

WashU Med COVID-19 Update

March 31, 2020

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

Current COVID-19 stats

To keep you updated on the impact of COVID-19, this daily update will now include the latest number of cases at BJH.

To date, at BJH, there are currently 29 inpatients who are confirmed positive and 27 admitted patients under investigation (PUIs), which means that results are pending.

Complete online employee self-screening before entering clinical sites

In partnership with BJC, employee self-screening continues on the Medical Campus at stations set up along passageways leading to certain clinical sites. You may be asked to have your temperature taken if you travel past these screening locations. Please note that you may be screened even if you do not enter a clinical site. The [BJC self-screening website](#) is mainly intended for those who anticipate passing by these locations. **Any employee on the Medical Campus with a fever >100 or who feels ill, should not come to work and should inform their supervisor and call the hotline: 314-362-5056 or 314-362-5050.**

Housing requests for essential “on-site” employees

If you are a WUSM employee (with an essential on-site role) in need of housing near the Medical Campus, please call the Joint Incident Command at 314-273-

7160. When calling, indicate that you are a WUSM employee requesting housing. You also must indicate your COVID-19 status — whether you are COVID-positive, have symptoms or are being tested or you have no COVID symptoms. If you are a resident/fellow/trainee, call the same number, but please identify yourself as a BJC resident. The process may be slightly different.

Providing meals to frontline workers



Thank you to the Euclid South Community Improvement District (CID) for delivering 150 meals to frontline health-care workers in the Barnes-Jewish and Children's hospitals emergency departments! The Euclid South CID began a meal purchase and delivery program March 27 that allows businesses or individuals to donate meals from local restaurants. The goal is to deliver 200 meals daily for 60 days, as the virus peaks and our health-care workers are busiest.

First cell treatment to fight the coronavirus awaits FDA approval for clinical trial

A School of Medicine immunologist weighed in on questions surrounding a potential therapy that uses a type of immune cell known as natural killer (NK) cells. [Will it work?](#) Some research suggests that transplanting mature NK cells into baby mice makes them less susceptible to one particular virus, but no researcher has yet succeeded in using the all-purpose fighters to defeat a virus in humans. One

challenge is that viruses and NK cells are ancient foes, and many viruses have become skilled in deception over the eons. “We kind of get hoodwinked by the virus’ ability to evade the NK cells,” says Wayne Yokoyama. Though not directly involved in this research, Yokoyama is a longtime researcher of NK cells.

For Medical Campus updates, visit coronavirus.med.wustl.edu »

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