

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
November 25, 2020**

Angie Gorn, 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

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Today’s Reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please keep phone muted unless speaking or asking a question <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Public Relations at pr@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Updates	<p>Angie gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSHC had a slow start today due to the weather at 10am. No cases to report from yesterday, due to the bad weather and the majority of the hospital closed which resulted in lower testing. City of Nome zoom will happen at noon today. - Dr. Gary Kulka put together a short video about safety precautions for our region and celebrating holidays this year. It has been released and put on our webpage.
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director	<p>Dr. Peterson:</p> <p>State of Alaska: 700 cases yesterday, Total cases 27000, lots of deaths recently NSHC: 300+ people in Quarantine in Nome, we expect more cases today as people go and test.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0 new cases yesterday (40 active cases yesterday, but no new cases yesterday) - There will be a City Council meeting today at noon to see what other measures can be done. <p>We don't want anyone travel or fly into the region to be with family or the regions, and we recommend people to not fly elsewhere. Not forever, but this period between now and January 3rd. Limited people. In Nome we have a lot of virus. Limit your visitation and only stay in your own household. Everybody could be a carrier and not be aware of it, and everybody could be exposed as a close contact.</p> <p>Vaccine: mid-late December First round of vaccine expected to arrive.</p>
Question and Comments	<p>Annie, Shishmaref: I know NSHC will be closed on Thursday and Friday, will testing be available?</p> <p>Angie: I believe we are offering testing on Friday, but not on Thanksgiving. MP: We have our cough & cold clinic every day, Wed-Fri: 8am-8pm, Saturday/Sunday: 10pm-10pm Ops building is open today now-7pm, tomorrow closed, Friday 8-5 (only closed 11:30-2pm for Jet), Saturday, Sunday 8-5. Angie: Bering Air is on hold for weather today. Walk in available through cough & cold</p>

clinic. Angie: will put a sign on our Ops building door so that patients will have a direction of where to go. Megan: appts available for Saturday & Sunday.

Marie Katcheak, Stebbins: What about village testing if someone is flying to Anchorage? MP & Megan: If people are traveling out of the villages, there's no requirement to depart the village. If you're flying on Monday, you need a test on Friday, Saturday or Sunday and need to contact the health aide on call to get you tested and scheduled.

Amos, WMO: Nowadays we got medication for people who got COVID, If a person got COVID and they didn't take medication or anything, what can happen? MP: Vast majority (tyelonol/motrin for body aches, fever or otc meds for congestion). As long as you have mild symptoms you don't need much medication, if you're hospitalized there's other medications available.

Marie: For people who tested and now positive and they're traveling , what's the procedure? Do they need a procedure for them to travel? They will get a letter from NSHC or Public Health, you had Covid on this date, and you recovered on this date, and you don't need to test or quarantine for 90 days.

Barb Gray: I had a family member who had COVID, and recovered and later got sick for a week. MP: They should go and get seen by their provider and get seen. Barb Gray: Staying by herself, and if one of her household had COVID, would it be okay to go and see them? MP: Yes, they're immune, unlikely to get COVID again and spread it. They may be safest because they recovered.

Angie/MP: We don't want people traveling in or traveling out. We want to limit that completely. If someone is going to fly in from outside the region and they stay at your house: You quarantine with them, and don't go anywhere. You should test on 7th day (person traveling needs to test on 1st & 7th day (college students, other family members). Other option: Don't stay at your house and stay elsewhere while your visitor quarantines: We will make sure our employees are aware of the safety requirement there.

Sherri: I know NSHC employees have had half-days on Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We've had a lot of appts rescheduled to today before the weather.

Caller: If a mom has COVID and delivers a baby, what do we expect of that baby to have antibodies? MP: We expect that baby to have antibodies? Megan: They are seeing very high maternal transmission rates from mother to baby: The baby typically recovers just fine. ANMC has a special delivery ward for COVID positive mothers.

Caller: People at the clinic don't have paper printouts of negative test. Should be easy in the clinic. Needs to be arranged by the hospital ahead. Anytime you have a test on-site and you want to

If someone goes to a village and requests a COVID test, they've been told you'll get a phone call if you're positive. Given the volume of tests we don't always call every negative however we text every person to be able to get their results.

Caller: Who checks out those negative tests when you get to the village? MP: Bering Air checks on each person's negative test, and in each village depends on their response and if they have someone there to check. We expect the honor system, and each person getting their negative test regardless.

Is there any antibodies from the 1918 Spanish Flu? MP: I don't know if they have it saved in the lab. Megan: One of the flus we had 3 years ago was very similar to the 1918 pandemic. Get your flu shot to get as many antibodies developed

Peterson left for the Nome City Council meeting at noon.

Sonya caller; Is there a way to send out disposable masks to Shishmaref? Please contact the clinic. Sonya: they're running short. Megan: Cloth masks are effective too. Diomedes shipped masks to the school.

Marie: Is this the first wave we're officially having? Megan: We know that we're still officially in the first wave because it never ended. However, we're in the 3rd surge of the first wave.

Dorothy, Golovin: Letter from an elder: He always get his medications late for his Parkinson's. He wants to get medications earlier and on time. Angie: Please text her and we will address that patient's needs: 434-1927.

Caller: What is the right way to use masks? You should hang it up and wash them in the washing machine or rinse and wash with hand soap and water at least once a day.

Annie, Shishmaref: Is there more staffing in Shishmaref for phone calls and CTCs. We're told that someone will call us back and they don't. Terri, VHS: We've implemented a new process for phone calls and why someone wasn't called back. Hopefully the process will get there soon.

John Waghiyi, Savoonga: How can NSHC localize and expedite the process of

dealing with a trauma situation? We called the 3311 (clinic number) and then when they didn't call me back I had to explain over again and it took half an hour to get seen. My sons' injury was assumed to be a superficial wound and we got into Nome the next evening. We didn't get to ANMC until 2:15am and they did the surgery immediately. Something has to be taken into consideration how do you prioritize the life-threatening situation. Doesn't like having to go through the nurse call line in Nome: Angie; We need a way to expedite the call. The nurse answering the call would immediately call the on-call health aide and get them to the scene. We have implemented that in the last 3 years of starting the Nurse Call Line. We can track and see how long patients waited for someone to get seen. Megan: We have a lot more staff to man the call and have seen . John: if you have a family emergency you need to educate how to use the correct vocabulary to expedite the call.

Caller, Shishmaref: I agree, if there's an emergency, we don't want to explain it twice. If you tell them it's an emergency, tell them your location and as many details and another nurse will get the health aide on call. It takes a long time for that to happen and every second counts

Charlie: Please keep this to a COVID related call.

Marie: Think that this is not just a distance problem, not just a 15 minute flight to Nome, but 45 minute flight from Stebbins to Nome. Should be addressed, and we need to be prepared and know what to do in the event of an emergency. Angie, thanks for the feedback and we are listening. Happy Thanksgiving.

o