

The following is my proposal for Benton County, and can also use in Linn County with different location and other counties as indicated based on population and location.

I would like to identify medically tenuous and vulnerable patients, putting them on our radar while not having to admit to hospital unless really unstable. Our health care system will be maxed out very soon, in the next couple of weeks and this will be a serious problem. **Having quick relevant clinical data to help us triage potentially critical patients improves patient care and will improve outcomes.**

I believe having a CT scan will help identify tenuous patients to have better idea who needs to be followed more closely and likely need escalating care.

We could have CT scan in location, and commercial or state lab support in parking lot reducing exposure risk but allowing for ladder triage, moving to the next step if indicated.

I envisioned some type of parking lot drive up clinic/testing with 4 steps for patients who have recommendation for testing by physician:

1. Flu swab -- takes a few minutes to come back with result
-- if positive -- go home with flu diagnosis
-- if negative -- then needs further testing/evaluation
2. COVID-19 nasal swab (if available)
3. If short of breath or increased work of breathing -- then additional testing
4. Lab draw to test CBC w/ diff, CMP to check renal function, Bicarb, glucose, liver enzymes, WBC and lymphocytes since there are patterns more often seen with COVID-19 and indications of decline
5. CT scan of lungs -- to evaluate for ground glass findings in lungs indicating lung involvement of COVID-19 and high likelihood that patient will need escalating respiratory care

Fever was not listed since not all patients have fever at the time of evaluation, it can wax and wane and is not 100% reliable at time of evaluation.

There are a couple of locations in town that would be amenable to this -- prior KMart, McGrath's and Albertson's locations -- could even put CT scan in prior location of Little Ceaser's Pizza.

On 3/17/20, our state representative, Peter DeFazio wisely advocated for relaxing PA requirements for CT scans allowing for accessible acute evaluation of tenuous patients.

Considering need and resources, I believe FEMA or emergency federal funding is most appropriate for accelerating patient care should provide the resources for this. I would like to target federal assistance for improved patient care and triage in Benton County and other counties around the state.

Please assist in any way with pursuing the above tools to significantly improve our readiness for the escalating medical emergency that is rapidly approaching. Improved diagnostic capabilities helping to manage patients outside of the hospital are essential to improving patient care and outcomes which are our primary goals.

Thank you for your assistance, leadership, and commitment to our communities, neighbors and our health.

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Dr Ryan Stevens has been instrumental in getting information about the CT scan for this proposal with realistic estimated cost.

CT scan \$300-400k (either GE or Phillips)
Service \$70k
Install \$125k

Injector \$50k

Total \$600-700k

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