

Hello—

These are difficult times for all and, first and foremost, I want to extend my best wishes for healthy outcomes to our community. I also wanted to post some information and a status update from Affinity eHealth. We are a third-party administrator of toxicology testing and presently working with over 100 programs.

We are open and fully staffed at our Customer Service Department and are available to help participants on a 24/7 basis. For anyone who is NOT an Affinity client, if I can be of any help, please feel free to call me at 404-558-5090 or email me at blubin@affinitysolutions.com.

We have been assured by the 2 large national laboratories--LabCorp and Quest--that they will keep their Patient Service Centers open for the most part--they will post the few that need to close because of staffing issues. Additionally, these sites are NOT where Corona virus testing will take place. Third party sites are individually owned, and our staff is communicating with them to help participants find drop sites when needed. I personally believe, walk in clinics and Urgent Care centers where "sick" people needing care should be avoided as much as possible.

I have been assured by all the labs with which we work--LabCorp, Quest, USDTL, DrugScan, CRL, and Witham that they will be operating continuously, and reports will be generated with the same or better turnaround times.

I believe that social distancing and good hygiene can be practiced when collections need to be completed. The increased stress we are all under coupled with the isolation felt from social distancing can act as fertilizer for Substance Use Disorders and I believe testing at this time remains essential. For programs that decide to suspend testing for a period of time, the use of PEth and hair/nail testing can be added after the monitoring interruption has stopped.

I believe that we need to protect the public safety and the professionals being monitored even in this period of crisis. Of course, we need to exercise all appropriate caution to protect everyone.

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