



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Operationalizing the Health Transition Plan

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PROGRESS INDICATORS

Reopening businesses, schools, community venues, and other sectors of the economy in San Antonio and Bexar County will require careful consideration of the risk of someone becoming infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, across many settings.

Due to the dynamic nature of infectious diseases, calculation of progress and warning indicators will be operationalized by the **Unified Command of the San Antonio and Bexar County Emergency Operations Center**:

- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health),
- San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD), and
- Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC).

We propose the following **progress indicators**, reflective of an effective community response to COVID-19:



A sustained decline in the number of new cases of COVID-19 ≥ 14 days



The ability to perform tests for the virus in all people with symptoms of COVID-19, their close contacts, and those in public facing roles



Effective contact tracing capacity to identify all close contacts of people diagnosed with COVID-19 and offer testing to those for whom it is indicated



A prepared healthcare system that can safely care for all patients, including sufficient hospital capacity, workforce, and PPE for healthcare workers

PROGRESS INDICATORS



A sustained decline in the number of new cases of COVID-19 ≥ 14 days

- There is a delay between the date that an illness starts and the date the case is reported to Metro Health
- We want to see the trend in the number of cases trending downward for at least 14 days
- None of these indicators stands alone. All will be considered together to paint the complete picture.

PROGRESS INDICATORS



The ability to perform tests for the virus in all people with symptoms of COVID-19, their close contacts, and those in public facing roles

Expansion of Testing capacity from 1,600 to 3,000 by June 2020

- Assess Asymptomatic Transmission
- Collect Specimens on Targeted Symptomatic populations
- Conduct Universal Testing in Congregate Settings both Symptomatic and Asymptomatic

1. Conduct a Study on Asymptomatic Transmission

- The current prevalence of COVID-19 in Bexar County is estimated to be less than 1%
- It seems plausible that people who are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic could play a significant role in transmission of COVID-19
- Prevalence of asymptomatic infections and transmissions in Bexar County have yet to be determined.



2. Expand Access to Symptomatic Testing:

- Improve Access in Marginalized Communities
 - Walk Up Mobile Unit Sites
- Expand Large Scale Testing
 - Texas Military Department (TMD) / 3 Additional sites
- Expand and Prioritize Testing
 - low-income communities, LGBTQIA+ communities, communities of color, persons 65 years and older, persons with chronic diseases such as hypertension and diabetes, health care providers, and first responders



3. Universal Testing: Symptomatic and Asymptomatic

- Universal testing for persons living and working in nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, shelters for homeless, street homeless, and ESRD
- Test all inmates in jail
- Test hospital patients before procedures/admissions
- Other workers in other community facing settings



PROGRESS INDICATORS



Effective contact tracing capacity to identify all close contacts of people diagnosed with COVID-19 and offer testing to those for whom it is indicated

Expand Contact Tracing Staff to 175

- Data Integration
- Scale contact tracing based on testing and positives
- Expand Mobile Health Technology

Expand Mobile Health Technology

- emocha Pilot-- mobile health technology to monitor positive patients and contacts daily for signs/symptoms and provides direction for individuals that develop any signs or symptoms during the 14 day quarantine period that are compatible with COVID-19
 - Digital Application Pilot for Positive Patients and Close Contacts to Self-Monitor starts Friday
 - Augmented Contact Tracing Services Begins in 1 week

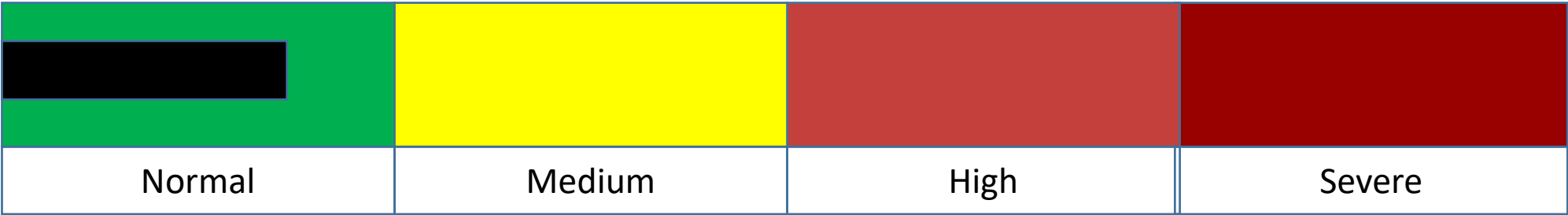


PROGRESS INDICATORS



A prepared healthcare system that can safely care for all patients, including sufficient hospital capacity, workforce, and PPE for healthcare workers

Health System Stress

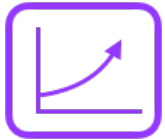


WARNING INDICATORS

We also recognize the need for continued monitoring of the epidemic as our community gradually re-opens. We propose the following **warning indicators** as signs that increased public health safety measures may be needed:



A decrease in the number of days it takes for the number of COVID-19 cases in our community to double (doubling time)



An increase in the percentage of COVID-19 tests suggestive of active infection that are positive for COVID-19



An increase in indicators of health system stress, such as reductions in personal protective equipment, hospital bed, or ventilator capacity, and increases in emergency medical system calls

WARNING INDICATORS



A decrease in the number of days it takes for the number of COVID-19 cases in our community to double (doubling time)

- Prior to the Mayor's first Public Health Emergency Order, we were seeing a doubling every 3 days
- Since implementation, we're averaging a doubling every 2.5 weeks
- If we see trends indicating the current doubling time of 2.5 weeks is decreasing, then we will issue an initial warning

WARNING INDICATORS



An increase in the percentage of COVID-19 tests suggestive of active infection that are positive for COVID-19

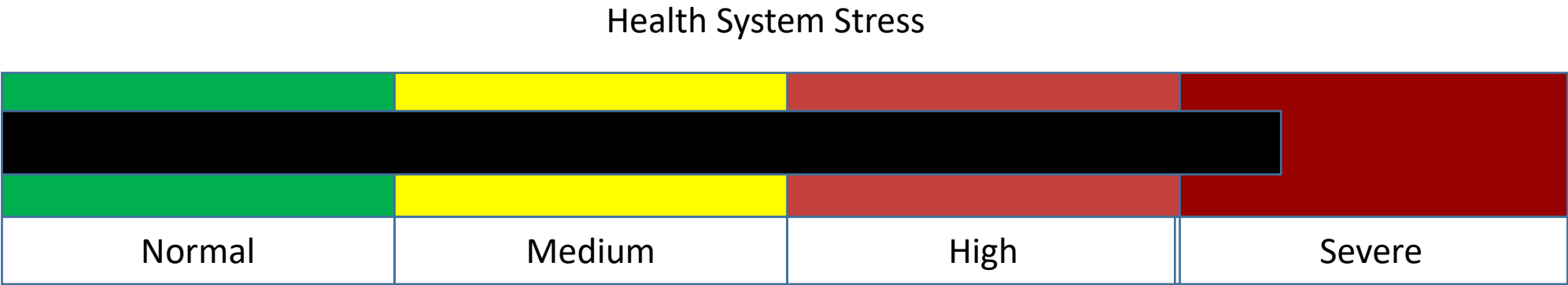
The percentage of all lab tests that are positive (using gold standard RT-PCR tests) for COVID-19 (symptomatic)

- We expect to see an increase in the number of positive cases due to our expanded testing
- If we see a 14 day increase in positive cases, then we will issue an initial warning

WARNING INDICATORS



An increase in indicators of health system stress, such as reductions in personal protective equipment, hospital bed, or ventilator capacity, and increases in emergency medical system calls



PHASES AND ENFORCEMENT

Metro Health and STRAC will monitor the Progress and Warning indicators throughout all four phases of Reopening

Metro Health will not determine the thresholds of and transitions to each phase

Enforcement of community mitigation strategies will continue to be a team-based approach between Metro Health, DSD and SAPD



TIMELINE

May 1

Testing: 2,100

- Add in 500 Daily Tests
- 385 tests Random Sample Asymptomatic Study

Contact Tracing:

- Launch emocha
- Train 60 Contact Tracers

June 1

Testing: 2,600

- Add in an Additional 500 Daily Tests
- Continue Random Sample Asymptomatic Study
- 150 Universal testing of Nursing Homes
- 150 Universal Testing of inmates
- 100 Targeted Population Testing
- 100 Walk Up Testing Sites

Contact Tracing:

- Scale emocha
- Train 40 Additional Contact Tracers (as needed based on positive cases)

June 30

Testing: 3,000

- Add in an Additional 400 Daily Tests
- 100 Universal testing of Nursing Homes
- 100 Universal Testing of inmates
- 100 Targeted Population Testing
- 100 Walk Up Testing Sites

Contact Tracing:

- Scale emocha as needed
- Scale Contact tracing staff as needed