

American College of Physicians
Influenza Prevention in the Era of COVID-19 – ACP Update

ACP
American College of Physicians
Leading Board of Medical Professionals

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ACP Immunization Activities

- Immunization Committee
- I Raise the Rates program
- Adult Immunization Resource Hub
- Fall Immunization Campaign
- Collaborations with Partner Organizations

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ACP Clinical and Public Policy Guidance May 7, 2020

- *Partial Resumption of Economic, Health Care and Other Activities While Mitigating COVID-19 Risk and Expanding System Capacity*
- Resuming In-Person Medical Care Visits and Other Health Care Services: What Is Needed?
 - ACP recommends that the ability of a community to have the capacity needed for COVID-19 mitigation should also guide decisions on resuming in-person medical care visits and other health care services.
 - ACP recommends that public and private payers provide direct financial support to practices to offset losses of revenue and increased costs, through at least the 2020 calendar year, even as they begin to resume in person visits.
 - ACP recommends that ambulatory internal medicine practices start planning how they might safely and effectively begin to resume in-person visits that have been temporarily suspended or postponed.
 - ACP recommends that physicians, practices, and health care facilities consider the use of innovative workflows and schedules designed to minimize contact between patients and staff.

https://www.acponline.org/ocp_policy/policies/ocp_guidance_on_resuming_economic_and_social_activities_2020.pdf

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ACP Reopening and Recovery Resources

- a menu of innovative staffing models
- workflows to enhance patient and staff infection control and safety
- ambulatory infection control checklists
- potential testing strategies and considerations for practices
- patient education materials- including communication templates that can be branded/adapted
- infographic on where to seek care during pandemic

<http://ow.ly/hAFi50zAbD8>

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WHERE AND WHEN TO SEEK NON-COVID CARE DURING THE PANDEMIC

Never wait to seek care for an emergency or an acute medical problem. It is also more important than ever to take care of chronic conditions like diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and lung disease. Some routine care may be able to wait, but things like immunizations and cancer screening are important to address in a timely manner. Check with your doctor to see when an in-person visit is necessary, when a phone or video visit is possible, or whether care can wait.

START HERE	CITY HEALTH CENTER	OFFICE VISIT	URGENT CARE	EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
CALL 				
If you have a doctor, call ahead and ask if your visit should be in-person or by phone or video. Don't have a doctor? Now is the time to reach out and get primary care.	Federally qualified health centers are open and available during the pandemic. They serve everyone, regardless of ability to pay or language.	For an in-person visit, wear a face mask, wash your hands, and stay at least six feet from others. Let staff know if you have a cough or fever.	Urgent care is for treatment of minor illnesses or injuries like minor cuts, burns, or sprains that cannot await a visit to your usual doctor's office.	Go to the ED if you have life-threatening symptoms like chest pain, shortness of breath, new onset weakness, severe allergic reaction, or major trauma.

Updated as of 5/7/2020. These recommendations are a component of the ACP COVID Recovery Project. More resources are available in the Primary Care Reopening and Recovery section of ACP's COVID-19 Physician's Guide.

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Next Steps

- Convene ACP's Immunization Committee, Public Policy, and Communication Staff to develop specific immunization recommendations
- Provide practical resources to support safe resumption of in-person care
- Develop a communication and messaging strategy to increase member and public awareness of new policies and resources
- ACP is committed to working toward removing as many barriers as possible to successful influenza vaccination

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