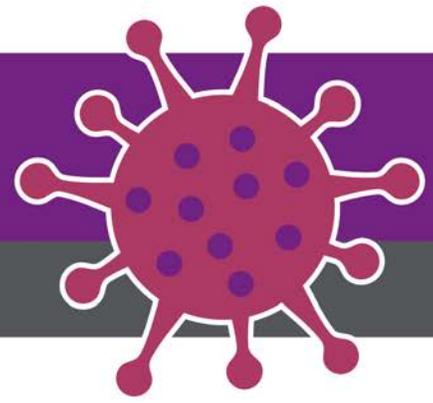


# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

## Pulse Oximetry for Home Use



**Audience:** Providers, Clinical Colleague, Home Health, DME

**Revision Date:** 4/24/2020

**Version:** #1

### Pulse Oximetry for Home Use

There is currently no clinical standard recommending home pulse oximetry use for COVID-19 patients. However, a pulse oximeter may serve as an early-warning device for potential patient decompensation. A provider may prescribe home pulse oximetry to assist the primary care provider in determining when a patient should be considered for additional follow-up or an inpatient stay, while conserving resources for those who are acutely ill.

Consider ordering home pulse oximetry for 'potentially at risk' patients who present to a physician office, a FURI clinic, or an Emergency Department who, in the provider's judgement, could remain at home despite being ill with COVID-19, but may be at greater risk for decline in condition due to underlying health problems or other patient factors.

### Obtaining Home Pulse Oximetry

Trinity Health Ministry hospitals do not provide pulse oximetry services directly, as most do not own a Medicare certified Durable Medical Services (DME) company. Pulse Oximeters are frequently not covered by insurance.

Pulse oximetry monitoring can be obtained by:

1. Referral to a home health agency that offers virtual monitoring services (such at Trinity Health at Home agencies, Mercy Home Health-TH Mid-Atlantic, Eddy Visiting Nurse Association, etc.); OR
2. Providing the patient with a script for the home pulse oximeter.
  - a. Also provide patient with a list of DME providers who can deliver the pulse oximeter to the patient's home.
  - b. Instruct the patient to follow up with their primary care provider

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