



MEETING MINUTES

EVENT:	Testing Surge Workgroup	Date / Time:	May 15, 2020 @ 1130
Author:	Dale Cowan, NCNG	Approved:	August 21, 2020

Enter information below: (text box will automatically expand, numbering is automatic)

Required Attendees (X=Present):

X	NCDHHS	Sec. Mandy Cohen	X	NCDHHS	Dr. Betsey Tilson
X	NCDHHS	Dr. Scott Shone	X	NCDHHS	Dr. Cardra Burns
X	NCDHHS	Dr. Zack Moore		NCDHHS	Michael Leighs
X	BCBSNC (in support of NC DHHS)	Alicia Stokes	X	LabCorp	Traci Butler
	BCBSNC (in support of NC DHHS)	Dr. David Johnson		BCBSNC (in support of NC DHHS)	Dr. Azalea Kim
X	Quest	Natalie Jackson	X	MAKO	Josh Arant
X	Duke	Dr. Michael Datto	X	Atrium Health	Dr. Gerald Capraro
X	UNC Health	Dr. Melissa Miller	X	NC Medical Society	Dr. Garrett Franklin
X	NCCHCA	Dr. Mark Massing	X	NCCHCA	Chris Shank
X	NC Board of Pharmacy	Jay Campbell	X	Mecklenburg Cty	Dr. Meg Sullivan
X	NCALHD	Stacie Saunders and Lisa Macon-Harrison	X	Old North State Medical Society	Dr. Charlene Green
	NCDHHS	Azzie Conley	X	NCDHHS	Jay Ludlam
X	NC Healthcare Association	Dr. John Fallon and Dr. Mary Jo Cagle		NC HIEA	Christie Burriss
X	UNC	Doug Umland		Ernst and Young (in support of NC DHHS)	Lori Feller Ariel Kuo
X	UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health	Dr. Kauline Cipriani	X	NCNG (in support of NC DHHS)	Neil Thomson
X	NCNG (in support of NC DHHS)	Dale Cowan			
X	Guest	Dr. Jim Thomas			

Agenda:

- I. **Welcome and Roll Call**—Dr. Burns (5 min)
- II. **Opening Remarks**—Secretary Cohen, if available (5 min)
- III. **New Business**
 - a. **Test Trends and Hot Topics** —Dr. Shone (5 min)
 - b. **Update on new collection sites or testing partnerships** — Dr. Massing (10 min)
 - c. **Updated COVID-19 Provider Guidance** — Dr. Moore (5 min)

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- d. **COVID-19 Testing and Public Health Ethics** — Dr. Jim Thomas (10 min)
 - e. **Sub-Workgroup Report Outs**
 - Scientific Study Council: Serology Testing Recommendations—Dr. Datto (10 min)
 - Testing strategies vulnerable populations Recommendations—Dr. Green (10 min)
- IV. **Due Outs Assigned and Closing**—Drs. Burns, Tilson or Moore, if available (5 min)

Tasks / Due Outs: (List the recommended lead responsible for each task)

Due Date	Organization POC	Task
22 May 20	Scientific Study Council	Guidance for Employers on Testing Workers
22 May 20	Surge Workgroup	Questions about ethics send to Dr. Burns
22 May 20	Scientific Study Council	Serology Testing Recommendations Feedback
22 May 20	Vulnerable Population Workgroup	Connecting Strategy for Vulnerable Population Workgroup with Team

Discussion by Major Topic: (Information not covered on slides or handouts)

- Dr. Burns welcomed the group and conducted roll-call. Secretary Cohen also provided remarks:
 - Thanks to workgroup and DHHS team
 - Trends are going well; testing numbers are going up which was one of the goals of the workgroup - % positives is trending down
 - 200 testing sites on the website
 - Getting supplies from FEMA
 - The scientific workgroup is providing good advice to the state
 - Employers need some guidance on how to test their workers – what does population-based testing look like?
- Dr. Shone explained issues around the rapid point of care tests. Abbott ID now (5-15 minutes for results) has had an increased number of false negatives. Abbott is pushing out a new technical brief, and the State Lab will provide those updates
- Dr. Massing provided an update of Community Health Centers
 - 40 health centers and 250 clinics across the state as of last week for the Health Centers that participated in the survey
 - Testing a lot in racial and ethnic minorities. More than ½ have drive-thru testing.
 - Health Centers are opening clinics
 - New test sites in Robeson with Lumbee Indians
- Natalie with Quest, shared that 20K kits were distributed. 675 tests/day were processed
 - Electronic reporting from Quest will start Monday
- Dr. Moore explained that increased testing and contact tracing are important to get into the next phase of reopening. Provider lab guidance updates are coming out 15 May
- Dr. Thomas presented the Pandemic Ethics Dashboard (*Attachment 1*)
 - Community Settings – common to have ethical issues
 - Pandemic flu ≠ COVID19

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- Questions – who’s getting tested? How are results getting used? Can they help? What additional information is collected? Is there a downside to getting tested? (i.e., lose their job or get deported)
- <https://pandemicehtics.web.unc.edu>
- Dr. Thomas and his students are available to help and conduct any needed research
- Dr. Datto – Scientific Council – worked on serology/antibody testing. Recommendations for when testing can and cannot be used (*Attachment 2*)
- Dr. Green – Vulnerable Population Workgroup – making the invisible visible (*Attachment 3*)
 - Recommend employing mobile testing at sites where vulnerable populations congregate
 - Contact Tracers should reflect the ethnicity of people that have been tested and provided through recommendations
 - Encourage native language use among test administrators
 - Need a trusted system where young people will get tested
 - Ensure knowledge that testing is voluntary and free
- Dr. Tilson spoke about how the pandemic has put a spotlight on the known inequities. We are intentionally addressing them, and society will be better as a whole. Even though we’ve made progress, there is still more to do.
 - Will need to increase lab capacity from 17k tests/day with businesses opening up and kids going back to school
 - Continue to refine strategies for testing at specific sites (nursing homes, homeless shelters, etc.)
- Dr. Green added that we need to be proactive for what’s going to happen in the fall and winter cold/flu season.

Next Meeting:

22 May 2020, 1130-1230

Microsoft Teams [Link](#); Phone: 984-204-1487, Conference ID: 575 272 672#