

Oregon State Hospital's Response to COVID-19

presented to the

House Interim Behavioral Health Committee

Tuesday, May 26, 2020
Dolly Matteucci, Superintendent



OSH Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Activated and operating the OSH Emergency Operations Center
- Following OHA guidance for long-term care facilities and in-patient psychiatric facilities
- Restricting non-essential guests and suspended all patient visitation, except for patients receiving hospice care
- Screening all patients twice a day for symptoms such as fever, cough, shortness of breath
- Testing every patient who displays symptoms of Covid-19



OSH Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Everyone entering the hospital is screened for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19
- All staff entering the secure perimeter required to wear surgical masks
- Contact tracing is conducted for staff and patients with a confirmed case of COVID-19
- As of today:
 - Three staff have tested positive for COVID-19
 - No patients have tested positive



Additional Service Changes

- Limiting the size of patient groups
- Scheduling times for patients to use gymnasiums and outdoor spaces to maintain social distancing
- Offering virtual visitations and expanded phone visitation hours so patients can connect with their loved ones
- Offering telemedicine for outside medical follow-ups, informed consent assessments, and psychiatry
- Canceling all patient community outings except for those medically or behaviorally necessary or for post-discharge placement purposes



Workforce Experience

- Staff are provided with personal protective equipment and training on how to use it base on their work assignment
- Activated the Emergency Staffing Plan to bolster Nursing numbers
- Staff that exhibit symptoms are sent home to self-monitor, as necessary
- Staff assigned to the admissions units, protective units and quarantine units don't work on or enter other units
- Increased intensity and workload on admissions monitoring units
- Staff continue to show compassion, dedication and ingenuity



Limited Admissions March 16 thru April 13

OSH limited admissions to make a series of highly complicated logistical changes:

- Transferred 71 patients at serious risk if infected with the virus into three protective units – patients identified primarily by:
 - Underlying medical conditions
 - Age
- Developed two quarantine units to serve patients who are symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19, one on each campus
- Created two specialized admission monitoring units, both on the Salem campus



Current Admissions Process

- Admitting people under Aid & Assist orders in cohorts of 15 or 19, depending on the unit (one has four more beds than the other)
- Testing all newly admitted patients using strategy developed with guidance from the State Epidemiologists
- Patients in each admission cohort transfer to other hospital units within 14 days if none test positive for the virus
- If one or more patients test positive, they are immediately transferred to the quarantine unit, and the 14 days re-starts for rest of the cohort
- Opening a third admissions monitoring unit on June 1



Admissions Cycle – April 13 to June 26

Admission Weeks	4/13	4/20	5/4	5/11	5/18	5/25	6/1	6/8	6/15	6/22	Total
Unit 1		19		19		19		19		19	95
Unit 2	15		15		15		15		15		75
Unit 3							15		15		30
Anticipated total admissions through end of June 2020											200



Current admission and transition data

Commitment Type	Waiting for Admission	Ready to Transition
Aid and Assist	24	15
Guilty Except for Insanity	17	20
Civil Commitment	41	35
Total	82	70



Questions?

