Academic Health Centers Respond to COVID-19

As of May 1, 2020

**TESTING**

The University of Utah is providing mobile testing through their "Wellness Bus," a 40 foot specially designed RV that travels to neighborhoods to provide health consultations, screenings, and education. The Wellness Bus expands the academic health center’s area of coverage and increases response time.


**TREATMENT**

Vanderbilt University is leading the ORCHID trial, a national drug study to treat COVID-19 in collaboration with 50 other medical centers (PETAL). Testing the effects of hydroxychloroquine on alleviating symptoms, the study will be completed in the coming months.


**PPE**

Virginia Commonwealth University is piloting a program to safely decontaminate N95 masks, a replicable process for other health systems. VCU processes and decontaminates 12,000 masks per day, more than ten times the amount of masks used daily onsite.

[https://news.vcu.edu/article/VCU_Healths_innovative_decontamination_process_mitigates_N95](https://news.vcu.edu/article/VCU_Healths_innovative_decontamination_process_mitigates_N95)

**VACCINES**

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center is developing a vaccine against SARS-CoV-2; when tested in mice, the vaccine produced successful amounts of antibodies. The vaccine can be administered through an innovative fingertip-sized skin patch, called PittCoVac.

[https://www.upmc.com/coronavirus/vaccine](https://www.upmc.com/coronavirus/vaccine)