Health Coordinating Committee (UC-HCC) at the time that they were finalized, recognizing that the situation is continues to evolve. They are meant to provide input to the decision-making process at each location and are therefore not a mandate. Each location should evaluate their own local conditions when taking these recommendations into consideration.

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The implementation of these strategies and recommendations will not completely eliminate risk or prevent disease transmission and should not be seen as a guarantee of safety. Given the scale of the UC System and community prevalence of the virus, illness and even death from COVID-19 may occur among members of the UC community following a return to onsite operations.

Finally, I am also enclosing recent guidance from our Critical Care Bioethics Working Group regarding a recommended approach to remdesivir allocation should demand outstrip supply.

Please disseminate these documents throughout your organization to those who are engaged in these efforts.

I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to the UC-HCC working groups for the development of these documents and for their continued efforts to support the safety and well-being of the UC community.

Sincerely,

Carrie Byington

Carrie L. Byington, MD
Executive Vice President
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CLB/rn

Encl: UC Systemwide Testing and Contact Tracing Task Force Recommendations_2020.07.09
Symptom Screening Task Force Recommendations_2020.07.09
Strategies for Reducing Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 at UC Campuses
Allocation Guidelines for Remdesivir if Demand Outstrips Supply

cc: UCOP Management Review Team