

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
June 10, 2020**

Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC	Mark Peterson, MD, Medical Director, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC
Kristen Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle
Joleen Oleson, Kawerak	Amy Hollis, NSHC	Charles Swanson, Native Village of Koyuk
Joanne Keyes, Wales	Joel, City of Gambell	Daniel Harrelson, White Mountain
Deb, Wales	Opik Ahkinga, Diomede	

*Over 40 participants attended today's meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Reminder to keep phone's muted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Blessing 2) Medical Staff Briefing 3) Changes with Governors mandate for travel 4) Comments and Questions <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at rlean@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Prayer	Prayer was given
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, NSHC Medical Director	<p>Dr. Peterson gave medical staff update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alaska: The state has not updated the website as of today but as of Tuesday there were 11 new cases, 573 cases, 172 actives, 11 deaths, the one new death came from the Providence Care outbreak, we will see during this call if there is an update on the state website for today • ANMC: did not send their situation report out last night, as of yesterday 0 inpatient, 37 inpatient • NSHC: done 6,000 test, tested 2,600 people, vast majority are negative, 4 cases, 3 recovered, 1 active, 1300 pending, no real change here in the Norton Sound • Request for state Epidemiology to join call and that will be tomorrow; They will call in about 10 minutes after 11am and will be a physician from the state Epi and they will give us an update on what they are seeing as far as cases in the state and as things have been opening up, any concerns they have and any education they have for us; This will also be a good time to ask them any question; So if you want to ask an epidemiologist, a specialist in infectious diseases, write the questions down and ask them tomorrow; I asked them to be available for 30 minutes at the front of the call
Updates	<p>Angie gave an update from Norton Sound Dental:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We do not have a full plan yet but we did have a meeting with Dr. Kelso - He is organizing the dental travel schedule - It sounds like after August 1st there will be a dental travel schedule posted - I am aware the first village that will receive a visit is Shishmaref - He is planning each village accordingly - Part of that plan is making sure, of course, that we offer testing in those

	<p>communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Right now Norton Sound is talking about how we offer that testing; Do we in a team to do testing a head of time? Do we send someone along with the dental team to offer testing the day of? We are working out all of those details - Again thank you for your patience - If you have a dental emergency do not ignore that - We have a process in place to make sure we are treating any type of emergencies - We want to get to all the other dental needs that were slightly put on hold here as we navigated all the different details of this virus
<p>Question and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Recently had an incident where daughter was sent to Nome and mother was escort and was not able to go through acute care doors due to nurse not allowing her too. The mother had a COVID test done and the results were negative and had the papers in hand. There were 2-3 other nurses that told the nurse that she was the escort and that she could go see her daughter. The mother was allowed the next day to go see the daughter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: We can visit offline on this but we do have a visitor policy. That policy is in place regardless of testing and test results. We would need to talk a look at that. The visitor policy is no visitors. Under special circumstances there can be visitors. It does not matter if they have had a test or not. o What kind of lingering health problems are people having from the virus? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: That will be a good question to hang onto for the state Epidemiologist tomorrow. I am not an expert in that particular question. I have not heard of any common significant long term problems. I think people that are recovering are recovering just fine and people that have lung disease and get sick with COVID-19 they have risks when they get the disease. Patients that have long term hospitalization for any reason have complication and someone that is in the hospital and is on a ventilator for a long period of time may have complications. For any long term hospitalizations there are potential issues. COVID-19 specifically since it can cause pneumonia and other organ failure I'm sure there are long term lung issues, I'm sure there can be long term other organ issues (Kidney, liver, heart) as well. I don't have a list of top three long term complications. Again this is a summer for everyone to get health and think that this is the summer to lose weight, quit smoking, and get your diabetes under control. You're much more likely to recover and do better if you get COVID-19 if you do not have these underlining conditions. Now is the time to get as healthy as you can. o Will the people that come in for fishing or other jobs will this test get put with Alaska's numbers or other states? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: If they are a resident from another state they will not be presented under the Alaska resident numbers. o If they spread the virus in Alaska will those cases count under Alaska? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. P: Depends on where the person is a resident of. If they are a resident of another state but in Alaska fishing, vacationing, working, and they are in Alaska and get COVID-19 and a true resident of

another state, and then they are not listed in Alaska's state numbers. They will be listed as a non-resident case.

- **On folks that have tested positive and recovered, are they still potential transmitter of the virus after they recovered?**
 - Dr. P: In the CDC guidelines, once a person has served their isolation time and is considered recovered they are free to move about the country and not considered infectious. Now have they done studies where they have seen people shed virus for a longer period of time? Yes they have but it appears that these people that are shedding virus longer that they are not infectious. In fact you are seeing news reports now about people that are without symptoms that test positive that very few of those go on and pass the virus to others. I think we can feel very comfortable and would be a great question for the epidemiologist tomorrow. The answers should be that it's very unlikely to pass the virus on once they meet the definition of recovery.
- **The CAMP department is offering tobacco sensation services and they are available from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Can call 907-443-3311 and ask for the CAMP department.**
- **Dr. Peterson wanted to let Diomedede know that if people are traveling to Nome for medical reason's NSHC will work to make sure they get a test before they travel back. It is going to really important that for those traveling for nonmedical reasons that you all, leadership from Diomedede, make it clear that anybody that is leaving the village that they make sure the people traveling back to Diomedede get a test from the tent before traveling back. NSHC will make sure that the medical people traveling get tested. As far as the results from the test, because of HIPAA, NSHC is not able to call leadership in Diomedede and say that a certain person is negative. It is important that leadership of Diomedede educate travelers that go to Nome and back, educate them that they need to get their test and that they should also get their results and if you need to know that before they travel back just make that a requirement that they get the test, they get the results, and give it to you a head of time. NSHC is unable to share that information and they have to request that. It is easier for them to just share that with you. It's just like when you have to fly into Anchorage now they want people from the lower 48 to get a test, bring the results, and submit that on arrival.**
 - Discussion was held on Diomedede's travel restrictions after Dr. Peterson's message.
- **MAS: If Diomedede is requiring evidence of a negative test and test results are being given via phone, for Diomedede passengers that need to travel can NSHC print off that negative result to comply with requirements?**
 - Dr. P: Because we have so many tests coming right now patients are getting a call within a couple of days about their negative test. However we are going to change the way we report negative test, and starting very soon we are going to have a consent form that allows patients to give us NSHC the right to call them, text them, or email them. We have to get written consent for that. Once we have that consent in place then

we can more rapidly get results back to the patient by calling, texting, or emailing. It will happen within a day. Will say that every clinic has a health aide or midlevel and they can call the clinic for results. It would be real difficult if someone came to the tent and stated "I'm headed to Diomedede and need my test results" for us to accommodate that. If the passenger travel's and get tested a day or two in advance from traveling, and with this new form they should have the results before flying. If they have MyHealth they can also look it up themselves.

- **Reba: Like Dr. Peterson mentioned, people can sign up for MyHealth and get those results a little quicker than a phone call. The only age groups that can't really find a MyHealth patient portal right now are 12-18 year olds. Parents can sign up for their children under the age of 12 and adults can see these types of results. If you do not have a patient portal account all you have to do is call our registration and that's at 907-443-4542 and they can have an account set up for you and you can log into the website and it is a pretty simple process to see your results that way.**
- **Concern was brought up about phone and internet connection in Diomedede and the rest of the region.**
 - There are different grants that can be applied for by communities to help with this type of concern and upgrading.
 - MAS: One person we might be able ask to join this call is the FTC tribal liaison in DC. We can ask if that is something he might want to do and ask him some questions.
 - Andrew from Kawerak recently sent out resolution to each tribe concerning FTC and applying for bandwidths through FTC. It's a first step in doing something.
- **Was NSHC able to print out papers for instructions for patients that are traveling from the villages to Nome or Anchorage?**
 - AG: We do have a team that is working on having a care package with material that can be put together with travel paperwork. It will be in place very shortly.
- **Amy Hollis with the quarantine department did an inquire with Alaska Airlines on what they provided and if you go on the Alaska Airlines website there is a nice little video that shows you what they are doing to protect you when you fly. Like not putting people in the middle seat, providing a mask to you if you do not have one, have wipe and hand sanitizer available if you need some. It also sounds like all of their employees are wearing masks on Alaska Airlines.**