

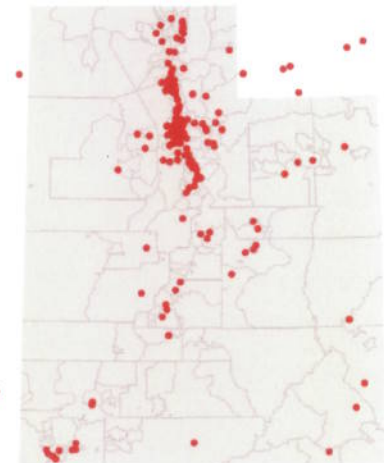
LONG COVID CONTINUES TO IMPACT UTAHNS' HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY



Many people who had COVID-19 continue to experience ongoing health problems even after they recovered from the initial infection. These problems can include **respiratory issues, cardiovascular problems, and neurological issues**, among others. **Long-term COVID clinics can provide specialized care and support** to these individuals to help them manage their ongoing health issues.

>1,800 PATIENTS SINCE JULY 2021

U of U Health's Comprehensive COVID Clinic Reach

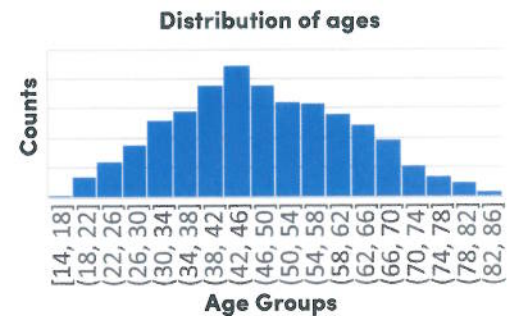


Long COVID affects 1 in 5 adults¹

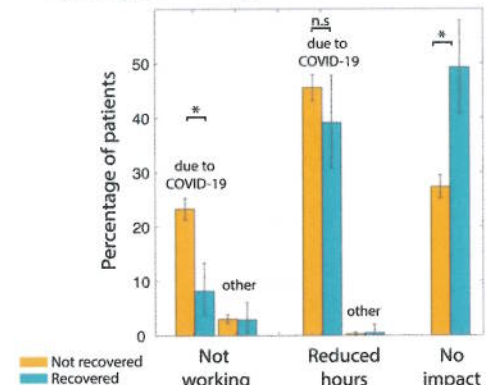
- Since July 2021, U of U Health's Comprehensive COVID Clinic cared for **>1,800 patients**
- **67% of patients were female, 32% were male**
- **49% of patients are from rural and underserved areas** with low health equity
- Majority of patients are **between 26 and 62**

Patients with long COVID:

- Are **less able to work and may lose health insurance**
- **40%** working reduced hours
- **20%** not able to work
- **Struggle to care for children and elderly family members**



d. Long COVID impact on work



U of U Health's Comprehensive COVID Clinic Returns Patients to Engaged & Productive Lives

The clinic opened in July 2021 and receives 105 referrals per month.

The Comprehensive COVID Clinic:

- **Decreases the burden on hospitals** by providing a specialized setting for ongoing care
- **Improves patient outcomes** by managing the many long-term COVID symptoms
- **Reduces costs of care** by educating other clinics, the UDOH, and the public about most up-to-date treatments
- **Improves public health outcomes** by immediately implementing advances in long COVID care

TOP 2 of over 50 Long Hauler Symptoms

1. Fatigue
2. Muscle/body aches
3. Shortness of breath
4. Difficulty concentrating
5. Inability to exercise
6. Headache
7. Difficulty sleeping
8. Anxiety
9. Memory problems
10. Dizziness
11. Persistent chest pain
12. Cough
13. Joint pain
14. Heart palpitations
15. Diarrhea
16. Sore throat
17. Night sweats
18. Lost/diminished sense of smell
19. Tachycardia
20. Fever or chills

With \$600,000, we propose to increase care capacity for uninsured or underinsured patients and improve access for rural communities and areas in Utah with low health improvement index scores.

¹ CDC Estimates

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Funding will support:

- **Treating uninsured and underinsured patients**, who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID. This includes patients from **rural areas and lower income communities**.
- **Treating “out-of-network” patients:**
 - Including many referrals from SelectHealth who **do not have access** to comprehensive long COVID treatment.
 - Reimbursing services or creating the infrastructure to **allow patients with out-of-network insurance to receive services for long COVID**.

Average Cost per Patient	\$759.42
# Patients seen per \$100K funding	132
# Patients seen per \$600K funding	790

- **Personnel including physical therapists, speech therapists, and social workers** to coordinate care and financial support, and research coordinators to share up-to-date knowledge.



U of U Health is critical to Utah’s COVID response. During the pandemic, we:

- Partnered with the state to provide leadership, expertise, and education to citizens
- Rapidly scaled and delivered testing at sites throughout the state
- Pivoted our research enterprise to study the novel coronavirus and treatments
- Put many other procedures and priorities on hold to devote resources to address COVID-19
- Partnered with the state to distribute vaccinations at mass scale
- Self-funded the Comprehensive COVID Clinic to serve the community

With additional funding, up to **\$4 million**, we can:

Expand Clinical Operations: 70% or \$700,000 per million

- Reach 790 uninsured or under-insured patients per million (3,160 patients over \$4 million)
- Coordinate clinical care to facilitate patient navigation and follow-up between specialties (\$60,000 per million)
- Increase program coordination (\$25,000 per million)
- Provide access to long COVID care for under-resourced communities, including rural Utah; E-Consults between rural clinicians and U of U Health. (\$15,000 per million)



Expand Provider Education in Under-resourced Communities: 20% or \$200,000 per million

- Educate Utah providers with shareable digital resources for primary care, sub-specialists, physical therapy, speech therapy, etc.
- Support Project ECHO, which allows long COVID providers to share patient cases and develop treatment plans.
- Collaborate with Bateman Horne Center and Metrodora Institute to develop and distribute education resources.



Expand Research: 10% or \$100,000 per million

- Collaborate with the Utah State Department of Health and Human Services for a data sharing agreement to compare clinic data with state and CDC data.
- Train Utah providers on new medical record codes to accurately track COVID at state level. This will allow us to account for patient care resources.
- Coordinate long COVID studies by Utah health care institutions and help Utah long COVID patients participate in national studies.



metrodora



Timeline

This budget will be spent over three to four years. Proposed programs will collaborate with other entities: The Bateman Horne Center, Metrodora Institute, Intermountain Health, and other non-profit health care organizations.





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