Message from the Project Directors
Kathryn Hassell, MD & Janet Thomas, MD
April 2020

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Oh, what uncharted times we are all living in these days! With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing on,  we see the healthcare, medical and public health world being forced across our entire region to adjust their thinking, management, practices, policies and procedures. The whole way that we do business is subjected to rapid and frequent change.

Over the last month, our state teams have shown a tremendous tenacity in continuing to advance COVID-19 Resources Sheets and initiatives with genetic conditions. In addition, with our state team’s help we have added COVID-19 resources to our website on the topics of Telehealth and resources for families. See below for the links.

Please stay safe. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance in challenges you are facing in your area of our region.

State-Specific COVID19 Resources Sheets for Individuals and Families with Genetic Conditions

We would like to THANK our amazing state team members for their help in locating these resources. In about 3 weeks of time, thanks to the power of the MSRGN State team networks, we were able to have a COVID19 resource sheet for each state in our region available on the MSRGN website and social media. This was a tremendous team effort in locating and organizing the resources for us.

If this is your first time seeing the sheet for your state, please help us by sending it to 3 people or please post it to your social media page so that new or old it to the local families impacted genetic conditions, who need this information.

Telehealth Resources and COVID-19

With the closing of physical medical facilities to non-urgent patients in our region, we have heard from many of our states about a tremendous sobering in the number of genetic patients being seen virtually via telehealth. HRSA is releasing some resources on Telehealth Resources and COVID-19 that may help both primary care and specialty care clinics make this transition and improve processes and workflow, once the transition to telehealth is underway.

In addition to the state-specific COVID sheets, mentioned above, MRGRC has added a page to our website with specific links, resources, and information about COVID-19 for genetic patients being seen virtually by telehealth. MSRGN compiled some resources on Telehealth Resources and COVID-19 that may help both primary care and specialty care clinics make this transition and improve processes and workflow, once the transition to telehealth is underway. Our state teams made these resources.

COVID-19 Resources for Individuals and Families

In addition to the state-specific COVID sheets, mentioned above, MRGRC has added a page to our website with specific links, resources, and information about COVID-19 for genetic patients being seen virtually by telehealth. MSRGN compiled some resources on Telehealth Resources and COVID-19 that may help both primary care and specialty care clinics make this transition and improve processes and workflow, once the transition to telehealth is underway. Our state teams made these resources.

State Team Spotlight: Nevada

Due to COVID-19, the Nevada team has converted their educational event to an ONLINE EVENT. The Telehealth and Telegenetics in the Era of COVID-19 is Friday, May 29, 2-4PM PT. The Nevada team is planning to hold a virtual event in conjunction with the National Council of Children with Genetic Conditions’ Health Genetics Week on May 26-29, 2020. They are planning to hold a virtual educational event in conjunction with the week, which will be a blend of video, panel, and Q&A. This event is free and open to the public and can be accessed from anywhere. Please see the flyer for more information. For details about the Nevada team’s event and brochure, please see https://www.mountainstatesgenetics.org/news/telehealth-and-telegenetics-in-the-era-of-covid-19/nevada-telehealth-and-tele-genetics-resource-sheet/ for details about the Nevada team’s event and brochure, coming soon.

With warm regards,

Kathryn Hassell, MD
Co-Project Director

Janet Thomas, MD
Co-Project Director

MRGRC: staff contact information:
Kathryn Hassell, MD, Co-Project Director
Kathryn.hassell@cuanschutz.edu
Janet Thomas, MD, Co-Project Director
Janet.Thomas@childrenscolorado.org
Joya Hasler, Community and Public Health Outreach Coordinator
joya.hasler@childrens.org
Kristi Akins, Community Engagement Director & Social Media Coordinator
kristi.mountainstatesgenetics.org
Lisa Creel, PhD, Evaluator
Lisa.Creel@louisville.edu

THF staff contact information:
Anant Basagha, Project Administrator
abasagha@healthinstitute.org
Wenny Wilkins-Guerra, Project Oversight
wenny@healthinstitute.org
Stephanie Ondrias, Director of Convenings & Education
sondrias@texashealthinstitute.org

Acknowledgements: This publication is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $600,000 with 0 percentage financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.


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Kathryn Hassell, MD
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MRGRC: staff contact information:
Kathryn Hassell, MD, Co-Project Director
Kathryn.hassell@cuanschutz.edu
Janet Thomas, MD, Co-Project Director
Janet.Thomas@childrenscolorado.org
Joya Hasler, Community and Public Health Outreach Coordinator
joya.hasler@childrens.org
Kristi Akins, Community Engagement Director & Social Media Coordinator
kristi.mountainstatesgenetics.org
Lisa Creel, PhD, Evaluator
Lisa.Creel@louisville.edu

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