



WEEK OF MARCH 25, 2020

Hanging in there?

Our job is hard enough in flu season but then to have a novel coronavirus on top of it makes it impossible. We have to remember that flu is still widespread <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DPH/EEIP/FLU/thisweeksfluupdate.pdf?la=en> which makes it hard to know if that fever and cough are the flu or COVID-19.

One of the most common comments I hear is that facilities do not want to admit anyone from the hospital without a negative test for COVID-19. Facility licensing will be addressing this shortly.

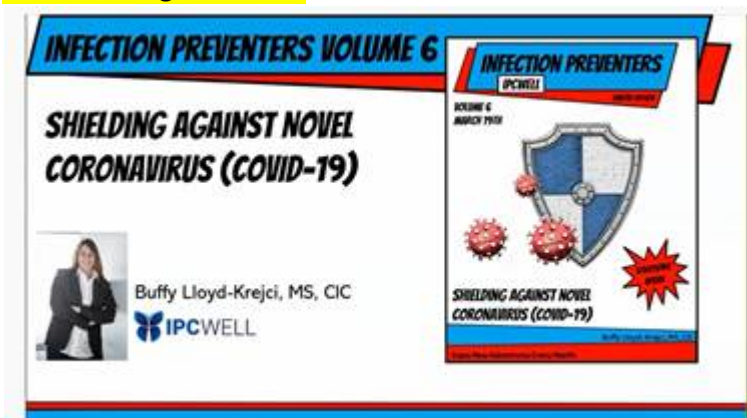
COVID-19 Symptoms to Be Aware Of: When we have interviewed +COVID-19 patients, some noted they had GI symptoms. A small study of cases in China found that nearly half of the patients had diarrhea and anorexia. "The virus enters human cells through the ACE2 receptor in the lungs but also in other body parts, including the GI tract. They think the virus gets into saliva and is swallowed, and then it passes through the acid layer in some patients and uses the ACE2 receptors to enter epithelial cells that line the intestine." It is felt when the digestive tract is involved there are worse outcomes- https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/927112?src=mkm_ret_200322_mscpmrk_gastroenterology_covid&uac=88802HY&impID=2318549&faf=1

Another study showed that some people noted loss of taste and smell which we have also heard from some infected people. In some areas of Italy most heavily affected by the virus, doctors say they have concluded that loss of taste and smell is an indication that a person who otherwise seems healthy is in fact carrying the virus and may be spreading it to others.



https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/926929?nlid=134587_4622&src=WNL_mdplsnews_200320_mscpedit_nurs&uac=88802HY&spon=24&impID=2318484&faf=1

Focus on Long Term Care



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Joxzb0UDTD0#action=share>

Stay safe and sane!!
Kris

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