

Administrative Offices

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WeArePublicHealth.org

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March 23, 2020

Dear Healthcare Partners:

As we are all aware, there continues to be severe shortages of personal protection equipment (PPE) throughout the county, state and nationally due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are continuously working to move PPE throughout the County to get it to you, our healthcare and first responders who need it.

Our state requested and received assistance from the federal government's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), the nation's largest supply of potentially life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for use in a public health emergency. However, the state of Arizona was only given a portion of supplies by the federal government and it was requested that each local health department develop its own rationale for this limited supply.

Current Rationale for Distribution of Limited Supplies:

1. Every facet of our healthcare system has immediate needs, this includes Acute Care Hospitals, Long Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facilities, EMS, Law Enforcement, Primary Care and Specialty Providers, Community Health Centers and communal settings like jails and shelters.
2. Our distribution rationale allocates the bulk of these items to the acute care hospitals for the management of those most critically ill. The remainder of the supply will be allocated to EMS, Urgent Care Facilities, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Long Term Care Facilities, Correctional Health, congregate settings, the Medical Examiner and Public Health. Please see table below for details.
3. The most important need at this point is adequate PPE in acute care settings to maintain a healthy medical workforce and take care of the most acutely ill. Testing requires use of PPE. While an important Public Health tool, testing will not change treatment or outcome for individual patients. The most important need at this point is adequate PPE in acute care settings to maintain a healthy medical workforce and take care of the most acutely ill.

Next Steps:


- Shipments: We anticipate all shipments will be delivered by March 27 or sooner.
- Resource requests: We will continue to keep all resource requests already submitted and will fill those requests as materials become available. [Find the form here.](#)
- Allocation planning: The COVID-19 Pandemic is unfolding rapidly, we will continue to assess our local situation daily.
- Additional information: Please see [MCDPH webpage dedicated to Healthcare Provider Guidance.](#)
- For questions: Please attend the [weekly webinar](#) for healthcare.

Again, we know that this is not nearly enough to meet your needs. Please know we are doing everything we can to identify more PPE for the community we serve.

Sincerely,



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