

Navajo Nation Response to Covid-19

ED PREPAREDNESS AND INTERFACULTY COLLABORATION

SHAWN D'ANDREA MD, MPH



No disclosures



Navajo Area Response-Stakeholders

Navajo Nation Government

NN DOH

Navajo Area IHS

638's

NN EMS

NM, AZ, Utah state governments

National guard

COPE

Local small businesses (Motels, etc)

Humanitarian Relief organizations (MSF, Team Rubico)

Other...



TMC ED preparedness

ICS established late February

2/28 ED preparedness begins

Augment triage screening

Divide unit into:

- Green: Non respiratory
- Red: Respiratory



TMC ED Preparedness

Establish screening outside of ED

- Pre-triage screening

- MSE for low acuity respiratory complaints

Continuous refinement of processes and protocol

External references to validate or improve processes

PPE Observation “Dofficer” program



TMC ED Preparedness

Establish screening outside of ED

Pre-triage screening

MSE for low acuity respiratory complaints

Continuous refinement of processes and protocol

External references to validate or improve processes

PPE Observation “Dofficer” program



Navajo Area – UNM Coordination

Weekly conversation hosted by UNM (Dr. Margaret Greenwood-Ericksen)

Participants:

- Winslow
- Flagstaff Medical Center
- Chinle
- Tuba City
- Kayenta
- Fort Defiance
- Shiprock
- GIMC
- Crown Point
- UNM
- Zuni
- Navajo Area IHS
- Albuquerque Area IHS



Navajo Area – UNM Coordination

Objectives

- Collaboration between UNM and IHS
- Improve communication and coordination of care with regional tertiary care center
- Provide situational awareness for both “central” and “peripheral”



Navajo Area – UNM Coordination

Objectives

- Collaboration between UNM and IHS
- Improve communication and coordination of care with regional tertiary care center
- Provide situational awareness for both “central” and “peripheral

Benefits

- Sharing of resources
- Personnel references
- Equipment needs
- Transfer challenges
 - E.g. EMS transport “requirements”



Thank you



Indian Health Service

Responding to the Surge at Gallup Indian Medical Center

JONATHAN VILASIER IRALU, MD, FACP

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

CHIEF CLINICAL CONSULTANT

FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

MAY 20, 2020



History

Started off March 6 standing up Incident Command

March 9 - all clinics at Gallup Indian Medical Center (GIMC) were closed

Asked the medical staff to “Be Inventive” on March 10



Planning Phase

Developed a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) committee

- Started ordering PPE like crazy!

Developed lab testing protocol

- Drive up testing site
- Tiers to guide testing when there aren't enough tests

Developed Employee health protocol

- Required frequent refinement as incidence rose and CDC changed guidance



Planning Phase

Began outreach to the community

- Detox replacement
- Shelter
- Nursing and Group Homes

Devised plan with Public Health Nurses (PHNs) to follow-up and do contact investigations

Modified the inpatient room setup

- Converted two med surg floors into COVID Units
- Converted office space into a non-COVID unit









Surge Phase

Expanded Emergency Department (ED) into a respiratory ED outside with screening tents and a code tent

Modified old ED into private rooms with plastic sheeting

Modified the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to treat COVID

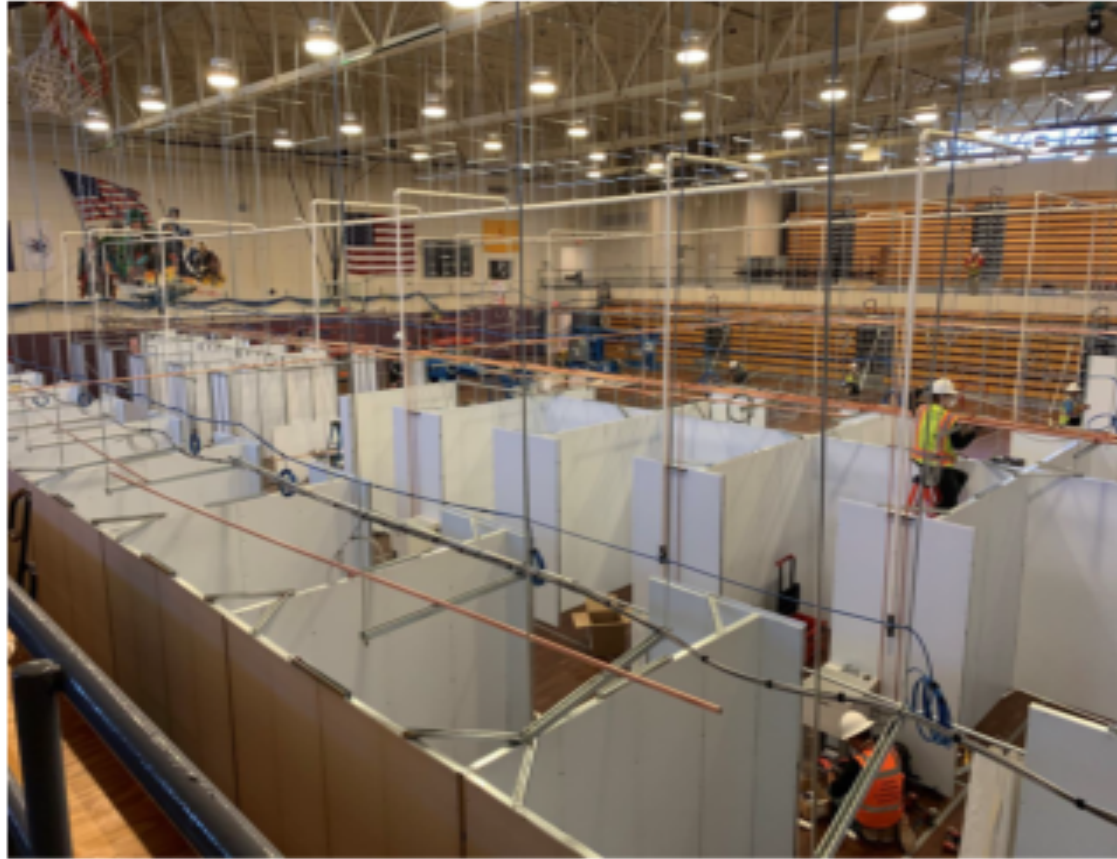
Created an Alternate Care Site

- IHS
- Army Corps of Engineers
- McKinley County
- New Mexico National Guard











Gallup Service Unit now...

Treating about 30 COVID inpatients

- COVID medical wards
- Mixed COVID/Non-COVID ICU

Treating inpatients with Remdesivir based on severity of illness

Working on Convalescent Plasma project with Johns Hopkins

Collaborate with State of New Mexico COVID Command Center to fly out critically ill patients who are intubated



Gallup Service Unit now...

Public health nurses (PHNs) collaborating with New Mexico Department of Health, CDC, and COPE Project to do initial interviews and contact investigations

Homeless population and well COVID-19 positives housed in four local motels under the care of the following:

- COPE
- University of California San Francisco
- Medical Reserve Corps
- GIMC staff

Detox center in Gallup has become a COVID (+) detox



The future...

Expand inpatient service to 3 COVID ward

Build Prefabricated ICU with 16 beds with airborne isolation rooms

Be prepared for long term COVID-19 care

Focus on staff resilience and well being



