

Division of Research Town Hall

Presenters:

- ▲ Tracy Lieu, MD
 - Director
- ▲ Tom Dang
 - Managing Director
- ▲ Richard Navarro
 - Director of IT

March 18, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) will impose increasing stress on our health care system in coming months

Kaiser Permanente Northern California has been preparing

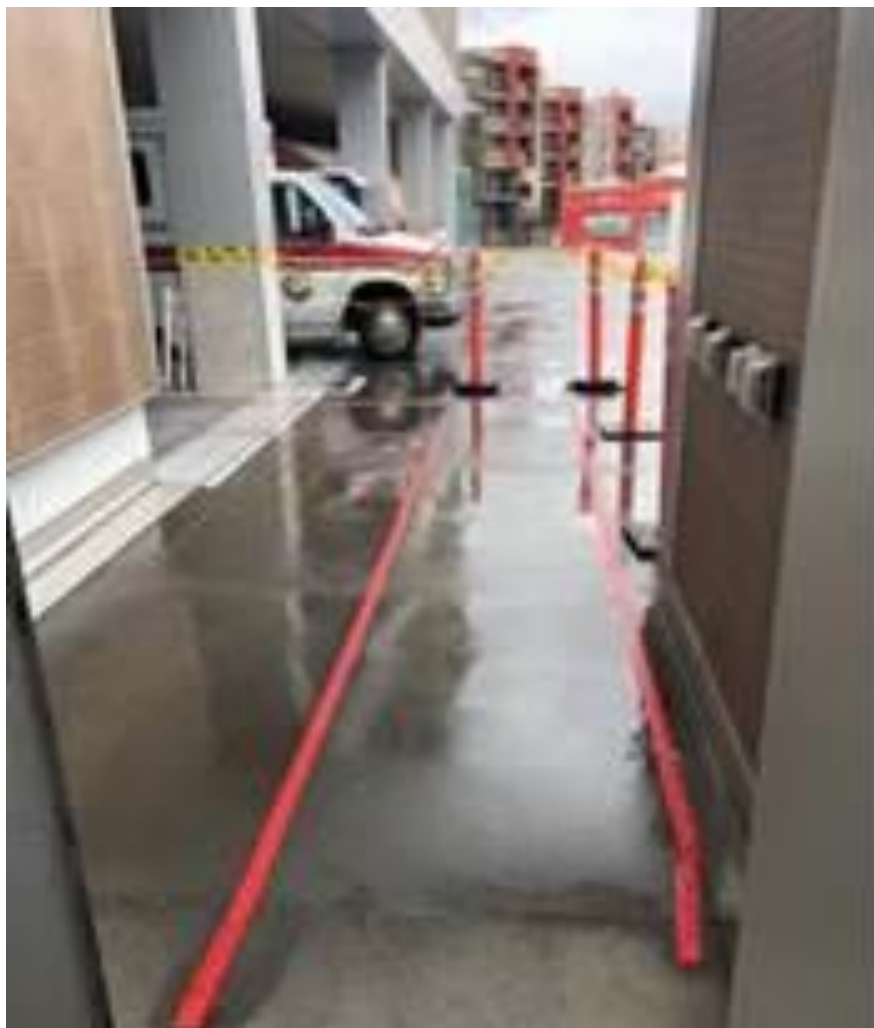
- Nation-leading approaches to mitigation and planning
- Rapid changes are being implemented in our clinical settings to protect patients and respond to the upswing in cases



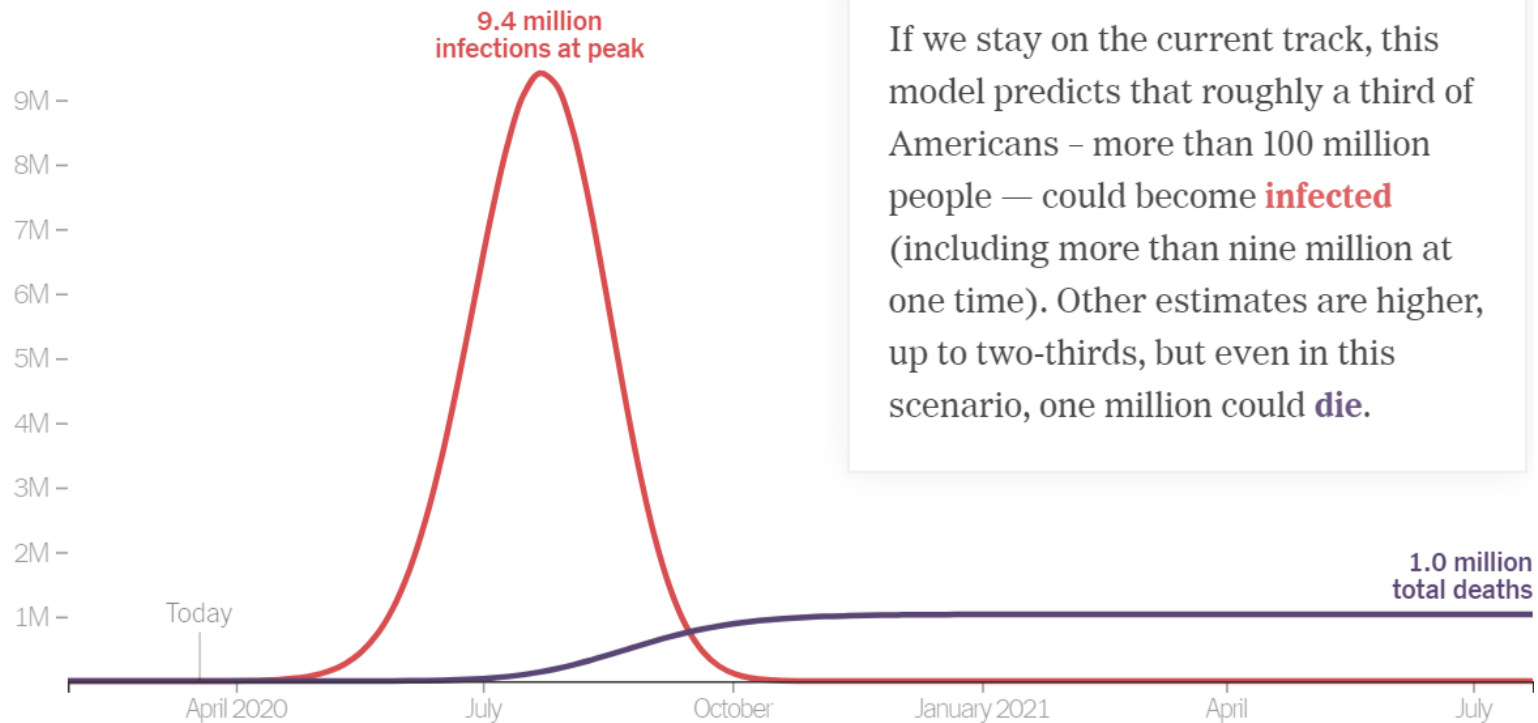
East Bay Command Center



Oakland extended emergency department tents



The faster and more decisively we adopt mitigation measures, the more lives we will save

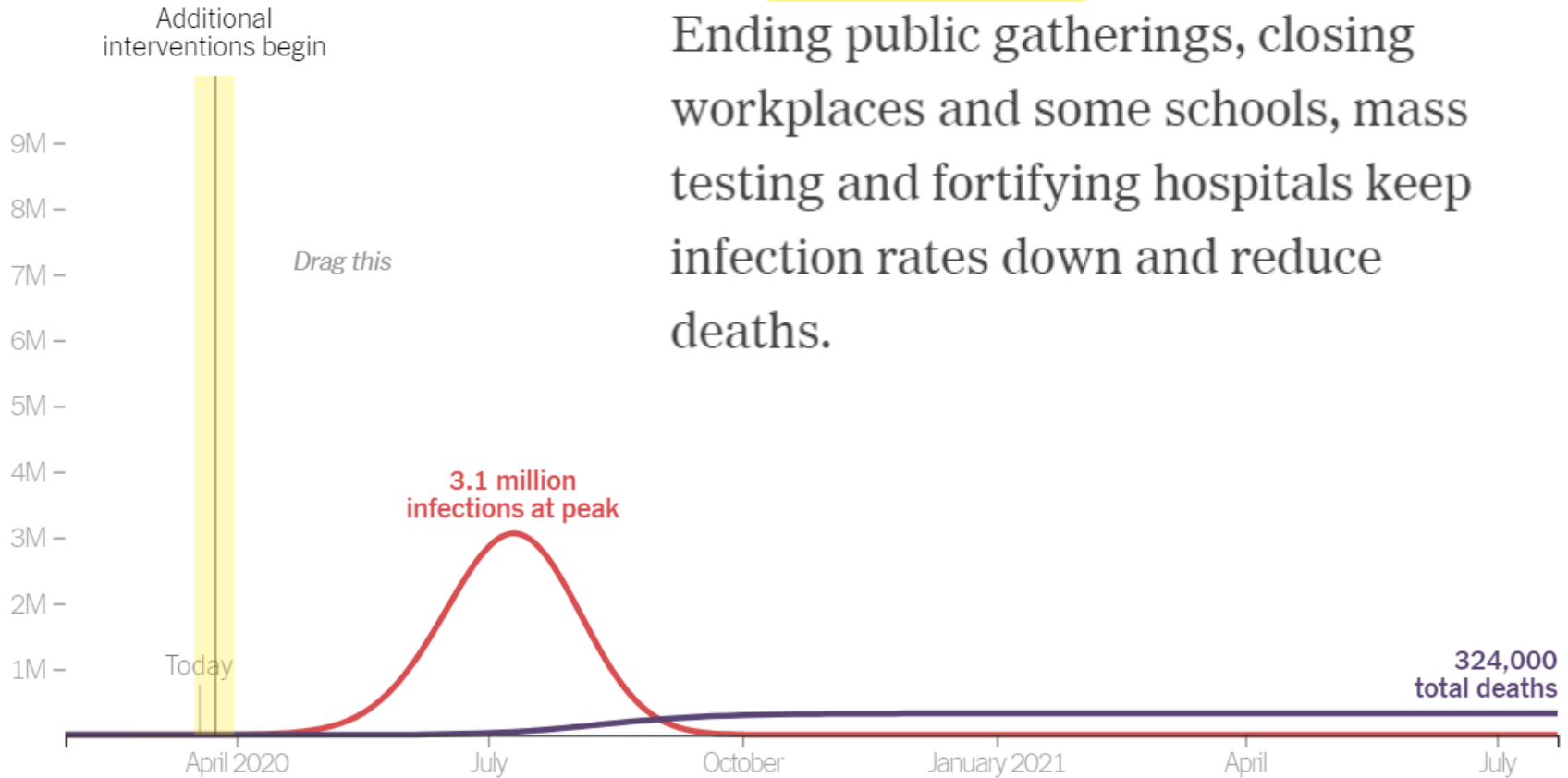


If we stay on the current track, this model predicts that roughly a third of Americans – more than 100 million people — could become **infected** (including more than nine million at one time). Other estimates are higher, up to two-thirds, but even in this scenario, one million could **die**.

New York Times interactive model

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/03/13/opinion/coronavirus-trump-response.html?searchResultPosition=2>

But **interventions** matter hugely. Ending public gatherings, closing workplaces and some schools, mass testing and fortifying hospitals keep infection rates down and reduce deaths.



DOR – Principles amid this crisis

- Take care of our employees
- Take care of yourself
- Take care of one another
- Support our medical group and health plan
- Make progress with our research

What to remember

- We know how to do this: Researchers innovate to solve problems
- Nothing will go according to plan
- Resources will sometimes be strained as we absorb changes
- None of us will be perfect
- We'll make it through this together

Who's helping

- IT
- Administration
- Management Team: Scientific associate directors and infrastructure group directors
- Research scientists
- You

Guidance for employees

- Mandated temporary remote work until further notice
- Do not come into the office, unless absolutely necessary
- Work hours remain the same as before, unless your manager agrees to a change

Approach to paying employees

Employees have different situations:

A. Role enables Temporary Remote Work and employee is set up

- Note: Must handle PHI confidentially – no printing; do not allow others to view it

B. Role enables Temporary Remote Work and employee is not yet set up

C. School and day care closures causing reduced productivity

D. Role does not enable employee to work remotely

Approach to paying employees

- Guidance to managers
 - Pay your employee as you normally would, regardless of whether they fall into category A, B, C, or D, at least through April 17
 - Applies to regular employees and contractors
 - Does not apply to on-call employees

Keeping our building safe

- No visitors through at least April 17
- No in-person meetings
- Attendance tracking is being set up
- If an employee tests positive, this will allow us to notify others, keeping privacy in mind

Administration

- Business will continue as usual in most groups
- HR has been fielding many questions
- Grants and contracts, finance, IRB support, communications, library services and CDA/NDAs support continue
- Medical record abstractors being set up to work remotely
- Some facility operations may be limited

IT

- Working overtime to give as many employees as possible remote access
- Good news re requests for laptops or mini-desktops
- Employees may borrow their monitors, keyboards, mice, even desktops
- Other peripherals
 - Headsets and webcams – ordering
 - Printers – not supported by IT, and no printing of PHI outside our building is allowed

Research on COVID: We're involved



Vinnie Liu, MD
Regional Director,
Hospital Advanced
Analytics



Gabriel Escobar, MD
Regional Director,
Hospital Quality



Alan Go, MD
Regional Director,
Clinical Trials
Program



Nicky Klein, MD
Director, Vaccine
Study Center



Questions and Answers

