

Defeating COVID-19

THE CASE FOR SUPPORT



UCI Health Mobilization During COVID-19

For you, for members of the entire Orange County community and for people around the globe, UCI Health and the Susan and Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences are mobilizing experts to defeat the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. We are guided by our longstanding commitment to world-class healthcare, research, education and public service.

As the region's only combined medical center and academic research university, UCI has an infrastructure in place to advance both the practice and the science of healing. We are drawing on those strengths now to aggressively and swiftly confront the novel coronavirus. Our front-line healthcare providers are treating patients with COVID-19 and preparing to accommodate a surge of patients. To be ready, we are redirecting vital resources to rapidly expand testing and treatment. At the same time, our faculty members are working at breakneck speeds to translate scientific discoveries into novel therapies, improved tests and a potential vaccine. To broaden our impact, we have initiated targeted community outreach efforts and educational programs for the public.

With an integrated approach to COVID-19 across multiple fronts, UCI Health is well positioned to grapple with the challenges we face as a county, state, nation and global community. Your support is vital during these unprecedented times.

We invite you to join us as a philanthropic partner as we harness all our resources to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Working together, we have the power to flatten the curve and save lives.

Please consider investing in the UCI Health emergency response funds we have created to address current and emerging needs during this public health crisis. Your gift will support our highest priorities.



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Your support for this fund will help us expedite our ability to provide timely care that draws on advanced research underway at UCI.

UCI Health





COVID-19 Patient Care and Healthcare Workforce Fund

Through social distancing and other population health risk measures, we are trying to decrease the rate at which people get ill so we can take care of those who need treatment and give researchers time to develop a vaccine and test new therapies. We established this COVID-19 emergency fund to address our most pressing clinical need – handling the potential surge in patients we are expecting at the UCI Health Medical Center in Orange. These funds will be administered at the discretion of the chief executive office of the UCI Health System.

Your support for the COVID-19 Patient Care and Healthcare Workforce Fund will help us expedite our ability to provide timely care that draws on advanced research underway at UCI. We have already created a COVID-19 triage team to manage the expected increase in patient needs, and we now offer drive-through testing by appointment in Orange and Irvine. As much as our resources can support, we are rapidly hiring call center personnel and nursing and clinical staff to cover ambulatory shortages.



Patients and healthcare providers will benefit from your investment in our highest clinical priorities:

- Expanding the personnel in intensive care units and securing the equipment they need to service the patients most seriously afflicted with COVID-19, while continuing to treat patients who suffer from other serious maladies (e.g. heart attacks, strokes, diabetic ketoacidosis and traumas)
- Purchasing additional tents to house patients during the surge and converting existing space to negative pressure rooms to cluster patients who are positive
- Hiring additional personnel to accommodate the growing patient population; supporting unbudgeted staff, including nurses, to fill in for permanent staff who are home ill or taking care of family members; and supporting unbudgeted call center staff and other personnel who direct patients as they navigate our system during the pandemic
- Purchasing additional lab equipment so we can process more COVID-19 tests internally with rapid turnaround time
- Investing in personal protective equipment (PPE) and medical supplies for COVID-19 patients

• Expanding telehealth and telemedicine services for patients locally and globally and ensuring that healthcare providers have the equipment they need to consult with patients remotely both on-site and off-site

Your gift to the COVID-19 Patient Care and Healthcare Workforce Fund may also be used to support the health and well-being of our heroic healthcare providers through free integrative health services offered by the Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute; a new commissary that provides front-line workers easy access to free food pantry staples, fresh fruit and other household items; childcare services on both UCI campuses; and new resting spaces on-site and through hotel accommodations.





We established the COVID-19 Research Innovation Fund to support our teams' most promising work.



COVID-19 Research Innovation Fund

UCI Health is partnering with investigators across the UCI campus to accelerate research designed to slow or stop the spread of COVID-19 and minimize its negative impact. We established the COVID-19 Research Innovation Fund to support our teams' most promising work. These funds will be administered at the discretion of the vice chancellor for health affairs.

Your gift will enable our experts to push the boundaries of innovation, paving the way for scientific breakthroughs that can save the lives of people in our community and around the world. At this critical time, our research priorities include:

- Conducting a COVID-19 therapeutic drug study backed by the National Institutes of Health – the first trial is considered to have possible efficacy and expected to be ready for patients soon
- Accelerating a new COVID-19 diagnostic test to use at the point-of-care (e.g., clinics) or in the field (e.g., airports) for rapid screening
- Developing a COVID-19 vaccine using a high-throughput single-cell discovery platform
- Combining molecular evolution with machine learning to create a new generation of therapeutics

- Improving detection of COVID-19 by scaling up production of the protein microarrays our investigators developed to monitor immune responses to SARS and MERS
- Investigating the role of antibody enhancement in COVID-19 infection
- Studying the pathogenesis of coronaviruses
- Investigating how different treatments for high blood pressure, including ACE inhibitors and acupuncture, could increase or decrease ACE2, a docking protein, and therefore impact susceptibility to COVID-19
- Estimating the prevalence of ongoing or prior subclinical COVID-19 infection among healthcare workers at UCI Health
- Studying emotional, cognitive and behavioral responses to the COVID-19 outbreak and how those early responses shape outcomes over time
- Implementing public health studies that strengthen efforts to address COVID-19 through forecasting, interventions, surveillance, communications and identification of geospatial issues that affect vulnerable populations

This research fund may also be used to upgrade the School of Medicine's Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3) laboratory so that our researchers can study the novel coronavirus in a facility operating at full capacity, rather than at reduced capacity, as it operates now. UCI is fortunate to have the only BSL-3 lab in the UC system.



Community Outreach and Public Education Gifts

No other local health system combines sophisticated clinical expertise in treating illness and keeping people healthy with the research and education designed to prevent disease and train tomorrow's health professionals. UCI Health and the Susan and Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences integrate seamlessly, combining discovery, teaching and healing to keep our community well.

Our public health program has taken the lead in educating the public about prevention and containment. Early on, faculty and students in the program started channeling their energy into fact-finding and providing community members with useful information, tools and resources to deal with the



threat posed by COVID-19. More than 80 young public health ambassadors were trained to "spread the word, not the virus" through a public health pop-up dedicated to the coronavirus. In collaboration with campus partners, public health teams have expanded their reach across media platforms and venues through videos, podcasts, flyers and public forums.

Gifts designated for community outreach and public education will allow our integrated teams to continue serving the people of Orange County and beyond during these uncertain times. Funding may support ongoing or new programs, including the following priorities:

- Expanding our community education campaign and producing more educational tools for the public
- Working with the UCI Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute to establish a virtual wellness community for the general public that offers free online lectures, information and interactive activities (e.g., healthy cooking, tai chi and meditation)
- Launching a compassionate, multilingual telephone support program that UCI nursing and medical students will operate for homebound, underserved older adults registered in the Meals on Wheels program and at high risk for COVID-19 mortality

With your support, we will mount an integrated offense against a global health crisis that has transformed all our lives. Please be assured that UCI Health and the Susan and Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences stand ready to serve. Because needs are shifting at such a rapid pace, your gift will make an immediate difference in our ability to respond quickly to the pandemic. Gifts designated for community outreach and public education will allow our integrated teams to continue serving the people of Orange County and beyond during these uncertain times.

For more information, to make a gift or to donate medical supplies, please visit **ucihealth.org/giving**.

For donations other than medical supplies, please contact **supporthealth@uci.edu**.

The UCI Emergency Response Fund, also listed on the website, provides additional opportunities for you to partner with UCI to defeat COVID-19.

To learn more about UCI and UCI Health's response to the novel coronavirus, please visit **ucihealth.org/covid-19**, **uci.edu/coronavirus** and **oc-covid19.org**.



