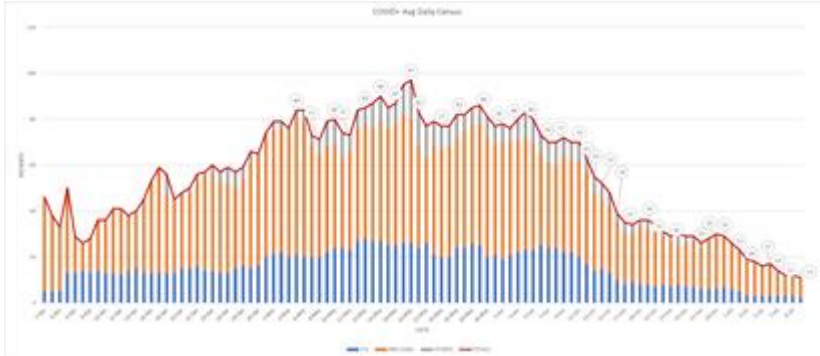


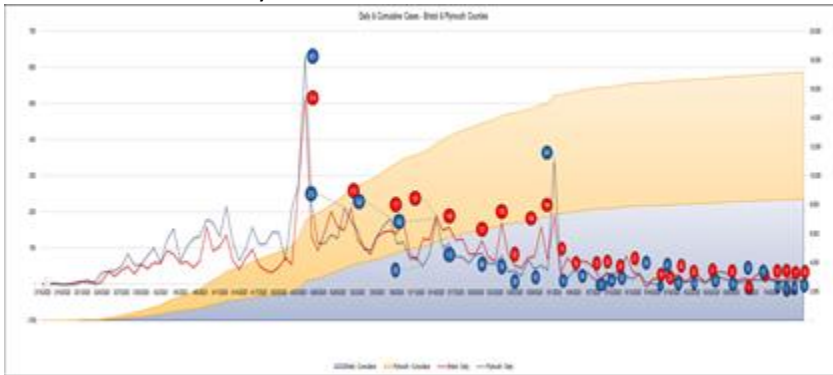
Wishing you a safe summer season.

I wanted to give you a quick update on COVID-19 and more importantly an update on non-COVID-19 related clinical topics.

1. COVID-19 Volume has dropped and flattened. It is not gone.



2. Bristol and Plymouth Counties still smolder with cases



Special thanks to all our clinicians, providers, and operators who have gone above and beyond these past month.

3. We have seen a rise in intensive care and invasive care during this past quarter
 - Understandably, rates of utilization of central lines have been very high
 - Inpatient providers should be very vigilant about reduction of central line days where possible
4. We have seen an impressive improvement in hygiene with Zero Harm Awards
 - MRSA bacteremia has been markedly reduced
 - C Diff events have dropped
 - SSIs have fallen
 - CAUTIs have been reduced
5. Southcoast has had impressive stroke achievements and was awarded with several Coverdell Awards recently
 - A reminder to all inpatient providers to use the Code Green AND RRT activation pathways for CVA
 - Continue to be vigilant about screening for dysphagia
 - You will see decision support on not using the ORAL route if someone has dysphagia.
 - Please never order PO meds or feeding in at risk individuals until bedside screening is completed.

6. In the Post-Acute space, Renee Clark and our Case Managers are meeting with our preferred network
 - We are working to assure timely and safe transitions of COVID-positive and COVID-negative patients
7. Some of the unsung heroes during this period have been our VNA/Home Health staff and hospice staff
 - Please consider VNA where patients may be safely cared for in the community rather than in a facility.
8. For ambulatory physicians, there is active work to improve access for patients and provide safety and efficiency for staff.
 - This month we welcome Becky Schlosser to the Medicine Operations team in addition to her work in Oncology.
As director, Becky will join the executive director Kelly Roderick in our operational leadership.
 - Congratulations to VP Linda Hevenor has joined VP Courtney Ives in the leadership of SPG with Beth Smith and the physicians in chief.
9. Finally, we will be turning our efforts to safe progressions and safe transitions.
 - Please use secure messaging in Epic or Haiku to allow easy communication among providers, nurses, case managers and other staff.
 - Specialists and hospitalists, when something is urgent, please call directly when you need to coordinate. Timely communication can save days!
 - Do take advantage of your new telehealth skills to facilitate early patient visits following discharge.