



Planning for and Treating COVID+ Patients in Clinic

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Situation – The COVID-19 Pandemic

January 30



World Health Organization (WHO) declares COVID-19 a public emergency

March 11



WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic

March 12



Elmhurst Hospital identifies first COVID-19 patient

March 16



Edward Hospital identifies first COVID-19 patient



Background – Community Cancer Services In Chicago Western Suburbs

Treatment Capabilities

- Medical Oncology
- Radiation Oncology
- Surgical Oncology
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
- Clinical Trials

Accreditations & Certifications

- ACoS Comprehensive Community Cancer Center
- National Accreditation Program for Breast Cancer
- ASCO Quality Oncology Practice Initiative
- ASTRO Accreditation Program for Excellence APEx

Support Services

- Genetic Counselors
- Palliative care
- Nurse navigation
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers
- Support Groups
- Nutrition/Dietician
- Wellness Programming
- Animal and Art Therapy



Assessment – What We Said We Needed To Do

- Keep staff and physicians safe
- Prevent the virus from spreading
- Determine management of suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases
- Assure that we have enough equipment and resources
- Make sure we have enough staff
- Ensure effective and consistent communication



Recommendation – The Cancer Programs' Response

- Appointed a steering committee
- Established protocols
- Implemented screening algorithms
- Prioritized patient care
- Minimized exposure for staff, physicians, and patients
- Implemented virtual visits
- Developed terminal clean process
- Developed comprehensive communication plan to keep staff, physicians, and patients aware of rapidly changing guidelines
- Continuously monitor literature and participate in consortiums



Takeaways –

- Prepare for the worst and hope for the best
- We can make rapid decisions when we move together in unison
- Planning for recovery needs to start now and at the same speed and fervor that we prepared for COVID-19





ACCC COVID-19 Resource Center & Listserv

- Weekly Live-Webcast Series; Archived Webcasts Online
- CANCER BUZZ Mini-Podcasts & ACCCBuzz Blogs
- Evidence-Based Guidelines & Information
- Member Discussions & Resources on ACCCExchange

acc-cancer.org/COVID-19