

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

FROM

INTERPATH LABORATORY

2460 SW PERKINS AVE.

PENDLETON, OR 97801

Interpath Laboratory provides clinical and anatomic pathology services to physicians, patients, hospitals and other government facilities in the Pacific Northwest. We have been in operation since 1967 and have 73 patient service centers and 36 laboratories throughout that same area. Our corporate laboratory is located in Pendleton which is central to our market area. Our couriers travel more than 10,000 miles each day through the region picking up specimens and bringing them back to the laboratory for testing.

10 years ago we embarked on a new business of owning and managing primary care clinics, surgery clinics, urgent care and other specialists throughout the state of Oregon. Currently we have greater than 200 providers staffing those facilities

In all, our employee count is almost 1,100 . As you can imagine the Coronavirus is having a significant impact on our ability to operate. As healthcare providers both at the clinic and laboratory level we must remain open and providing services to the front lines. The problems we've experienced are:

1. Our primary care clinics are seeing a drop of > than 30% in patient visits, simply because patients are not coming in for other than Influenza/coronavirus symptoms
2. Our specialists are being asked not to perform elective surgeries or procedures so those facilities are seeing a drop of 90%.
3. The "stay at home" initiative is exacerbating the drop in patient volume, with employees concerned about their own safety or childcare with children at home.

SUGGESTIONS:

1. Request higher reimbursement for physician services and laboratory testing through the Medicaid system. Our employees are required to be at work during this crisis with their only reward is to be layed off in the end due to a bankrupt organization!
2. Request additional reimbursement for tele-health services thus keeping patients out of clinic settings.
3. Healthcare facilities – mortgage payments subsidies during this depressed environment.
4. Assistance with employee compensation for time-off options, sick leave, paid family leave etc.