AAMC-member teaching hospitals are expanding services to support COVID-19 patients

The COVID-19 pandemic has created myriad needs in both diagnosing COVID-19 cases and preventing the spread of the virus to patients and health care workers (HCWs). To meet these needs, academic medical centers (AMCs) have adapted their services by expanding access and establishing new care settings suited to the challenges of COVID-19.

How are AMCs dedicating resources and creating new service settings to increase access to COVID-19 testing?

In a survey of the AAMC Chief Medical Officers Group, collected April 20 to April 28, 2020, by the AAMC in collaboration with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, 29 teaching hospital respondents indicated which services they offered to support and treat COVID-19 patients.

Below are responses to select questions from the survey demonstrating new COVID-19 testing settings and telehealth services offered by AAMC-member teaching hospitals.

### Where does your medical center offer SARS-CoV-2 tests?

Results show that many teaching hospitals are offering a wide variety of COVID-19 testing settings.

- 71% of respondents offered SARS-CoV-2 tests at tents placed outside of health system facilities.
- 71% of respondents offered SARS-CoV-2 tests at drive-through testing sites.

Note: Figures may add up to over 100% because respondents were able to select multiple answers.

Teaching hospitals are offering COVID-19 testing at multiple settings.

- All respondents offered SARS-CoV-2 tests in at least one setting
- 86% of respondents offered SARS-CoV-2 tests in two or more settings.
- A majority (54%) offered SARS-CoV-2 tests in three or more settings.
Telehealth Services to Treat and Support COVID-19 Patients

Telehealth, or telemedicine, is “the use of technology to deliver care at a distance.”¹ Teaching hospitals, which have typically led in telehealth adoption, are offering new telehealth modalities and telehealth remote services to support COVID-19 treatment. The following questions surveyed members about their telehealth services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does your medical center offer on-demand telemedicine consultation for evaluation of potential COVID-19 symptoms and need for testing?</th>
<th>Does your medical center offer a remote outpatient monitoring program for patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Bar Chart" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes 89%</td>
<td>Yes 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No 11%</td>
<td>No 21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

89% of teaching hospital respondents reported offering on-demand telemedicine consultation for evaluation of potential COVID-19 symptoms and need for testing. 79% of teaching hospital respondents reported offering telemedicine remote outpatient monitoring for patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.

AMCs continue to play a leading role in COVID-19 treatment

AMCs are investing in new services adapted to the needs of COVID-19 treatment and prevention. To find out more about the AAMC’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including clinical care, advocacy, science and research, medical education, and other topics, refer to [aamc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-hub](http://aamc.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resource-hub).

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Source: A survey of 29 teaching hospital respondents from the AAMC Chief Medical Officers Group collected April 20-28, 2020, by the AAMC in conjunction with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.