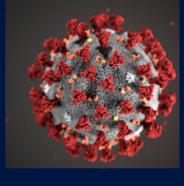


# University of Maine System COVID-19 Testing Strategies



- Dannel Malloy, Chancellor, The University of Maine System
- Joan Ferrini-Mundy, PhD, President of University of Maine and University of Maine at Machias
- Melissa Maginnis, PhD, Associate Professor, Virologist, University of Maine



### University of Maine System

- UMS compromises Maine's public universities and only law school
  - Appx 30,000 students across 7 campuses, numerous outreach centers, and online
  - UMaine = flagship research land/sea/space grant
- Maine largest state in New England, lowest COVID prevalence in the nation currently
- Just under half (45%) of students have in-person courses this fall



### University of Maine System

- Led Pandemic Collaboration and Safe Return Planning across Maine's \$4.5 Billion Higher Education Sector
- Partnered with Maine Emergency Management to Help Lead State's COVID-19 Response
- A Commitment to Science, Student Success, and Community Safety

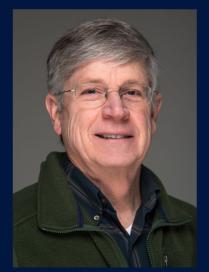


### **UMS Scientific Advisory Board**





Melissa Maginnis, PhD, Virology, UMaine, Lead



Bill Halteman, PhD, Statistical Consultant, **UMaine** 



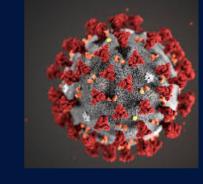
Joan Ferrini-Mundy, PhD, President UMaine & UMM, Chair



Sara Huston, PhD, Epidemiology, USM



Kristy Townsend, PhD, Adjunct Faculty, Biomedical Sciences, **UMaine** 

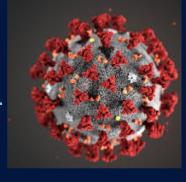




Caitlin Howell, PhD, Biomedical Engineering, **UMaine** 



## UMS Testing Strategy Management



Safe Planning Team

Scientific Advisory Board

Asymptomatic Testing Team



## UMS COVID-19 Testing Strategy

Phase 1

Baseline testing of Cohorts 1-3

Phase 2

Baseline retesting of Cohorts 1-3

Phase 3

• Surveillance Testing: Individual random testing 10% q 10 days + statistical analysis, **WWT** 











Phase 1 and 2 Results: prevalence rate = 0.09% (14:14,869 tests)

Phase 3 Results: prevalence rate = ~0.11% (2:3,755 tests)

### Public Health Measures in Response to COVID-19 Cases

### Test ------ Isolate





Rapid, high-throughput diagnostic testing



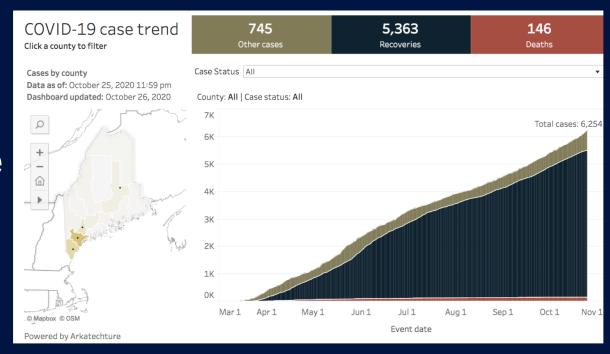
Contact tracing of COVID-19+ (contacts within <6ft for >15 min are quarantined)



Isolation of COVID-19+ patients until healthy to return

## Important Measures for UMS Monitoring COVID-19

- Background COVID-19 disease rate in the state of Maine
  - Campus location specific
- Prevalence rate on particular campuses
- Wastewater testing
- Campus isolation and quarantine capacity
- Local hospital capacity



### Complementary Strategy: UMS Wastewater Testing

#### Wastewater surveillance on campuses:

UMaine, USM, and UMFK

Partnership for collection and Dr. Rob Wheeler's lab testing:

- Sampling wastewater 1x/week
- Measure viral RNA levels via IDEXX qPCR test (student involvement)
- Coordination with facilities and campus EOCs

Robert Wheeler, PhD Caitlin Howell, PhD Jean MacRae, PhD Ryan Ward Jeremy Sales Jake Ward







UMaine, WW testing



### Complementary Strategy: Public Health Campaign





CLIPPER PACT









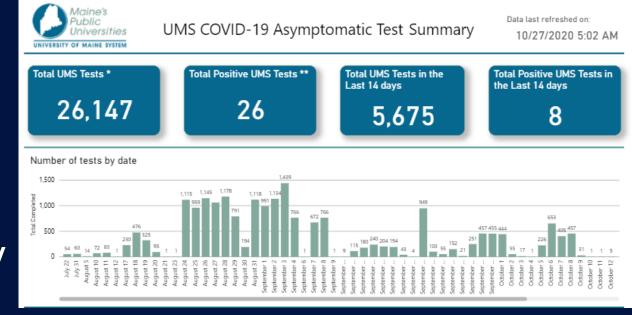
Chancellor Malloy's "Keep it Up" Tour

https://www.maine.edu/together/

## Complementary Strategy: Partnership with State and Local Officials



- Epidemiological Investigations
- Statewide Media Briefings
- Dashboards and Transparency





### Questions and Discussion

#### **Contact and Resources:**

**UMS Together for Maine:** 

https://www.maine.edu/together/

**UMS COVID-19 Scientific Advisory Board:** 

https://umaine.edu/president/science-advisory-board/