Preparing for the “Twindemic” in Rural AZ

Luke Smith DNP, RN
Director Arizona Surge Line

Masood Kisana MD, FACP
Chief of Palliative Medicine and Deputy Associated Chief of Staff Geriatrics at the Phoenix VA Health Care System
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at University of Arizona College of Medicine

Lisa Villarroel MD, MPH
Medical Director, Public Health Preparedness
Arizona Department of Health Services
Arizona is preparing for a surge in hospital admissions due to COVID-19. The hospital systems and post-acute care facilities and in Arizona are collaborating in an unprecedented way in order to efficiently transfer, transport, offload and clinically manage patients.

The Arizona Surge Line is meant to facilitate the interfacility transfer of patients throughout the pandemic, with protocols that will change as levels of triage change over time.
THE MISSION

To do the following with efficiency, consistency and ethical consideration:

• Expedite interfacility patient transfers
• Equalize and optimize patient “load” across hospital facilities
• Optimize clinician time and ability to provide patient care
THE SCOPE

• A statewide resource for interfacility hospital transfers.
• Available to private, public and federal facilities.
• Used only for the transfer of presumed and confirmed COVID-19 patients.
• Active for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency.
Critical Care and Palliative Care Consults

Staffed by Arizona critical care and palliative care physicians
Consultation to a requesting provider will be offered if

A) patient cannot be transferred and/or transported
B) time to expected transport is >60 minutes

NOTE: If a patient is being transferred, right of first refusal for consultation goes to the destination accepting physician
Insight to Palliative Care Consultative Services

Masood Kisana MD, FACP
Increased Importance of the Influenza Vaccination

Lisa Villarroel MD, MPH
We need to keep people out of hospitals this season. The influenza vaccine does exactly that.

- Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization for children, working age adults, and older adults.
  - Flu vaccine prevents tens of thousands of hospitalizations each year. For example, during 2018-2019 flu vaccination prevented an estimated 58,000 flu-related hospitalizations.
  - A [2014 study](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/vaccineeffect.htm) showed that flu vaccine reduced children’s risk of flu-related pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) admission by 74% during flu seasons from 2010-2012.
  - In recent years, flu vaccines have reduced the risk of flu-associated hospitalizations among older adults on average by about 40%.
  - A [2018 study](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/vaccineeffect.htm) showed that from 2012 to 2015, flu vaccination among adults reduced the risk of being admitted to an intensive care unit (ICU) with flu by 82 percent.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/vaccineeffect.htm
Arizona does not require HCW to get influenza vaccinations.
**Straight talk (3)**

THE ARIZONA FLU DASHBOARD is one of best in the country, Check it out. (www.azdhs.gov/flu)

| What is happening with influenza in Arizona this season? | What does influenza look like in Arizona hospitals? Hospital Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance | What do pneumonia and influenza deaths look like in Arizona? | What are the trends of influenza activity since 2009 in Arizona? | When was influenza identified each |
Straight talk (3)

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Resources

VaccineFinder

Get vaccinated at a location near you

FIND VACCINES

I'm looking for flu medication →
Roll Up Your Sleeve & Get Your Influenza Shot
www.azdhs.gov/surgeline
surgeline@azdhs.gov