Organizational Adaptations During COVID-19 Pandemic

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Navigating Eligibility Changes during COVID

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CDC Updates

FDA Guidance

Developments, Statistical Data, and Published studies

AATB Bulletins

Navigating Changing Information

AATB Bulletins

AATB Bulletin #20-3	• 1/31/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-7	• 2/25/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-8	• 3/04/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-9	• 3/14/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-10	• 4/02/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-11	• 4/23/2020
AATB Bulletin #20-14	• 8/12/2020

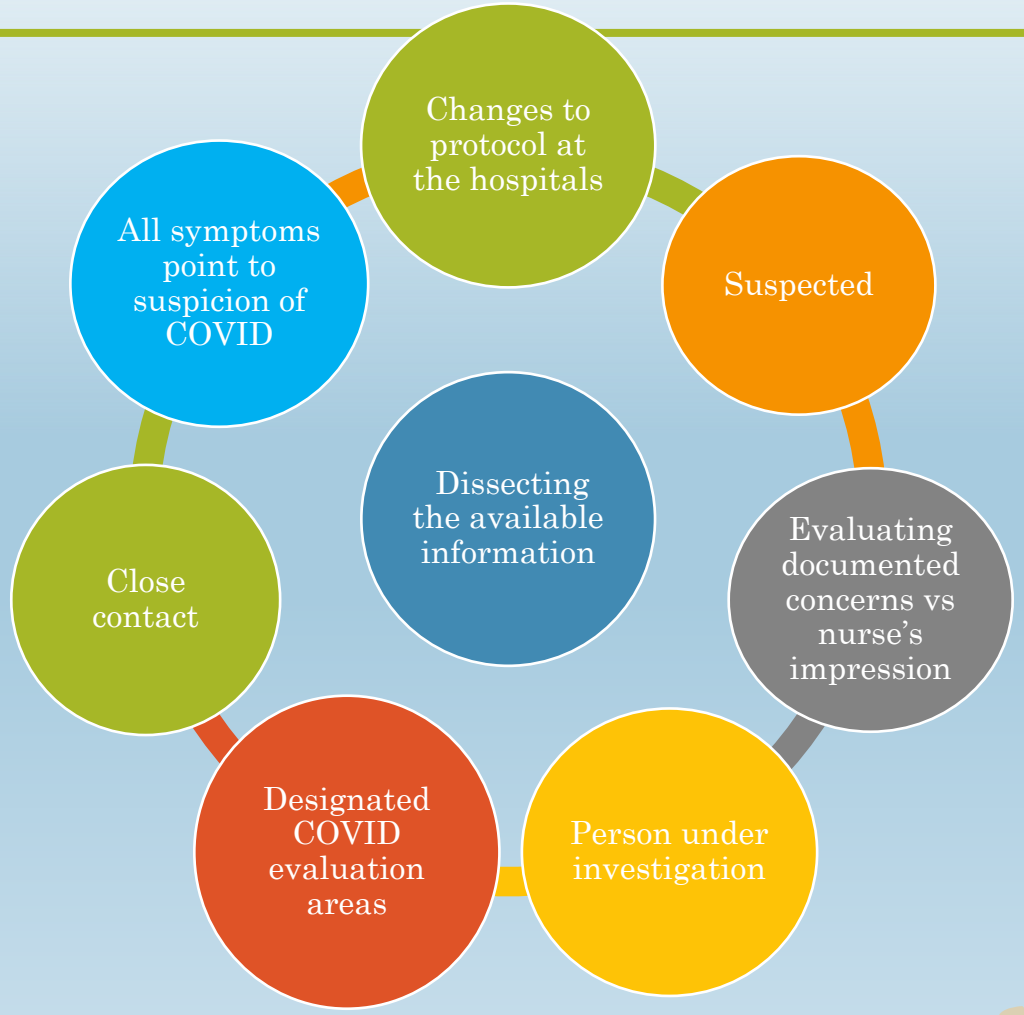
Navigating the Change Process

- Evaluation of Information
- Implementation of Changes and Planned Deviations
- Training
- Notification to Customers

Implementing Screening Changes

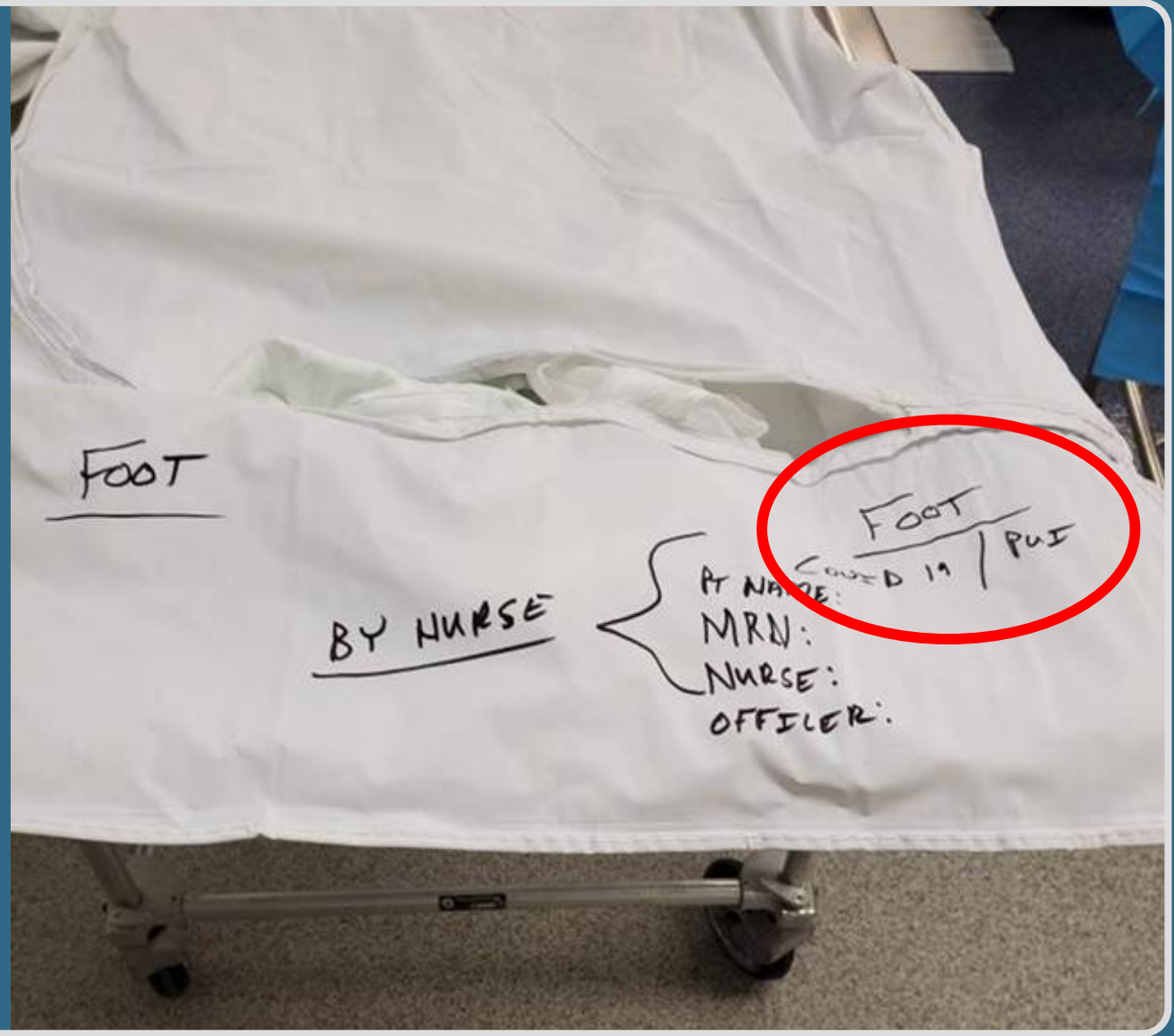
Alison Draves

Hospital Referrals



Body Bag Documentation

Determine why bag is being marked



Additional Screening Questions

Was the patient tested for COVID?	• If yes:
	  • What are the results (reactive, negative, indeterminate, pending)
	  • What was the date of the test? (Requirements vary for processors)
	• If No or outside of the time frame: the patient will be tested at recovery

Why was the patient tested?	• What symptoms did the patient have? Are all patients being tested?
If symptomatic: were they placed in isolation?	• If they were placed in isolation for symptoms or diagnosis of COVID-19 this would be a deferral
Is there a dedicated COVID evaluation area?	• Many hospitals are isolating patients at increased risk on dedicated units for COVID-19 or separate areas of the ER – this can help determine the likelihood they were under suspicion

Screening Considerations

Not all patients tested for COVID-19 will be a deferral

- Ask if hospital is testing all patients regardless of symptoms
- If the COVID-19 test is pending at time of death – determine reason for testing (suspected vs current symptoms)

Evaluate symptoms (fever, respiratory problems/pneumonia, cough, SOB)

- Focus on documented progress notes vs nurse impression when evaluating the risk factors for COVID-19

Changes to Screening-Close Contact in the Hospital Setting

If a person is on a designated COVID-19 unit regardless of test results (pending/negative)

If a person is on a designated COVID-19 unit regardless of test results AND the pt is symptomatic (pending/negative)

If a person is on the same unit as a patient who has suspected/confirmed COVID-19

If a person is on the same unit as a patient who has suspected/confirmed COVID-19 AND the pt is symptomatic

If a person is on the same floor of the hospital, but not the same unit -> ACCEPT

If a person has been in close contact with (lived with, taken care of, etc.) a suspected/confirmed COVID patient in the last 28 days → DEFER

Medical professional who took care of COVID-19 patients and wore the proper PPE and were NOT symptomatic at the time of death → **ACCEPT**

Caregivers and Medical Professionals

Takeaways

Gather Information

Obtain as much information as possible about symptoms (cough, respiratory issues, fever, pneumonia)

Evaluate

Screen the facts (documented concerns, progress notes, symptoms)

Determine reason for COVID-19 testing and obtain results whenever possible

Adapt

Information changes quickly, be prepared to adapt

Implementation Challenges

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Challenges

Change Management

- Frequency of changes
- Crisis Management
- Remote Workforce
- CDC website changes
  - Symptoms
  - Travel map/category changes
  - PUI definition

Donor Screening Questions Recommendations

- COVID Addendum not standardized
- Processors had differing questions for the DRAI
- Review of the questions used by each agency
- Electronic Chart Systems
  - Documentation within records
  - Frequency of changes

Donor Testing

- Testing not required
- Implemented by processors
- Different requirements for the test time frames

Donor Testing FAQ

Test Availability

- Would there be enough test kits available for donors?
- Should donors be tested when testing was limited?
- When is the blood testing going to be available?

Collecting the swab

- Who was performing the testing?
- How should the swab be collected?
- When should the test be collected?

Test requirements

- When was the test collected?
- What happens if there is a bloody swab?
- What does an invalid or not tested mean for donor disposition?

Questions?