### COVID-19 in the United States: ASHP Response

Douglas Scheckelhoff, MS, FASHP Senior VP, Practice Advancement



### About ASHP

#### 55,000 Members

Pharmacists, student pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in Hospitals and Health Systems.

#### 79 Years and going strong

2

Founded in 1942. Elected board of directors and officers and 200+ staff. Located near Washington, DC.

#### **Core Strengths**

3

Leadership, publishing, meetings, advocacy, accreditation, education, membership.

# **COVID-19 in the United States**



### Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people



Source: European CDC - Situation Update Worldwide - Data last updated 24th Jun, 05:50 (GMT-04:00), European CDC - Situation Update Worldwide



# Impact on Members and Care Delivery



#### Shortages/Supply Chain

Medications used for ventilated patients, HCQ, PPE, Remdesivir, Dexamethasone



#### **New Methods of Delivering Care**

Telehealth, remote order review/approval, med histories by phone



#### Volume/Capacity

ICUs at capacity, temporary ICU beds, temporary/surge hospitals



#### **Staff Competency for ICU Care**

Caring for 500% increase in ICU patients.



#### New Treatments/Testing

HCQ, Remdesivir, COVID-19 testing



#### Non-Covid-19 Regional Impact

Elective surgeries cancelled, patient volumes down, negative financial impact



# **ASHP COVID-19 Resource Center**





pharmacists advancing healthcare

# **Evidence-based resources and tools**



COVID-19 microsite optimizing essential COVID-19 information and resources



ASHP CareerPharm Rapid Connect, a free service connecting pharmacy professionals to hospitals and other organizations during the pandemic



COVID-19 Pandemic Assessment Tool for Health-System Pharmacy Departments



Planning and Preparation Considerations for Alternate Care Site/Field Hospital Operations



Recommendations for Minimizing Exposure from COVID-19 at Home and in Outpatient Settings



Tips for Taking Care of Yourself During the Pandemic



Considerations for Prioritizing Medications for Mechanically Ventilated Patients



# **Skill Development**



ASHP's Critical Care Pharmacy Specialty Review Course, Practice Exam, and Core Therapeutic Modules package available free for a limited time



Pharmacy Competency Assessment Center: Emergency Preparedness and Pharmacy Competency Assessment Center: Infection Prevention



# **Clinical Guidance**



ASHP's Assessment of Evidence for COVID-19 Treatments – a regularly updated evidence table providing clinical guidance to help frontline clinicians and other practitioners better understand current therapeutic approaches, has been downloaded more than **20,000** times



Open access to AHFS Drug Information<sup>®</sup> for a limited time, resulting in a usage increase of 1,159% and more than **17,000 new users** 



Open access to ASHP's Interactive Handbook on Injectable Drugs for a limited time, resulting in a usage increase of 728% and more than **19,000 new users** 



Nearly **6,000 downloads** of ASHP's Recommendations for Stewardship of Off-Label Treatments for COVID-19

# **Policy and Advocacy Actions**

ASHP has been actively engaged at the state and federal level on issues critical to the pandemic response, including:

- Drug shortage provisions included in federal COVID-19 relief law
- Flexibilities for sterile compounding announced by FDA
- Increased annual production quota allocations for Schedule II controlled substances provided by DEA
- Collaboration with national healthcare organizations to advance joint policy recommendations to the Administration and Congress for preventing shortages, protecting healthcare workers from infection, and recognizing pharmacist services in Medicare Part B
- Inclusion of pharmacist-provided incident-to services in CMS telehealth coverage
- Working with state affiliates to request resources from the Strategic National Stockpile
- Issue briefs on shortages, telehealth, CMS flexibilities, and diagnostic tests and immunizations
- Federal and state pharmacy readiness recommendations



### **From the Front Lines**



#### PODCASTS

Our daily ASHPOfficial podcast has dedicated 39 episodes to the pandemic, with more than 23,000 downloads



#### **WEBINARS**

Free Covid-19 webinar series, reaching nearly 9,000 attendees

### **Keeping a Pulse on Issues**





Weekly **PULSE surveys** to collate answers on issues pharmacists are managing

Biweekly surveys on pharmacy resources such as PPE, staffing, and medications



### Conclusions

### **Pharmacists need assistance**

- Information
- Advocacy
- Training/education
- Resources/best practices

### **Professional association role**

- Well positioned to help
- Established communication channels
- Listening to needs, where to help

### What's next?

- What is the new "normal"
- Telehealth
- Vaccines, treatments, next wave



