Re-Open Florida Task Force Meeting:
Florida’s Health Care Practitioners

Cassandra G. Pasley, BSN, JD, Director
Division of Medical Quality Assurance

April 24, 2020
Objectives

• Overview of Licensed Health Care Practitioners
• Strategies to Ensure Adequate Health Care Workforce During COVID-19 Response
• Factors for Consideration when Re-Opening Health Care Services
• Importance of Monitoring Resources and Planning for Potential Surge
Division of Medical Quality Assurance
Overview

• Licenses and regulates 1,299,305 licensees from 42 health care professions
• Licenses and regulates seven types of facilities/establishments, totaling 24,602
• Works in conjunction with 22 boards and four advisory councils
• Oversees Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, E-FORSCE©.
Strategies to Ensure Adequate Health Care Workforce During COVID-19 Response

Issued By Governor DeSantis
• Executive Order 20-51
• Executive Order 20-52
• Executive Order 20-72
• Executive Order 20-80
• Executive Order 20-89

Issued by State Surgeon General
• Emergency Order 20-002
• Emergency Order 20-003
• Emergency Order 20-004
Strategies to Ensure Adequate Health Care Workforce During COVID-19 Response

• Temporary reactivations of inactive licenses pursuant to section 381.00315(1)(c)3, Florida Statutes, of:
  • medical doctors, osteopathic physicians, physician assistants, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, respiratory therapists, emergency medical technicians and paramedics

• Expedited licensure for essential health care practitioners
Factors for Consideration when Re-Opening Health Care Services

Do you have:

• Policies and procedures to protect patients and employees
• Adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) and the ability to maintain needed supply
• Staff who are trained on the appropriate level and wearing of PPE needed for your type of health care services
Factors for Consideration when Re-Opening Health Care Services

Do you have:

• Employees with up-to-date education and training on COVID-19 risk factors and protective behaviors
• Sick leave policies that are flexible and consistent with public health guidance
• Knowledge of the symptoms associated with COVID-19
Factors for Consideration when Re-Opening Health Care Services

Do you have:

• Contingency plan for a potential outbreak in your office
• Sufficient space and practices to ensure physical distance between employees and patients (i.e., scheduling and intake practices)
• Regular housekeeping practices, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces, equipment, and other elements of the work environment
Importance of Monitoring Resources and Planning for Potential Surge

- Have a comprehensive understanding of the plan adopted for the re-opening of Florida’s economy
- Monitor available resources (i.e., workforce and PPE) and state’s data regarding COVID-19, specifically in your geographic region
- Establish a surge plan with indicators that will assist you in determining the adequacy of your resources, such as PPE burn rate
Profession Resources

• American Dental Association (ADA): Coronavirus Center for Dentists

• American College of Surgeons: COVID-19 and Surgery
  https://www.facs.org/covid-19/clinical-guidance

• CDC: Re-Opening Businesses with Workers at Risk for Serious Illness
Resources Continued

• CMS: Recommendations for Re-Opening Facilities to Provide Non-Emergent Non-COVID-19 Healthcare

• OSHA: Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

• American Massage Therapy Association: COVID-19 Resources for Massage Therapists
  https://www.amtamassage.org/about/news/covid-19-resources-for-massage-therapists/
• Florida Medical Association: Coronavirus Resource Center
  https://www.flmedical.org/florida/Florida_Public/Resources/Coronavirus/Coronavirus.aspx
The Department of Health is grateful to all of the health care practitioners and their families who are serving our state during this pandemic.