COVID-19 Child Life Staffing and Programming Changes

Data Collection Window
April 6-13, 2020

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Contents

Survey Participants
Overview of survey participants, survey methods, and data use

USA
Aggregate data for the United States

Canada
Aggregate data for Canada

Other Countries
Aggregate data for all other countries

Please see the supplemental report for a closer look at the top 5 COVID-19 affected states in the USA.
Survey Participants

5580
Number of Certified Child Life Specialists that were sent the survey

1823
Number survey responses (complete & partial responses)

1411
Responses from CCLSs in the USA

76
Responses from CCLSs in Canada

23
Responses from CCLSs in other countries

Why survey individual CCLSs rather than programs?
Staffing and programming changes are impacting child life specialists differently, even within the same program. In order to try to assess the full impact on the child life workforce, this survey was targeted at individual child life specialists with some additional questions reserved for child life program leaders.

How can I use this data?
ACLP is providing this data as a resource to members and a snapshot of what is happening in the child life field at this point in time. This data should not be interpreted as recommendations of what child life programs should be doing to navigate COVID-19.
**USA**

**Current Job Status** (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Normal hours, shifts, assigned unit, or job duties - minor disruptions if any: 25.79%
- Normal hours but changes to shifts, assigned unit, or job duties: 28.15%
- Partial hospital-based work, partial work-from-home: 19.40%
- Reduced hours: 12.54%
- Furloughed: 12.07%
- Other: 2.05%

**Job Disruptions** (number of CCLS respondents)

- Disruption of internship programming: 539
- Disruption of practicum programming: 417
- Disruption of volunteer programming: 966
- Staffing child care for children of hospital employees: 752
- Restrictions on patient diagnoses or units served: 231
- Other: 77
Changes implemented as a result of COVID-19 (number of CCLS respondents)

- Limits on sibling visitation
- Bans sibling visitation
- Limits on parent/caregiver visitation
- Limits on playroom usage
- Playroom closure
- Child life cannot enter COVID-19 rule out or COVID-19 positive rooms
- Child life cannot enter isolation rooms
- Limits on child life assistant/activity coordinator activities
- Suspension of child life assistant/activity coordinator activities
- Other
USA continued

Virtual Interventions (number of CCLS respondents)

- CCLS in hospital to patient in hospital: 405
- CCLS in hospital to patient at home: 69
- CCLS at home to patient in hospital: 91
- CCLS at home to patient at home: 39
- Other: 121
- N/A: 646

Job Role (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Clinical child life specialist: 62.76%
- Clinical child life specialist with some administrative duties: 23.03%
- Split clinical and administrative child life role: 7.49%
- Full time administrative/managerial role: 6.71%
- Other: 6.71%
USA continued

CCLS able to work from home (percentage of CCLS respondents)

70.79%

29.21%

Yes
No

Work from Home Tasks (number of CCLS respondents)

Virtual patient interactions

- Creating program resources (teaching materials, updating policies, etc)
- Professional development
- Updating student programming resources
- Updating volunteer programming resources
- Supervising hospital-based staff
- Supervising work-from-home staff
- Supervising child life students
- Other
USA Program Leaders

Does your hospital consider child life essential? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 93.92%
- No: 6.08%

If team members are working from home or furloughed, is there an expected return date? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 18.70%
- No: 81.30%
USA Program Leaders

Criteria for child life team to resume normal operations (number of program leader respondents)

- Number of COVID-19 cases in hospital fall below a designated threshold: 5
- Number of COVID-19 cases in region fall below a designated threshold: 4
- PPE stock is replenished: 8
- Unknown: 147
- Other: 19

Most common "other" criteria:
- when pediatric census returns to normal
- when elective surgeries resume
Canada

Current Job Status (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Normal hours, shifts, assigned unit, or job duties - minor disruptions if any: 47.14%
- Normal hours but changes to shifts, assigned unit, or job duties: 38.57%
- Partial hospital-based work, partial work-from-home: 2.86%
- Reduced hours: 11.43%
- Furloughed: 0.00%
- Other: 0.00%

Job Disruptions (number of CCLS respondents)

- Disruption of internship programming: 28
- Disruption of practicum programming: 54
- Disruption of volunteer programming: 5
- Staffing child care for children of hospital employees: 19
- Restrictions on patient diagnoses or units served: 17
- Other: 3
Canada continued

Changes implemented as a result of COVID-19 (number of CCLS respondents)

- Limits on sibling visitation
- Bans sibling visitation
- Limits on parent/caregiver visitation
- Limits on playroom usage
- Playroom closure
- Child life cannot enter COVID-19 rule out or COVID-19 positive rooms
- Child life cannot enter isolation rooms
- Limits on child life assistant/activity coordinator activities
- Suspension of child life assistant/activity coordinator activities
- Other
Canada continued

Virtual Interventions (number of CCLS respondents)

- CCLS in hospital to patient in hospital: 17
- CCLS in hospital to patient at home: 3
- CCLS at home to patient in hospital: 0
- CCLS at home to patient at home: 1
- N/A: 39
- Other: 9

Job Role (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Clinical child life specialist: 61.97%
- Clinical child life specialist with some administrative duties: 9.86%
- Split clinical and administrative child life role: 4.23%
- Full time administrative/managerial role: 23.94%
- Other: 6.0%
**Canada continued**

**CCLS able to work from home** (percentage of CCLS respondents)

92.96% Yes
7.04% No

**Work from Home Tasks** (number of CCLS respondents)

- Virtual patient interactions
- Creating program resources (teaching materials, updating policies, etc)
- Professional development
- Updating student programming resources
- Updating volunteer programming resources
- Supervising hospital-based staff
- Supervising work-from-home staff
- Supervising child life students
- Other

- 3.5
- 3.0
- 2.5
- 2.0
- 1.5
- 1.0
- 0.5
- 0
Canada Program Leaders

Does your hospital consider child life essential? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 90.00%
- No: 10.00%

If team members are working from home or furloughed, is there an expected return date? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 85.71%
- No: 14.29%
Canada Program Leaders

Criteria for child life team to resume normal operations
(number of program leader respondents)

- Number of COVID-19 cases in hospital fall below a designated threshold
- Number of COVID-19 cases in region fall below a designated threshold
- PPE stock is replenished
- Unknown
- Other

Most common "other" criteria:
- when pediatric census returns to normal
- when elective surgeries resume
Other Countries

Current Job Status (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- 52.17% Normal hours, shifts, assigned unit, or job duties - minor disruptions if any
- 21.74% Normal hours but changes to shifts, assigned unit, or job duties
- 13.04% Partial hospital-based work, partial work-from-home
- 8.70% Reduced hours
- 4.35% Other

Job Disruptions (number of CCLS respondents)

- Disruption of internship programming: 10
- Disruption of practicum programming: 2
- Disruption of volunteer programming: 11
- Staffing child care for children of hospital employees: 4
- Restrictions on patient diagnoses or units served: 2
- Other: 0
## Other Countries continued

### Changes implemented as a result of COVID-19 (number of CCLS respondents)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Limitations</th>
<th>Number of Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limits on sibling visitation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bans sibling visitation</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits on parent/caregiver visitation</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits on playroom usage</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playroom closure</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child life cannot enter COVID-19 rule out</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>or COVID-19 positive rooms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child life cannot enter isolation rooms</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits on child life assistant/activity coordinator activities</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspension of child life assistant/activity coordinator activities</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other Countries continued

Virtual Interventions (number of CCLS respondents)

- CCLS in hospital to patient in hospital: 4
- CCLS in hospital to patient at home: 0
- CCLS at home to patient in hospital: 2
- CCLS at home to patient at home: 1
- N/A: 15
- Other: 0

Job Role (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Clinical child life specialist: 63.64%
- Clinical child life specialist with some administrative duties: 18.18%
- Split clinical and administrative child life role: 9.09%
- Full time administrative/managerial role: 9.09%
Other Countries continued

CCLS able to work from home (percentage of CCLS respondents)

- Yes: 18.18%
- No: 81.82%

Work from Home Tasks (number of CCLS respondents)

- Virtual patient interactions: 0
- Creating program resources (teaching materials, updating policies, etc): 1
- Professional development: 4
- Updating student programming resources: 0
- Updating volunteer programming resources: 0
- Supervising hospital-based staff: 0
- Supervising work-from-home staff: 0
- Supervising child life students: 0
- Other: 0
Other Countries  Program Leaders

Does your hospital consider child life essential? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 100.00%
- No: 0.00%

If team members are working from home or furloughed, is there an expected return date? (percentage of program leader respondents)

- Yes: 100.00%
- No: 0.00%
Other Countries  Program Leaders

Criteria for child life team to resume normal operations
(number of program leader respondents)

- Number of COVID-19 cases in hospital fall below a designated threshold
- Number of COVID-19 cases in region fall below a designated threshold
- PPE stock is replenished
- Unknown
- Other

Number of program leader respondents:
- 2.2
- 2.0
- 1.8
- 1.6
- 1.4
- 1.2
- 1.0
- 0.8
- 0.6
- 0.4
- 0.2
- 0

- Number of COVID-19 cases in hospital fall below a designated threshold: 2
- Number of COVID-19 cases in region fall below a designated threshold: 1
ACLP will reissue this survey periodically to track trends in the child life field. Accuracy of this report is dependent on your participation - please retake it even if you have not experienced changes from the previous survey.

Questions? Email mroloff@childlife.org.

Note: In order to protect member privacy, ACLP will not release responses related to a specific hospital.