

## TBH Utilizes CleanSpace HALO Respirators: A Revolution in Respiratory Protection

Ever since COVID-19 made its presence known last March, The Bellevue Hospital (TBH) has been focused on finding advanced technologies and equipment to protect patients and healthcare workers from this dreaded disease. One priority at the start of the pandemic was researching, adding and helping to replace the aging fleet of powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs) the hospital currently owned.



“Because of the pandemic, PAPRs were being used more frequently and the hospital wanted to ensure it had an adequate amount to protect healthcare workers on the frontline,” explained Sara Brokaw, TBH’s vice president of patient care services.

PAPRs are used to safeguard employees who are exposed to contaminated air that may cause acute respiratory infections. TBH added 31 CleanSpace HALOs to its fleet of PAPRs in fall 2020 and frontline clinical staff began utilizing them in patient care areas such as the emergency department and intensive care unit when needed.

“TBH is one of the first hospitals in Ohio to bring in this advanced technology,” Brokaw said. “The HALOs offer a streamlined, breath-actuated functionality, which caters to more effective communication and maneuverability.”

The new PAPRS use patented AirSensit™ technology to deliver cool, filtered air on demand when the protection of front-line healthcare workers is critical. A HALO can be easily and quickly donned in under 10 seconds and it has no heavy belts or hoses. This makes it practical in hospital settings, and easy to deploy in an emergency.

“We have been receiving positive feedback from staff,” said Gina Carlson, director of respiratory therapy, sleep disorders and clinical education. “It’s lighter, staff can put it on quickly and the soft transparent facemask allows for easy communication.”

TBH employees in a variety of patient care areas are being fitted and trained on the new equipment. In addition to the HALOs, the hospital now has 13 new MAX Air CAPRs (Controlled Air Purifying Respirators) and 12 of the original MAX Air PAPRs in its PAPR fleet.



*Gina Carlson, director of respiratory therapy, sleep disorders and clinical education, instructs TBH team members on how to properly wear the HALO PAPR.*



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As the COVID-19 outbreak evolves, The Bellevue Hospital continues to monitor the situation closely and make adjustments to our policies and services as needed. For a complete list of service changes and visitor restrictions, visit [bellevuehospital.com](http://bellevuehospital.com).

## What you need to know about COVID-19 vaccines in Ohio

COVID-19 vaccines are being administered in Ohio, and we know that you may have questions about them. Having access to accurate information is key to making an educated decision about choosing to be vaccinated against COVID-19, so we have compiled some helpful information from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help answer some of the most commonly asked questions below.

### How are vaccines being distributed?

Initially, there will be a limited number of vaccines available, and Ohio is committed to making it widely available for those that want to receive it, as quickly as possible, as shipments of the vaccine arrive. Ohio has begun to strategically and thoughtfully distribute vaccines to Ohioans at the greatest risk.

### 1B Vaccination Phase

Vaccinations in Phase 1B began the week of January 19. Phase 1B specifically includes those below who choose to be vaccinated:

- Ohioans, age 65 and up.
- Ohioans with severe congenital, developmental, or early onset medical disorders that make them particularly vulnerable. This includes cerebral palsy; spina bifida; congenital heart disease; type 1 diabetes; inherited metabolic disorders; severe neurological disorders, including epilepsy; severe genetic disorders, including Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, and Turner syndrome; severe lung disease, including cystic fibrosis and severe asthma; sickle cell anemia; and alpha and beta thalassemia.
- Adults/employees in all schools that want to go back, or to remain, educating in person.

Governor DeWine announced a tiered system for offering vaccinations to the estimated 2.2 million people who are eligible for the vaccine under this phase, which began with those who are 80 years of age and older. Upcoming tiers include:

- The week of Feb. 1: Ohioans 70 years of age and older; employees of K-12 schools that wish to remain or return to in-person or hybrid models.
- The week of Feb. 8: Ohioans 65 years of age and older.

*These dates are subject to change.*

**When a new age group begins, vaccinations may not be complete for the previous age group. It will take a number of weeks to distribute all of the vaccines given the limited doses available.**

### Vaccine Registration

The Bellevue Hospital is working closely with local health departments to help develop a COVID-19 vaccination plan centered around the distribution of the vaccine for local populations. If you qualify as part of the 1B Phase population, you can pre-register for the vaccine with your local health department.

Pre-registration is required to receive the vaccine. Walk-in appointments are currently not available. All registrations are being handled by the health departments. Please do not call The Bellevue Hospital to pre-register.

Registration information for the local health departments is listed below. Please note, each health department will have various designated providers assigned for vaccine distribution.

### Sandusky County

[www.scpublichealth.com](http://www.scpublichealth.com)

If you do not have access to the internet, or feel uncomfortable registering online, you may contact United Way First Call for Help at 419.334.2720 or GLCAP Senior Center 419.334.8181 for assistance with the pre-registration process.

### Huron County

[www.huroncohealth.com](http://www.huroncohealth.com)

If you do not have access to the internet, are home-bound, or need assistance getting to your appointment, please contact Enrichment Centers for Huron County at 419.668.6245 for assistance with the pre-registration process.

### Erie County

[www.coviderieohio.com](http://www.coviderieohio.com)

567.867.8222

### Seneca County

[www.senecahealthdept.org](http://www.senecahealthdept.org) or

[www.senecacountyema.org/covid-19/vaccination-information](http://www.senecacountyema.org/covid-19/vaccination-information)

419.447.3691

All vaccination distribution is subject to availability of doses provided by the State of Ohio. As vaccine supplies increase, Ohio will be able to vaccinate more of those in Phase 1B, and eventually, all Ohioans who choose to be vaccinated will be able to receive COVID-19 vaccines.

The vaccine distribution plan for future priority populations is still under development and will be shared publicly from the ODH as soon as they are finalized.



The Ohio Department of Health has launched a tool on [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov) to assist individuals looking for a provider that has been allotted vaccines. The tool will be searchable by zip code or county, but it will not be updated in real-time.

### COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs

#### Can the vaccine give me COVID-19?

No. None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized for use or in development in the United States use the live virus that causes COVID-19. However, it typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination. That means it's possible you could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and get sick.

#### Is it safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an underlying medical condition?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is especially important for people with underlying health problems like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and obesity. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19.

#### Will the shot hurt or make me sick?

There may be side effects, but they should go away within a few days. Possible side effects include a sore arm, headache, fever, or body aches. This does not mean you have COVID-19. Side effects are signs that the vaccine is working to build immunity. If they don't go away in a week, or you have more serious symptoms, call your healthcare provider.

#### How many vaccines are available?

Vaccine manufacturers are working hard to manufacture and distribute vaccines safely, quickly, and effectively. Each state will be informed, on a weekly basis, of how many vaccine doses they will receive that week. The state is currently receiving about 100,000 doses weekly.

#### When can I stop wearing a mask and avoiding close contact with others after I have been vaccinated?

There is not enough information currently available to say if or when CDC will stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide before making that decision. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision.

#### Will a COVID-19 vaccine be mandatory for every Ohioan?

The state of Ohio will not require anyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine will be available to all Ohioans who choose to receive it, as available supplies of the vaccine increase.

**For the most up-to-date information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov).**



## TBH Diagnostic Imaging Department Earns ACR Accreditations

The Bellevue Hospital has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in breast ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR Practice Parameters and Technical Standards after a peer-review evaluation by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control procedures and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report that can be used for continuous practice improvement.

The ACR, founded in 1924, is a professional medical society dedicated to serving patients and society by empowering radiology professionals to advance the practice, science and professions of radiological care. The College serves more than 37,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.



**To learn more about the diagnostic imaging services offered at TBH, visit [www.bellevuehospital.com/services/diagnostic-imaging](http://www.bellevuehospital.com/services/diagnostic-imaging).**



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## First DAISY Award Winner Announced at TBH

Eva Cherry, registered nurse in the Family Birthing Center at The Bellevue Hospital (TBH), was honored with The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses® on Dec. 18, 2020. The award is part of the DAISY Foundation's mission to recognize the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care nurses provide patients and families every day.

The Awards program at TBH began in January 2020 and nominations were collected during this past year. Eva was one of 16 nurses at TBH to receive a nomination. She was chosen as The DAISY Award recipient for the consistent quality service she provides to the mothers, babies and support persons in the Family Birthing Center.

“Due to COVID-19, my mother/birth coach could not be with me. As my labor became more intense, Eva came in and began to coach me to help me relax and brought my focus back to the delivery of my baby,” said nominator Colleen Jesberger. “Eva stepped into a role that was above and beyond the requirements of her job. She proved that her passion for nursing is more than what could ever be printed in a job description. The compassion, care and love she showed me - an otherwise complete stranger - will never be forgotten. She made the delivery my most joyous and happy experience.”

In addition to Colleen's nomination, Eva received six other DAISY nominations, all noting the kindness, strength and dedication she provides to her patients.

The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization, established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, by members of his family. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon

autoimmune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.) The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

“We are proud to be among the healthcare organizations participating in The DAISY Award program,” said Sara Brokaw, vice president of patient care services at TBH. “Nurses are heroes every day. It’s important that our nurses know their work is highly valued, and The DAISY Foundation provides a way for us to do that.”

Nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues. The award recipient is chosen by a committee at TBH to receive The DAISY Award. Awards are presented throughout the year at celebrations attended by the honoree’s colleagues. Each honoree receives a certificate commending her or him as an “Extraordinary Nurse.” Honorees also receive a DAISY Award pin and a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called *A Healer’s Touch*, hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.



*Eva Cherry, registered nurse in the Family Birthing Center at TBH, was recently honored with The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses.*

**If you would like to nominate an extraordinary nurse at The Bellevue Hospital for The DAISY Award, visit [www.daisynomination.org/tbh](http://www.daisynomination.org/tbh).**