



**Oregon Office of Rural Health (ORH)
Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Listening Session
Notes from Session
April 9, 2020**

Below are the notes from the Oregon Office of Rural Health's (ORH) Rural Health Clinic COVID-19 Listening Session, held April 9, 2020.

Finances/Grants/Loans: Is anyone applying for grants and/or loans at this point?

Grants Pass Pediatrics - Applied for Small Business Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) (\$10,000 in emergency funding from the Small Business Administration) but has heard nothing back yet.

From ORH: The National Association of Rural Health Clinics presented a webinar covering both telehealth and funding sources on April 3, 2020. Presentation slides and webinar may also be found [here](#).

Also, check out the [USDA COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#): A one-stop-shop of federal programs that can be used by rural communities, organizations and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Includes information for rural leaders looking for federal funding and partnership opportunities to help address this pandemic.

Supplies/PPE: Any improvements? Reuse and conservation?

Malheur Memorial Health Clinic - I do not know how to request PPE from our county. Joell Archibald said to check with your [local emergency operation center](#).

Sherman County Medical Clinic - Our Emergency Services Director has been giving us PPE (she is on our Health District's Board of Directors). She brings us the PPE and we don't have to request.

Testing: Do you have the supplies you need? Has anyone purchased equipment so you can do the testing locally?

Challenges? Have you made any workflow changes?

Harney County Health Department – It takes three to four days to get results back. We haven't had a need for new testing for almost a week but testing in parking lot if needed.

St. Luke's in Baker City - We have had a wide range of return times, from four to 14 days.

Harney County Health Department -Testing in parking lot if needed.

Telehealth: Is your clinic providing services via telehealth differently from prior to COVID19? Describe. (e.g., screening, providers working from off-site/home, types of visits and services)? Any challenges/barriers to using telehealth?

Pioneer Memorial Clinic - Providing telehealth now.

St. Luke's in Baker City - Mostly providing visits via video and phone. Very limited face-to-face visits.

Safina Koreishi, Medical Director - CPCCO/OHP reimburses for both telehealth visits and phone visits. Care Oregon has a guide for telehealth visits and they are starting technical assistance for anyone in our networks who needs it. Her email address is koreishis@careoregon.org.

Harney County Health Department - 100% telemedicine appointments.

Snake River Pediatrics - We are doing telehealth as well. Only certain appointment types can be done since we are pediatrics.

St. Charles Family Care- Prineville - We have a high level of Medicare.

Malheur Memorial Health Clinic - How are you doing Telemed for Medicare patients? Is MCR paying and what is the rate?

Rondyann Gerst (ORH) replied that the Medicare billing/coding guidance is not out as of April 9, 2020. Here is a [link](#) to Telehealth rules and regulations. As soon as Medicare telehealth resources become available we will inform you.

More questions/comments?

Please contact ORH as your questions and ideas arise. Your primary contact at ORH is:

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Save the date: The next Oregon Rural Health Clinic Listening Session is scheduled for April 23, 2020 from 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm. Rondyann Gerst will email you the login information as soon as it is available.