



03/16/2020

Urgent COVID update

Dear Tulane Team,

Effective immediately Tulane Downtown and Lakeside will not be sending COVID-19 testing or BIOFIRE testing on patients that will not be admitted to the hospital. If the patient is going to be admitted and the suspicion for COVID-19 is high please proceed. We are experiencing a shortage of M4 viral media and swabs and want to conserve these kits for inpatients only. We are working to get more but for the time being we are going to restrict testing from being done in the outpatient clinics and the ED. We are still working on getting an in-house PCR testing and looks like we are a week away from this being a possibility. The State/Federal government has also been in contact about opening drive through testing centers in the city by the end of the week. More details hopefully to come.

Thank you to your continued efforts in treating our patients.

Best,

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