Slowing the Spread of COVID-19
Part 3 of 3: Diagnostic Testing 101

May 22, 2020
Stephen J. Acquario
Executive Director
NYSAC
Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Commissioner of Health
Erie County

Nancy McGraw, LCSW, MBA, MPH
Public Health Director
Sullivan County

Rebecca A. Kaufman, MS
Public Health Director
Broome County
Overview

- Erie County
  - Population: 919,000
  - Urban, suburban and rural communities
- Public Health Lab – part of CDC’s Laboratory Response Network
## Diagnostic vs. Antibody Testing

### Diagnostic Testing (PCR)
- Positive result indicates active infection *at time of specimen collection*
- Nasal (nose) swab specimen
- Looks for virus DNA/RNA
- Positive result: isolate, investigate, contact tracing

### Antibody Testing
- Positive result indicates past exposure to disease
  - does not mean immunity
- Blood draw from arm
- Should be done at least 3 wks after symptoms onset
- False positive or false negative result possible
  - Make sure test is FDA authorized
Estimated Variation Over Time in Tests for Detection of SARS-CoV-2 Infection Relative to Symptom Onset

DNA/RNA
Active infection
IgG antibody
March 3 – first nasal swab specimens sent to CDC & NYS Wadsworth Lab

March 9 – EC Public Health Lab able to test
  ▪ Obtained reagents from CDC
  ▪ Tested nasal specimens from Erie County and other counties

Early challenges
  ▪ Reagent supply
  ▪ Swab availability
Diagnostic Testing: Eligibility criteria

- Follow CDC and NYS guidance
- Started with testing symptomatic, travel-related or close contact of confirmed case
- Expanded to include health care and other essential workers
- Expanded to include anyone who feels they have been exposed or is at risk regardless of symptoms

Diagnostic Testing Capacity

- Scheduling done through ECDOH call center
- 5 specimen collection clinics/week rotating throughout Erie County
- Erie County Public Health lab running ~ 100 specimens/day
  - Working to expand number tests/day with newer tests
Antibody Testing

- April 2020: Public Health Lab able to perform Abbott Labs SARS-COV-2 IgG Assay
- 100,000 test capacity
- Started with “beta” group of Erie County personnel
  - Scheduling
  - Collecting samples
  - Processing samples at Public Health Lab
  - Mailing results
Antibody Testing Roll Out

- Opened to general public in May 2020
- Strong demand after we opened for appointments
- 3 specimen collection clinics per week
  - rotate locations throughout Erie County
- 500 samples per clinic
- Scheduling through call center
- Results mailed within 7-10 days
Antibody Testing Availability

- Erie County antibody testing available to Erie County residents ages 11 and older
- Many other community sites available for antibody test
  - Easy to collect specimen
  - Physicians and other medical providers can order test
  - Urgent care centers, hospital systems, clinical labs can collect blood samples for antibody tests
ECDOH ECC South testing site
4041 Southwestern Blvd, Orchard Park, NY 14127
Ph: 716-858-2929

Hours: 10AM - 3PM Wednesdays

Testing Status: Testing
Date Verified: 5/11/2020 12:00:00 AM

Notes: all public

Appointment Required? Y
Physician Order Required? N
Screening Required? Phone for screening/scheduling
Restrictions Apply? N
Details: NYS Protocol for Prioritization; all

Zoom to
Questions and Answers

- [www.erie.gov/covid19](www.erie.gov/covid19)
  - Informational web site
- [www.erie.gov/covidmap](www.erie.gov/covidmap)
  - Data visualization: case counts, ZIP code and municipality maps
- [www.erie.gov/covidtestsites](www.erie.gov/covidtestsites)
  - Searchable map for diagnostic test locations
COVID-19 Pandemic Response
March – May 2020
SULLIVAN COUNTY COVID-19 DASHBOARD
THURSDAY MAY 21, 2020

CURRENT ACTIVE CASES
264

TOTAL OFF ISOLATION
2,270

DEATHS
29

# IN QUARANTINE
879

TOTAL TESTED
6,153

TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES
1,259

DISCLAIMER:
This map is provided for illustrative purposes only and should not be relied upon for guidance in decision-making, nor does the County of Sullivan make any warranties or guarantees in relation to its use.
### Demographics of Sullivan County, NY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sullivan County</th>
<th>NYS</th>
<th>Town of Fallsburg</th>
<th>Town of Liberty</th>
<th>Town of Thompson (includes Monticello)</th>
<th>Town of Mamakating (includes Wurtsboro and Bloomingburg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Census Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 1, 2019</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td><strong>13,023</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,475</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,993</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,430</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sullivan County</td>
<td>75,432</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>20.9%</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White alone, not</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>63.8%</td>
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<td>49.9%</td>
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Using GIS mapping to identify hot spots
### Agricultural and Light Manufacturing Plants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Est. # Employees</th>
<th>% COVID positive as of 5/13</th>
<th>% positive workforce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 other plants</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>At least 1,321</strong></td>
<td><strong>137</strong></td>
<td><strong>About 10 %</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Weekly COVID-19 Testing Sites
South Fallsburg, Liberty, Woodridge
Challenges in COVID-19 testing Latino workers in manufacturing and food processing plants

- Language barriers
- Mistrust of government interventions
- Lack of understanding of disease transmission
- Crowded living and working conditions
- Poverty
- Limited access to health care
- Uninsured
- Lack of transportation
- Fear of job loss and retaliation
Public Health Interventions

- Partnerships with Latino community advocates
- Increase translators in community
- Outreach and Education in Spanish, door to door, social media, zoom meetings, phone calls
- Testing clinics targeted to workplaces and communities
- Distribution of masks
- Enforcement and education with employers
- Notification to USDA and NYS Ag & Markets for site inspections
- Guidance to essential businesses for cleaning, monitoring, work exclusion
- Coordination with emergency community assistance center to distribute food, medicine and cleaning supplies to families on isolation & quarantine
- Assistance from NYSDOH for data analysis and consultation
Please contact Alex LaMonte at alamonte@nysac.org with any questions.